

**OFFICIAL  
HANDBOOK  
OF THE**



**NORTHERN  
OHIO  
QUARTER HORSE  
ASSOCIATION**

**2025**

**BY-LAWS**

**RULES AND REGULATIONS**

**BY-LAWS  
NORTHERN OHIO  
QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION**

**ARTICLE I**

**NAME, OBJECT, LOCATION**

**Section 1.** The name of the organization shall be the Northern Ohio Quarter Horse Association, Inc.

**Section 2.** The area encompassed by the association shall be that area North of a line starting at the West Virginia border with U.S. Route 22 going West to U.S. Route 36, thence West on US 36 to U.S. Route 33 and West to the Indiana border.

**Section 3.**

(a) The purpose or purposes for which this non-profit corporation is formed are: To associate all Northern Ohio Quarter Horse owners in order to promote the Quarter Horse Industry, directing specific emphasis toward youth and the non-professional areas thereof; and to provide funds or income for charitable purposes in connection with participating and non-participating youth; and to provide for the physical, mental and moral development and fitness of all children connected therewith.

(b) To organize, establish, maintain and promote any and all activities within or without the State of Ohio, including but not limited to horsemanship programs, horse shows, sales, auctions, promotional contests and other activities of whatsoever nature, as established by the directors, in order to promote and provide for the development of youth and members of the organization and to provide funds for charitable purposes.

(c) To raise funds to provide for any and all activities necessary in order to further the purposes for which this corporation exists.

(d) To purchase, lease or otherwise acquire, and to hold, own, use, develop, mortgage, lease, sell or otherwise dispose of, all real or personal property necessary or convenient for use as promotional item for the corporation and/or to supply revenue to the corporation to enable it to carry on its enumerated purposes; to purchase, lease or otherwise acquire and to manage either as a principal or as an agent, premises to hold bingo, games, raffles, parties or any other form of entertainment or business in which revenues can be raised to enable the corporation to carry on its enumerated purposes, so long as said activities are not prohibited by laws; to employ public performers; to purchase, lease or otherwise acquire and to manage and dispose of any and all amusement devices which can be used to promote and/or raise revenues.

**Section 4.** Place of business shall be the address of the presiding Treasurer, but its members and directors may be residents of any state, territory, or country. Its officers must be residents of Northern Ohio, as defined in Section 2.

**Section 5.** Indemnification – The Association shall indemnify and hold harmless any officers and directors of the Association, their personal representatives and heirs, against legal expenses, judgments, and expenses of settlement which the Association previously approves, actually and reasonably incurred in connection with an actual or threatened legal proceedings, if such person acted legally, in good faith and was duly authorized to act on behalf of the Association in the transaction from which legal liability arose, which was official Association business (except in relation to matters as to which he/she shall have been guilty of negligence or misconduct in respect of the matter in which indemnity is sought.) To preserve this right of indemnity, such person shall immediately notify the Association of such actual or threatened litigation, whereupon the Association shall have the right to direct defense thereof, including, but not limited to selection of counsel and direction of settlement negotiations.

**Section 6. Whistleblower Policy**

(a) NOQHA encourages complaints, reports or inquiries about illegal practices or serious violations of the association's policies, including illegal or improper conduct by the association itself, by its leadership, or by others on its behalf. Appropriate subjects to raise under this policy would include financial improprieties, accounting or audit matters, ethical violations, or other similar illegal or improper practices or policies.

(b) NOQHA prohibits retaliation by or on behalf of the association against officers, board members or volunteers for making good faith complaints, reports or inquiries under this policy or for participating in a review or investigation under this policy. This protection extends to those whose allegations are made in good faith but prove to be mistaken. NOQHA reserves the right to take any appropriate action against persons who make bad faith, knowingly false, or vexatious complaints, reports or inquiries or who otherwise abuse this policy.

(c) Complaints, reports or inquiries may be made under this policy on a confidential or anonymous basis. They should describe in detail the specific facts demonstrating the bases for the complaints, reports or inquiries. They should be directed to NOQHA's President or; if that person is implicated in the complaint, report or inquiry, it should be directed to any officer of the association. NOQHA will conduct a prompt, discreet and objective review or investigation. Officers, board members or

volunteers must recognize that the association may be unable to fully evaluate a vague or general complaint, report or inquiry that is made anonymously.

