

**2025 YWS State Qualifying System**  
**Congress NYATT, YWS Judging Team, YES Delegate Selection & YES Attendance**

The state qualifying period for the 2025 AQHYA Youth World Show and Congress NYATT will be June 1, 2024, to May 31, 2025. Youth World Show Judging Team and YES attendance will be based on the current year's membership.

**Youth World Show**

All youth must be members in good standing of AQHYA and KQHA before any circuits/judges will count. Members who held a 2024 membership must have their 2025 membership paid by February 11, 2025, for any 2024 judges to count, otherwise, those judges will be forfeited. Team selection is limited to KQHYA members who are legal Kansas residents per KQHYA Policy #5, sections 2 and 3, or who have completed a Change of Affiliation application according to AQHA rules.

Any youth interested in showing at the Youth World Show using the state qualifying system must submit to the youth advisor a Letter of Intent, which is available for download at KQHYA.com. All classes a member may wish to be considered for must be listed on the Letter of Intent and be filed with the youth advisor. For judges to count for shows held between June 1, 2024, and January 31, 2025, Letters of Intent AND memberships must be on file by February 1 of the year participating. For shows held after February 1, 2025, membership must be paid at the show or before, and the Letter of Intent received within 10 days of the show (ex: if the youth paid their membership at the Prairie Classic, the Letter of Intent must be received within 10 days of the conclusion of the show). Letters of Intent may be mailed to the current youth advisor or emailed to kqhyadvisor@gmail.com.

KQHYA is allotted up to 504 entries at the Youth World show. Members in good standing will receive a state invite to compete in their selected classes upon completion of the following requirements:

- Show at 3 circuits (a circuit is a series of shows held in a specific time), and to a minimum of 6 judges (weekday and weekend judges will count). For members who are new in 2025, consideration will be based on the date of membership paid.
- Secure a minimum of \$150 in sponsorship due by June 1<sup>st</sup>. *Additional sponsorships are welcome and encouraged.*
- Provide a quality item for the Silent Auction OR pay a buyout option of \$100 by June 1<sup>st</sup>.

For classes not held with six (6) judges and/or qualifying shows such as jumping and timed events: A Letter of Intent must be on file by June 1, 2025, and all other requirements must be met as well as proof of participation in an association such as High School/Junior High School/Youth Rodeo, NBHA, AQHA, NRHA, NCHA, NVRHA, NRCHA, IEA, USEF, etc. Examples of proof might include an association standings list, or an entry blank/tab sheet signed by a show official held by May 31, 2025.

Only in-state shows approved for year-end points by KQHA will count towards YWS & NYATT qualifying. This list is subject to change due to show cancellations, additions, class scheduling, show location changes, or changes made by AQHA:

Way Out West Special Event – July 2024 (Lyons)

KQHA Hope in the Heartland – Sept/October 2024 (Topeka)

Western Kansas Horse Show Management Salt City Circuit – October 2024 (Hutchinson)

KQHA Prairie Classic– February 2025 (Oklahoma City, OK)

Western Kansas Horse Show Management Cowboy Classic– February 2025

Western Kansas Horse Show Management Cottonwood Classic– April 2025

Palomino Horse Exhibitors of Kansas – April 2025

KQHA Celebrating Kansas – May 2025 (Topeka)

Nationally qualified youth who are not members of KQHYA but residing in Kansas as of June 1, 2025, must purchase a KQHA membership, provide a \$150 sponsorship, and the silent auction item or the \$100 buyout. All youth participating in the AQHYA World Show must be members in good standing with KQHA. Both state and national qualifying entries are made by the exhibitor but approved by the state advisor. All KQHA entries will be stalled within the stalls assigned by AQHA.

Members are responsible for all expenses associated with attending the YWS including entry fees, stalls, and tack stalls (split with another exhibitor when possible). KQHYA will provide a team T-shirt, hospitality stall, feed stalls to be shared by exhibitors, and other amenities if funds allow.

### **NYATT Team Selection**

Youth who wish to represent Kansas at the Congress NYATT must meet the showing, sponsorship, and fundraising requirements outlined above. The Kansas Congress team shall be selected from those who submitted a Letter of Intent. A member may only enter two NYATT classes. NYATT classes are Showmanship, Western Horsemanship, Western Pleasure, English Equitation, Hunter Under Saddle, Ranch Riding, Reining, and Barrel Racing. Should more than two youths wish to enter a class, the two oldest will be selected.

KQHYA will pay the base entry fee for each class and provide a team jacket or other keepsake item. Members are responsible for all other expenses including stalling, NSBA fees, transportation, etc.

