



2013 SMQHA Year-End Award

Rules and Regulations

REQUIREMENTS FOR ELIGIBILITY TO PARTICIPATE FOR AWARDS

1. Only AQHA registered horses (with the exception of the Walk-Trot and Leadline awards), owned or leased by SMQHA members and/or their immediate families (as defined by AQHA Rules) are eligible for any awards, provided the owner/lessee has been a SMQHA dues paying member in good standing (i.e., no outstanding debts owed to SMQHA for a minimum of six (6) months within the calendar year).
2. Points will be counted from the date of payment of annual point fees as recorded by the Show and Contest Chairperson after becoming a dues paying member. All points are kept on the horse, except for Amateur, Select Amateur, Youth, Novice Amateur and Novice Youth, which are on Horse/Rider Team (as per AQHA Rules). Walk-Trot and Leadline points are compiled on the rider.
3. Transfer of ownership will not affect accumulated open points on the horse provided the new owner becomes a SMQHA member and the Show and Contest Chairperson is notified of the change. Points will be counted from the date of payment of annual point fees as recorded by the Show and Contest Chairperson. In the event of an amateur, select amateur, youth, novice amateur or novice youth, all past points are lost to the new owner and a new start must be made by the new exhibitor (as per AQHA Rules).
4. AQHA Rules prevail in these Rules and Regulations unless otherwise stated herein. Any misunderstanding concerning any of these rules should be brought to the attention of the Show and Contest Chairperson immediately.

AWARDS

SMQHA Regional Awards Based on the accumulation of SMQHA points.

1. Points can be earned at any approved AQHA show held in the State of Maryland and selected shows which are within a 150 mile radius of Upper Marlboro, Maryland or a ruling made by the Board of Directors, i.e. Lexington, Virginia (Spring Breakout). These shows will be published in the SMQHA newsletter/website yearly. The SMQHA Suntan Circuit Show and Novice Show will be double pointed.
2. A minimum of fifteen (15) SMQHA points must be earned in any one event for a year-end award. No award will be made for a performance class or for a halter class if that class has not been held in at least three (3) approved AQHA shows during the year.
3. At any one show the Grand Champion of each sex division at halter will receive two (2) more SMQHA points than any other SMQHA horse in its sex division as received by the show and contest chairperson. The Reserve Champion will receive one (1) more SMQHA point than any other SMQHA horse in its sex division as received by the show and contest chairperson.

Points will be awarded on a nine point system as follows:

<u># in Class</u>	<u>1st</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>3rd</u>	<u>4th</u>	<u>5th</u>	<u>6th</u>	<u>7th</u>	<u>8th</u>	<u>9th</u>
9 or more	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
8	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	
7	7	6	5	4	3	2	1		
6	6	5	4	3	2	1			
5	5	4	3	2	1				
4	4	3	2	1					
3	3	2	1						
2	2	1							
1	1								

SMQHA Year-End Regional Awards will be presented for: (When funds are available.)

1. Open Division:

- Grand, Reserve, 3rd and 4th place in each halter age class;
- Grand, Reserve, 3rd and 4th place in each performance events;
- High-Point halter stallion, mare and gelding;
- All-Around Champion and Reserve All-Around Champion. (To be eligible for this award, a minimum of ten (10) points in halter and a minimum of ten (10) points in each of two performance categories must be earned. Categories are defined in the current AQHA Official Handbook.

2. Amateur and Select Amateur Division:

- Grand, Reserve, 3rd and 4th place in each halter age class;
- Grand, Reserve, 3rd and 4th place in each performance events;
- High-Point halter stallion, mare and gelding;
- All-Around Champion and Reserve All-Around Champion. (To be eligible for this award, a minimum of ten (10) points in halter and a minimum of ten (10) points in each of two performance categories must be earned. Categories are defined in the current AQHA Official Handbook.

3. Youth Division: (Separate awards are presented for 13 & Under and 14-18, with the exception of halter, trail, reining, western riding, barrels and poles.)

- Grand, Reserve, 3rd and 4th place in each halter age class;
- Grand, Reserve, 3rd and 4th place in each performance events;
- High-Point halter mare and gelding;
- All-Around Champion and Reserve All-Around Champion. (To be eligible for this award, a minimum of ten (10) points in halter and a minimum of ten (10) points in each of two performance categories must be earned. Categories are defined in the current AQHA Official Handbook.

4. Novice Amateur and Youth Division:

- Grand, Reserve, 3rd and 4th place in all performance events;
- High-Point performance horse;
- High-Point halter mare and gelding;
- All-Around Champion and Reserve All-Around Champion. (To be eligible for this award, a minimum of ten (10) points in halter and a minimum of ten (10) points in each of two performance categories must be earned. Categories are defined in the current AQHA Official Handbook.

5. Owner/Rider Division: (High Point performance award for the owner/rider accumulating the most SMQHA points.

- Owner/Rider's name must appear on AQHA registration papers and a copy of the registration papers must be sent with the nomination form;

- b. Amateurs and youth exhibitors (excluding novice) can accumulate points in their respective classes along with open classes to qualify;
- c. A \$5.00 fee is due before points will be counted for the year;
- d. A minimum of fifty (50) points is needed to qualify for this award.

Walk-Trot Award (12 & Under):

1. Only youth age 12 and under will be eligible for this award. (The birth date will be determined as of January 1st of the current year.)
2. A youth may not compete in any three gaited classes, but may compete on any breed/grade or pony.
3. A minimum of ten (10) points must be earned to qualify for year-end award and points will be accepted from any AQHA show held within a 150 mile radius of Upper Marlboro, Maryland.
 - a. Grand, Reserve, 3rd and 4th place will be awarded for each class.
 - b. High-Point rider will also be awarded.

Lead Line Award (9 & Under):

1. Only youth age 9 and under will be eligible for this award. (The birth date will be determined as of January 1st of the current year.)
2. A youth may not compete in any three gaited classes or Walk-Trot classes, but may compete on any breed/grade or pony.
3. A minimum of ten (10) points must be earned to qualify for year-end award and points will be accepted from any AQHA show held within a 150 mile radius of Upper Marlboro, Maryland.
 - a. Grand, Reserve, 3rd and 4th place will be awarded for each class.

SMQHA Trail Ride Award

1. Owner/rider of the horse must be a SMQHA member before points will be accepted. Points are kept on a one horse/one person team.
2. Each rider will be responsible for submitting their points to the show and contest chairperson within thirty (30) days from the date of the ride. Points must be verified by the ride secretary. Points will be awarded on a 9 point system. A minimum of six (6) points will be required to qualify for year-end award.
3. At a ride where a rider can earn multiple awards, the highest award received will be counter toward their points for the ride.
4. Two (2) extra points will be awarded for Grand Champion of the ride and one (1) extra point will be awarded for Reserve Champion of the ride.
5. SMQHA members who hire judges for a particular ride, or are judged by a family member (immediate or otherwise) and place on that particular ride, are exempt from sending in any points earned on the ride for year-end awards.

Award Categories:

1. Competitive - Any ECTRA or NATRC sanctioned ride over 25 miles.
2. Judged Pleasure - Any judged pleasure trail ride, ten (10) miles or longer, held in the State of Maryland, within a given time frame (excluding ECTRA or NATRC rides).
 - a. Grand, Reserve, 3rd and 4th place award will be presented in each age division

Age Division:

Junior 18 & under	Senior (31-45)
Intermediate (19-30)	Prime Time (46 & Over)

3. High-Point Trail Ride Award will be presented to the horse earning the highest number of point for the current year.

APPROVED/REVISED:

by the General Membership on February 2, 2013