## ARTICLE II

### RELATIONSHIP TO PARENT ASSOCIATION

**Section 1.** All proceedings of this Association shall endeavor to conform with the policies and activities of the American Quarter Horse Association and/or The Ohio Quarter Horse Association.

## ARTICLE III

### MEMBER AND MEMBERSHIP

#### Section 1.

(a) Membership shall be open to any reliable person, firm, or corporation interested in promoting Quarter horses registered by the American Quarter Horse Association.

(b) Any person, firm, or corporation having joined this Association, shall thereby become subject to the rules and By-Laws then in force or later adopted by the Association, and shall be subject to expulsion from the organization as provided by the By-Laws.

(c) All present and future past presidents of the association shall be and become life members, as long as he/she is not under suspension or expelled by The American Quarter Horse Association or the Ohio Quarter Horse Association.

**Section 2.** The meeting of the members shall be held at such time and place as may be fixed by resolution of the Board of Directors for transaction of any business as may be brought before the meeting.

**Section 3.** In the absence of the President at a Board of Directors meeting, the order of succession for the powers and duties of President at that meeting shall be 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

**Section 4.** When any person, firm, or corporation as members of the Association shall be accused of any acts or practices which may be just cause for expulsion from the Association, said person, firm or corporation shall be entitled to full, fair, and impartial public hearing before the Board of Directors of the organization where he shall be faced by his accuser or be permitted to examine all evidence offered in support of the charge by the accuser or others where he shall be given full opportunity to refute such evidence, but upon being adjudged guilty of the practice as charged and worthy of expulsion by affirmative vote of a majority of the entire Board of Directors, he shall forthwith be so expelled. Any

expelled member may be reinstated with a majority vote of approval of the entire Board of Directors.

**Section 5.** Any member expelled by the American Quarter Horse Association and/or The Ohio Quarter Horse Association is automatically expelled from this Association.

## ARTICLE IV

### DIRECTORS

#### Section 1.

(a) The business and property of the Association shall be managed and controlled by a Board of Directors, which shall include Voting Officers and Elected and Appointed Directors.

(b) The number of Directors shall be fifteen (15), to be elected each year, nine (9) will be appointed by the current year Board of Officers and Directors from the nominating committee's approved ballot. The Executive Committee will appoint three directors from the appointed yearly directors to serve for a period of three (3) years. Three (3) additional directors to be appointed from the floor by the new Board of Officers and Directors and three (3) by the Executive Committee to serve for a period of one (1) year.

(c) Each Director shall serve until his successor has been duly elected and qualified.

(d) In case of any increase in the number of Directors, the additional Directors shall serve as such until the election and qualification of their successors by the members.

(e) In the event of a tie vote for Officer or Director in the annual general election, the new Board of Directors shall break the tie(s).

(f) A reasonable attempt shall be made to represent all areas of Northern Ohio on the Board of Directors.

#### Section 2.

(a) In case of any vacancy on the board of Directors by death, resignation, disqualification, increase in number of other causes, the remaining Directors, by affirmative vote of the majority thereof, may elect a successor to fill the unexpired term.

(b) Appointed Directors must be members of the Northern Ohio Quarter Horse Association at the time of their appointment.

#### Section 3.

(a) Special meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held whenever called by direction of the President or by two-thirds of the Directors.

(b) The Secretary shall give notice of each special meeting by mail or telephone to each Director at least five (5) days before the meeting.

**Section 4.**

(a) A majority of the number of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transactions of business, but if at any meetings of the Board there may be less than a quorum present, a majority of those present may adjourn the meeting until a quorum shall be present.

(b) Directors and Voting Officers must cast all votes in person at all Board of Directors meetings.

**Section 5.** The written contracts of the Association shall be executed on behalf of the Association by two signatures. One of the signatures will be that of the committee chairperson responsible for the contract and the other will be one of the following to show approval by the Board of Directors: President, 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President. Original copies of the contracts will be placed in the custody of and safe keeping of the Secretary.

**Section 6.** Elected and appointed board members/officers must attend at least two-thirds of the regular scheduled meetings in a calendar year beginning at the annual meeting. Failure to attend two-thirds of the meetings will require said board member/officer to relinquish their position on the board. Extenuating circumstances can be appealed to the board. The board of directors' decision is final.