*The KQHYA Advisor & the Youth Activities Committee reserve the right to extend Youth World Show and NYATT invitations to youth, even if the circuit and judge requirements have not been met. Consideration for these exceptions is on a case-by-case basis. Any youth granted an exception must meet the membership, fundraising, and sponsorship requirements before any Youth World Show or NYATT entries are approved. Any situation not covered in the KQHYA Policies will be administered according to the current year's official handbook of the American Quarter Horse Association. Qualifying requirements are subject to change due to any changes made to qualifying requirements by AQHA or by KQHA.*

### **Youth World Show Judging Team**

KQHYA will provide support to individuals who wish to compete at the Youth World Show Judging contest by providing workout sessions, paying the entry fee as an individual or member of a team of 3-4, and a team t-shirt. Youth wishing to participate as an individual or team member through KQHYA must meet membership requirements, participate in workout sessions, and provide a minimum of \$50 in sponsorships\* by June 1, 2024. Youth are responsible for their travel arrangements for the contest.

### **KQHYA Youth Excellence Seminar Delegate Requirements**

Youth participate in leadership development, community service, and social activities. Voting delegates select regional directors and the national officer team.

- Four (4) voting delegate positions are available for KQHYA. These positions are first filled by current officers (president, vice president, secretary, and public relations director). If necessary, other directors will fill open positions. If a position remains open, a youth who has held an officer or director position in KQHYA will be given priority followed by a youth who has attended YES previously. If a position remains, then a current KQHYA member in good standing will fill the position.
- A KQHYA member desiring to run for a Region 8 director position or national officer position who is not a current KQHYA officer or director may serve as a voting delegate at the discretion of the Youth Activities Committee. *(It is a requirement by AQHA that all director and officer candidates serve as voting delegates.)*
- All delegates must be members of KQHYA in good standing before registration.
- A youth residing in Kansas who wishes to run for Region 8 director has a current Change of Affiliation to another state, they must petition the KQHYA Advisor and Youth Activities Committee. *(Example: A youth residing in Kansas has a COA to Missouri would need our permission to run for Region 8 director as directors are determined by state residency, not the COA state.)*

### **General Members Attending YES**

- All attendees must be KQHA members in good standing with the association and at least 12 years old.
- All youth attendees must pay a \$50 sponsorship to help offset costs. \*
- Priority attendance is given to current KQHYA officers and directors who serve as voting delegates to YES, followed by additional officers and directors.
- Officers and directors wanting to attend YES must email the youth advisor with their intent to attend and register for the event on or before May 1.
- If current officers and directors do not fill attendance spots, additional KQHYA members may attend and may be supported by KQHA/KQHYA. On May 2, the youth advisor will email all current KQHYA members of any open spots. Members must contact the youth advisor by email or phone before registering for YES to ensure spots are available. Open spots will be filled on a first-come basis until all spots are filled.

- Registration costs, meals not provided with registration, and a minimum of \$50 in sponsorships are the responsibility of the youth.
- KQHA may provide limited transportation to and from the event and lodging during the event.
- The KQHYA youth advisor will serve as head chaperone and should be noted as such when youth register for the seminar. Additional adults who are members of KQHA and are attending the seminar may serve as assistant chaperones as determined by the Youth Activities Committee.
- KQHYA members who seek a position as a Region 8 director or officer may need to provide transportation to and from the event due to scheduling restrictions. Historically current AQHYA officers and directors are required by AQHA to be on site before the general YES attendees and has provided lodging for them. If AQHA changes this policy, the youth may receive support from KQHA/KQHYA as determined by the Youth Activities Committee.
- Regardless of support from KQHA/KQHYA, all youth and adults attending YES who hold a current-year KQHA membership are expected to act respectfully and follow all rules during the trip. A required meeting will be held with all youth, their parents, and additional adults attending to discuss behavior expectations and trip plans. Any youth or adult who fails to comply with expectations will face disciplinary action by KQHA/KQHYA.

#### **Adults Attending YES**

- The KQHYA youth advisor will serve as the official chaperone throughout YES including travel to and from the event.
- KQHA/KQHYA will provide lodging and registration for the youth advisor. A KQHA adult member who attends and acts as an assistant chaperone may also receive registration and lodging at KQHA/KQHYA discretion.
- Additional adults (parents, etc.) may attend YES at their own cost. If space allows, they may travel with the group and share rooms with the advisor and/or assistant chaperone. The costs of lodging will be divided among those within the room.

\*A youth will pay no more than \$150 in sponsorships to participate in KQHYA contests and activities.