**Section 7.**

(a) The Board of Directors shall have the power and authority to make, amend, repeal and enforce such rules and regulations, not contrary to law, or the Certificate of Incorporation of these By-Laws, as they may deem expedient concerning the conduct, management and activities of the Association, the admission, classification, suspension and expulsion of members, removal, the fixing and collections of dues and fees, the conducting of shows, exhibitions, and social functions and other details relating to the general purposes of the Association.

(b) Any changes in rules or regulations adopted during any year will be effective on January 1 of the following year, or at an earlier date should it appear imperative for the well being of the Association. Membership will be notified of any rule or regulation changes prior to their implementation.

**Section 8.** All officers and directors shall pay membership dues by January 1 of each year.

**Section 9.**

(a) The President will appoint an honorary director chairperson. Candidates for this recognition shall be

nominated by the Executive Committee and elected by a vote of the Board of Directors.

(b) There are no quotas to be filled each year, nor is there a limit to the total number of Honorary Directors bestowed.

(c) Ten years service is mandatory requirement.

(d) Honorary Directors are automatically honored with a Life Membership.

(e) An honorary director is allowed to vote at any meeting at which he is in attendance, provided he or she has attended at least three prior regular meetings per year (a twelve month period), and he or she is not under suspension by AQHA, OQHA or NOQHA.

## ARTICLE V

### OFFICERS AND DUTIES

#### Section 1.

(a) The Officers of the Association shall consist of a President, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Presidents, Secretary, and Treasurer. All officers except the Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected by a majority of the member's casting votes at the annual election. Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected by a majority vote of the Officers and Board of Directors. Secretary and Treasurer shall have full voting privileges.

(b) The President, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Presidents, Treasurer and Secretary may succeed themselves in office. A term consists of one (1) year.

(c) No individual shall be qualified to be elected as a Director of the Association unless he or she has been a member of the Association in good standing. Good standing is defined as having paid dues for membership for the current year prior to date of election and has not been expelled.

(d) No individual shall be qualified to be elected as President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, or 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, unless he or she has been a member of the Board of Directors for at least the 36 months prior to nomination.

(e) The retiring President shall be a Director for one (1) year or until a successor is elected and qualified.

#### Section 2.

(a) Election of Officers and Directors shall be by appointment of the Board of Officers and Directors.

(b) The nominating committee shall be appointed by the President at the June meeting. It shall consist of five (5) members. The Chairperson of this committee cannot run as an Officer; however, he or she may run as a Director. All other members may run for Officer or Director.

(c) The reading of the ballot shall be at the September meeting at which time there may be nominations from the floor, nominations must be approved by a majority vote of the Officers and Board of Directors to be placed on the ballot.

(d) Election of Officers and Directors will take at the Regular November Meeting.

(e) New Officers and Directors will take office at the close of the regular November meeting at which time appointed Directors shall be made by the new Officers and Board of Directors.

(f) There is hereby created an Executive Committee consisting of the President and four (4) members and one alternate elected by the Officers and Board of Directors at the December meeting of the board, each for a term of one year and until a selection and qualification of his successors.

(g) The Executive Committee shall meet whenever and wherever called by direction of the President or two members of the committee. The Executive Committee may act, without convening in meeting, by written resolution signed by all the committee members, thereof and duly entered in the Association records. At all meetings of the committee five committee members shall constitute a quorum. The alternate will cast a vote only when a regular member of the Executive Committee is unable to be reached with 72 hours. If a vacancy occurs on this committee, or a member of this committee is unable to fulfill his duties for a period of 30 days, the alternate will replace him and the Board of Directors will then elect a new alternate.

### **Section 3.**

(a) President: The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Association and shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors.

(b) The President shall see that the By-Laws, rules and regulations of the association are enforced and shall perform all other duties that may be prescribed from time to time by the Board of Directors.

(c) The President shall be ex-officio a member of all committees with voting privileges unless a regular member of the committee.

### **Section 4.**

(a) Vice Presidents: In the absence of the President, the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President shall have the powers and shall perform the duties of the President and such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors.

(b) Should the office of President become vacant due to death, resignation, or incapacitation, the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President shall immediately become the President upon



notification of the vacancy to the Board of Directors. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President will assume the responsibility of the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, who assumed the Presidency, and the Board of Directors will elect a new 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President from the Board of Directors. If the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President is unable or unwilling to fulfill the Presidency, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President will immediately become the President upon notification of the vacancy to the Board of Directors. The 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President will retain their office. The office of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President will be filled by the Board of Directors. If the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President is unable or unwilling to fulfill the Presidency, the Board of Directors will elect a new President from the Board of Directors.

**Section 5.**

- (a) Secretary: The secretary shall keep minutes of all membership and Directors meetings.
- (b) The Secretary shall be the custodian for the safekeeping of all documents and records of the Association.
- (c) The Secretary may be ex-officio of all committees appointed by the President of the Board of Directors without committee voting privileges unless a regular member of the committee.
- (d) The Secretary shall make a report of his office to the Board of Directors and to all membership meetings, and shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors from time to time.
- (e) The Secretary shall act as Secretary of all meetings of the members but in his or her absence the President may appoint any person to act as Secretary of the meeting.

**Section 6.**

- (a) Treasurer: The Treasurer shall receive and record all monies of the Association. Each committee chairperson who receives monies shall provide the Secretary and Treasurer with a written report.
- (b) The Treasurer shall disburse monies only upon presentation of itemized statements for approval of the Board of Directors and vouchers will be signed for payment with the exception of monies necessary to be disbursed immediately to facilitate the smooth running of the Association. Vouchers will still be required for these expenses.
- (c) The Treasurer shall account for all monies by itemized statements at each meeting of the Board of Directors or upon demand.
- (d) Two signatures will be required for all checks written. Two of the following: President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, or Treasurer.
- (e) All signers on checking account must be bonded.

(f) All monies generated from organizational activities shall be counted and recorded by two officers or directors and given to the Treasurer for audit.

**Section 7.**

All Officers and Directors will perform their duties on a volunteer basis.

**Section 8.**

Fiscal Year: This Association shall conduct its affairs on the calendar year basis, same to begin December 1<sup>st</sup> and ending on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of November of the following year.

**Section 9.**

All Officers and Directors are required to make full disclosure of all business dealings with the association.

## ARTICLE VI

### DUES

**Section 1.**

(a) Membership fees as follows: Youth - \$15.00, Adult - \$ 25.00, Family - \$40.00.

(b) A family is anyone in the immediate family consisting of parents or guardians and any youths in that family still eligible to compete as a Youth Exhibitor, or who have not reached the age of nineteen (19).

(c) Adult lifetime membership is \$150.00. A Lifetime membership is for any one individual, not to be sold as a family membership, or as a youth membership.

(d) NOQHYA lifetime membership is \$50.00. A lifetime membership is for any one individual youth, not to be sold as a family membership. Valid only during Youth Eligibility.

(e) Past presidents will receive a life membership upon leaving office.

## ARTICLE VII

### NORTHERN OHIO POINT SYSTEM

**Section 1.**

(a) Owners and exhibitors must be members of the Northern Ohio Quarter Horse Association Inc. in order to receive points toward year-end awards.

(b) If more than one name appears in the ownership, each owner must be a member in order for the horse to receive points. If a corporation is owner, corporation name must be a member in order for the horse to receive points. If a partnership is owner, partnership must be a member in order for the horse to receive points. If a farm name appears as owners, there must be a membership in the name of the farm in order for the horse to receive points. If a syndicate appears as owner a membership must be in

the name of syndicate for the horse to receive points.

(c) Points are to count from the date on which the owner or owners and rider and/or handler joined NOQHA by having his, her or its membership application and appropriate fee received at the address of the Membership Chairperson, or at the entry office of a horse show sponsored by NOQHA.

(d) In cases of error in fees or application, the above membership starting dates will become effective the date the error is corrected.

(e) Recognized owners will be those whose name appears last on the registration papers.

(f) To be eligible for year-end awards, any horse, or exhibitor must have earned points in at least five (5) shows and accumulated a minimum of ten (10) points in the class at NQQHA approved shows. Awards will be offered in both Jr. and Sr. Horses. We will give year end awards to the top five-point earners in each event which is approved.

**Section 2.** Any American Quarter Horse Association approved show occurring in that section of Ohio defined in ARTICLE I, Section 2, is approved for points in the Northern Ohio Quarter Horse Association, Inc. Points for year-end awards will start April 1<sup>st</sup> each year and end October 31<sup>st</sup> each year. Shows outside of boundary lines must be approved by the Board of Directors.

**Section 3.**

(a) Points will be awarded as follows: for a class of nine (9) or more horses in halter or performance the First Place horse receives nine (9) points: Second Place horse receives eight (8) points: Third Place horse receives seven (7) points: Fourth Place horse receives six (6) points: Fifth Place horse receives five (5) points: Sixth Place horse receives four (4) points: Seventh Place horse receives three (3) points: Eighth Place horse receives two (2) points: Ninth Place horse receives one (1) point. The same applies if there are only four (4) horses or one (1) horse in a class. The First Place horse gets no more points than there are horses in the class.

(b) The Grand Champion of each sex division shall be awarded one (1) more point than any other horse awarded points in each sex division and the reserve champion shall be awarded one (1) less than the grand champion.

(c) The winner of all ties to be determined as follows:

1. Most number of first places.
2. Most number of second places.
3. Placed over the most horses.

**Section 4.**

(a) The Association shall give a year-end award to the halter horse accumulating the most points in the Open halter division.

(b) The Association shall give an award for the "ALL AROUND HORSE OF THE YEAR". To be eligible, a horse must receive at least six (6) points in the open halter division and at least ten (10) points in each of two different open performance categories and must have earned points at five (5) shows in each category. (Categories are defined in the AQHA rulebook.)

(c) Year end awards will be given to the top five-point earners in each event that is approved. Year end awards will be presented in all classes provided the horse has earned points in at least five (5) shows and accumulated a minimum of ten (10) points in that class and five (5) classes of the same kind are held at NOQHA approved shows within the year.

**ARTICLE VIII**

**AMATEUR OWNER**

**Section 1.** Any exhibitor who complies with the Amateur or Level 1 Amateur owner status as set forth in the rules of the AQHA and who holds a current Amateur or Level 1 Amateur card is eligible to compete in Amateur or Level 1 Amateur owner classes whether he be a member of this Association (NOQHA) or not.

**Section 2.** Points are to be compiled on a one horse/Amateur or Level 1 Amateur Owner basis. In the event the horse is sold, all past points are lost, and a new start must be made by the new owner.

**Section 3.** Those classes to be offered as Amateur and Level 1 Amateur Classes at a horse show, singly, in any combination, or all inclusive, are only those classes designated as Amateur or Level 1 Amateur Classes in the current edition of the Official Handbook of AQHA.

**Section 3.** Those classes to be offered as Amateur and Level 1 Amateur Classes at a horse show, singly, in any combination, or all inclusive, are only those classes designated as Amateur or Level 1 Amateur Classes in the current edition of the Official Handbook of AQHA.

**Section 4.**

(a) Quarter Horse Association, Inc., except amateur grand and reserve points will only be given when there are participants in more than one class of sex division.

(b) Year end awards will be given to the top five-point earners in each event that is approved. The association will give five (5) year-end awards to the High Point horse of each amateur event which is approved in the current edition of the AQHA Official Handbook, providing the exhibitor has earned points in at least five (5) shows and

accumulated a minimum of ten (10) points in that class and five (5) classes of the same kinds are held at NOQHA approved shows within the year.

(c) The association will give an "ALL AROUND AMATEUR" and "RESERVE ALL AROUND AMATEUR" award to the horse accumulating the most points in any and all designated "Amateur" classes and the second most points for reserve. The horse must have earned points in at least five (5) shows and accumulated a minimum of fifteen (15) points in at least two (2) different performance categories and halter, with a minimum of five (5) points earned in the lowest division.

(d) The association will give an "ALL AROUND SELECT AMATEUR", and "RESERVE ALL AROUND SELECT AMATEUR" award to the horse accumulating the most points in any and all designated "Select Amateur" classes and the second most points for reserve. The horse must have earned points in at least five (5) shows and accumulated a minimum of ten (10) points in at least two (2) different performance categories and halter, with a minimum of five (5) points earned in the lowest division. If the show bill does not offer a Select division of the Amateur class, the Amateur class will be used and the Select points tabulated for that class.

(e) The Association will give a High Point Level 1 Amateur award to the horse accumulating the most points in any & all designated Level 1 Amateur classes and the second most points for Reserve High Point Level 1 Amateur Award as determined on a one-horse one-rider basis. Exhibitors must accumulate a minimum of 15 points in each event and must have placed 5 times in a given class during the year. 15 points must be earned in three different performance categories.

(f) The Association will give a High Point Level 1 Amateur Walk Trot award to the exhibitor accumulating the most points in any & all designated Level 1 Amateur Walk Trot classes, and the second most points for Reserve High Point Level 1 Amateur Walk Trot award. Points must be earned in a minimum of 3 classes must earn a minimum of 15 points per class. Points will be accumulated on a one horse/one rider basis. A contestant may exhibit more than one horse however the points earned with each horse will be compiled separately.

**NORTHERN OHIO QUARTER HORSE  
YOUTH ASSOCIATION, INC.  
CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**

**ARTICLE 1**

**NAME AND PURPOSE**

**Section 1.** This organization shall be a division of the Northern Ohio Quarter Horse Youth Association, Inc. and shall operate within the scope of the by-laws, rules and regulations of the organization.

**Section 2.** The objectives and purposes of the Northern Ohio Quarter Horse Youth Association, hereafter referred to as the NOQHYA shall be as follows:

To improve and promote the American Quarter Horse breed.

To improve and develop capabilities of youth, both individually and through group participation, in the breeding, raising and exhibition of American Quarter Horses.

(c) To develop and improve scholarship, leadership and community interest and participation of young horsemen.

(d) To encourage high moral character, sportsmanship and clean living among all its members.

(e) All monies generated from organizational activities shall be counted and recorded by two, Officers, Directors, or Advisors and given to the NOQHA Treasurer for audit in a timely manner.

**ARTICLE II**

**Section 1.** Membership shall consist of any youth who has not passed his nineteenth (19<sup>th</sup>) birthday on January 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year. The age of the youth on January 1<sup>st</sup> shall be maintained throughout the entire year.

**Section 2.** Annual membership shall be current published fee, or eligibility as a paid Family membership, due January 1<sup>st</sup> of each calendar year.

**Section 3.** Membership in NOQHYA permits all point earning and NYATT privileges of NOQHA.

**ARTICLE III**

**Section 1.** The business and property of the organization shall be managed and controlled by Officers and directors.

**Section 2.** Officers: the Officers of the Organization shall be the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Such Officers shall be elected by, **a majority of the members casting votes at the annual election**, and shall hold office for a period of one (1) year and until their successors are elected and qualified.

- (a) President: The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the association and shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Association subject to the direction of the Officers and directors. The President shall submit to the members annually at their meeting a report of the status of the Association and its activities during the preceding year. The term of office is for one year.
- (b) Vice President: Shall, in the absence, disability or inability of the President, perform the duties and exercise the powers of the President and shall perform such other duties as the president shall from time to time prescribe.
- (c) Secretary: The Secretary shall attend all meetings of the members and of the Officers and Directors and shall record or cause to be recorded all votes taken and the minutes of all proceedings in a minute book of the Association to be kept for that purpose. He shall perform like duties for all committees. He shall keep, or cause to be kept, a record of attendance of all Officers and Directors of the organization.
- (d) Treasurer: The Treasurer shall have the responsibility of reporting to all meetings the Association's expenditures in relation to the budget, and work under the guidance of the NOQHA Youth Advisor.

**Section 3.** Directors: Shall exercise equal voting privileges with the Officers in managing the business and property of the NOQHYA. To be an officer or director the youth must be a current member. If an office holder misses two (2) or more unexcused meetings, the matter will go before the Board and advisors for consideration of dismissal.

- (a) There shall be six (6) Directors elected by, **a majority of the members casting votes at the annual election**, and each will serve a term of one (1) year. The new President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Advisors will form an Executive Committee. That committee can appoint three (3) additional Directors who will serve a term of one (1) year.
- (b) Vacancy: In case of a vacancy in the Board of Directors, the President shall appoint a successor to fill the unexpired term of the elected Director.
- (c) Past Presidents shall serve as directors during their membership in NOQHYA.
- (d) All losing officer candidates shall become honorary Directors for a period of one (1) year with full voting privileges.

**Section 4.** In the event of a tie in the election of officers and directors the age factor will be used to break the tie, first by show age and then, if necessary, by actual calendar age, the older member to be chosen. If a tie occurs for the 6th and final Director position, after the tie is broken, the remaining

tied losing candidate(s) shall become honorary Director(s) for a period of one (1) year with full voting privileges.

#### ARTICLE IV

##### NORTHERN OHIO QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION YOUTH POINT SYSTEM

**Section 1.** The Point system for year end awards will be the same point system as is used by the Northern Ohio Quarter Horse Association, Inc.

**Section 2.** Eligibility

- (a) Each youth must be a member in good standing of NOQHYA in order to receive awards.
- (b) Ownership of the horse exhibited is to be as required in the current edition of the AQHA Official Handbook.
- (c) All awards are to be scored on a one youth/one horse basis. A youth may exhibit more than one horse, however, the points earned with each horse will be compiled separately. Owners and exhibitors must both be NOQHA members.

**Section 3.** Year End Awards will be presented to the following:

- (a) A year end ALL AROUND award will be given to the youth that earns the most points with one horse in Youth Activity halter and performance classes. Points will be compiled on a one youth/one horse basis. Points must have been earned in halter and three or more performance events with a minimum of ten (10) points earned in each of such events. Showmanship at Halter will be counted as a performance event. A youth must have earned points at least five (5) times in each of the three or more performance events.
- (b) There will be All Around and Reserve All Around awards for age groups and Level 1 Youth. (Age groups are 13 and under, 14 through 18 years of age, and all-age Level 1 Youth.)
- (c) Year end awards will be given to the top five-point earners in each event that is approved. Year end awards will be presented to both age groups and all Age Level 1 Youth in all classes providing the horse and exhibitor has earned points in at least five (5) shows and accumulated a minimum of ten (10) points in that class and five (5) classes of the same kind are held at NOQHA approved shows within the year.
- (d) The Association will give a High Point Level 1 Youth award to the horse accumulating the most points in any & all designated Level 1 Youth classes and the second most points for Reserve High Point Youth Award as



determined on a one-horse one-rider basis. Exhibitors must accumulate a minimum of 15 points in each event and must have placed 5 times in a given class during the year. 15 points must be earned in three different performance categories.

(e) The Association will give a High Point Level 1 Youth Walk Trot award to the exhibitor accumulating the most points in any & all designated Level 1 Youth Walk Trot classes, and the second most points for Reserve High Point Level 1 Youth Walk Trot award. Points must be earned in a minimum of 3 classes must earn a minimum of 15 points per class. Points will be accumulated on a one horse/one rider basis. A contestant may exhibit more than one horse however the points earned with each horse will be compiled separately.

(f) An annual sportsmanship award in honor of Dayle Trein will be presented to the youth selected by the youth officers and directors, based on the following considerations:

1. Willingness to help other youth.
2. Attitude
3. Contribution to Youth Association
4. Image Created
5. Age

(g) A revolving trophy will be given to the youth accumulating the most NOQHA points in youth classes for the year.

## **ARTICLE V SELECTION OF THE NOQHYA CONGRESS YOUTH TEAM**

**Section 1.** The final decision in seating the Congress Youth Team will be made on the following basis:

(a) Total point accumulation within the specified dates.

(b) If a youth should qualify in more than one class, prime consideration shall be given to each youth's desire as to what class he or she wants to participate in.

(c) If a youth should qualify on more than one horse, the youth will be allowed to designate the event and horse of their choice from which they are qualified.

(d) If there is an opening in any Congress Youth Team class, the Head Youth Advisor has the discretion to fill the open spot at the individual's own expense (entries, outfit, stall, and any other deemed expenses) with approval of the Adult Executive Committee.

## **Section 2. Eligibility**

- (a) Each youth wanting to participate on the Congress Youth Team must submit a letter of intent yearly to the youth advisor prior to competing at your first NOQHA, NYATT qualifying show.
- (b) Each youth must be a member in good standing of the NOQHA and AQHA to grant point earning privileges and NYATT qualifying requirements.
- (c) Ownership of the horse exhibited by the above youth is to be as required in the current edition of the official Handbook of AQHA.
- (d) Each youth must attend two (2) meetings of the NOQHYA. January meeting through and including June meeting will all count for team eligibility, monthly meeting date, time and location are subject to change as situation requires.
- (e) Perform four (4) hours work service, as designated by the Youth Advisors during the May NOQHA Spring Extravaganza/Level 1 Show and/or June NOQHA Summer Six Pack Circuit.
- (f) Obtain \$75.00 minimum in NOQHYA sponsors, due by May meeting.
- (g) Participate in two (2) fundraisers and one (1) community service project to be completed by the end of NOQHA Summer Circuit.
- (h) All Eligibility Requirements are to be completed and must be documented through the Head Youth Advisor in the official NYATT Log Book no later than the end of the Summer Circuit.

## **Section 3. Points**

- (a) Points will be accumulated from April 1<sup>st</sup>, through July 28<sup>th</sup>; Weekday points shall count as described in NOQHA Article VII, Section 2 excluding special events.
- (b) Points will be awarded as follows: for a class of nine (9) or more horses, the First Place horse receives nine (9) points: Second Place horse receives eight (8) points: Third Place horse receives seven (7) points: Fourth Place horse receives six (6) points: Fifth Place horse receives five (5) points: Sixth Place horse receives four (4) points: Seventh Place horse receives three (3) points: Eighth Place horse receives two (2) points: Ninth Place horse receives one (1) point. The same applies if there are only four (4) horses or one (1) horse in a class. The First Place horse gets no more points than there are horses in the class. Points will be awarded to the first nine (9) places. The person's best 10 shows in the qualifying period will count, subject to the requirements of showing in a minimum of 5 shows and accumulating at least 5 points in the corresponding class during the qualifying period.

- (b) The winner of all ties shall be the horse or exhibitor who:
1. Accumulates the most first placings.
  2. Accumulates the most first and second placings.
  3. If the tie still cannot be broken, youth advisors, Youth Board Members and NOQHA officers and directors shall have the authority to break the tie to benefit the team.
- (c) Points for the Congress Youth Team will be awarded on a one horse/one youth basis (refer to Article IV, Section 2).
- (d) Hardship cases and/or conflicts can be brought before the Youth Advisors, who in turn may consult with NOQHA Adult Board on eligibility.

**Section 4. Financial**

- (a) To receive financial support, a youth must fulfill all their eligibility requirements, participate in team pictures, participate in qualified class at the NYATT, and participate in the parade of teams at the All American Quarter Horse Congress.

**ARTICLE VI  
SMALL FRY AND LEAD LINE PROGRAM**

**Section 1.** The NOQHA offers high point awards to members of the NOQHYA for small fry and lead line classes.

- (a) In order for a high point or reserve high point award to be given, exhibitor must have placed five (5) times in a given class during the year.
- (b) Exhibitors must accumulate a minimum of five (5) points in the event.
- (c) The class must be held as a part of an AQHA, OQHA, and NOQHA approved show and the results reported to NOQHA by the show secretary.
- (d) The class must be limited to exhibitors 9 years of age and younger.
- (e) No stallions are permitted.
- (f) The exhibitors in the class are prohibited from exhibiting in any three gaited class or contest class at the same show.
- (g) Exhibitors in this class are not eligible to show in Level 1, 11 & Under, 13 & Under, and/or 18 & Under equivalent class at the same show. (Small Fry Showmanship may not show in any other showmanship class at the same show.) Small Fry exhibitors will be allowed to show in AQHA Level 1 Walk Trot Division classes but these classes will not be included in the small fry high point year end award.

(h) Gaits in the event to be limited to walk and trot/jog. Points can be accumulated only by members of NOQHYA and will be compiled on a one horse, one rider basis, as in youth activity.

(i) The classes will be operated as any other AQHA Level 1 youth class.

**Section 2.** The Association will give a High Point Small Fry award to the exhibitor accumulating the most points in any & all designated Small Fry classes, and the second most points for Reserve High Point Small Fry award.

**Section 3.** Lead Line

(a) NOQHA offers a high point award to members of the NOQHA Lead Line; these youth will be six (6) years of age and younger and the leader of the horse must be twelve (12) years of age or over.

(b) Riders in the Lead line are prohibited from exhibiting in any 3 Gaited Class, Contest Class, Performance or Small Fry Class at the same show.

(c) The only gait allowed is the walk, and the rider may be asked to back the horse.

(d) Rules a, b, c, e, f, and i of Article VI, Section 1 will apply.

#### **GUIDELINES FOR NOQHA SPONSORED HORSE SHOWS:**

**Section 1.** The show will be conducted as printed on the show bill unless hazardous conditions exist as determined by the show managers.

**Section 2.** Show officials consist of show manager and assistant show manager, office personnel to perform all necessary duties of entries, show results, etc.

**Section 3.** Exhibitors are required to present AQHA registration papers and current AQHA membership card, current AQHA Amateur, AQHA Level 1 Amateur, AQHA Youth membership, or Level 1 Youth membership card, if applicable.

**Section 4.** Entries to be made before classes enter ring to be shown.

**Section 5.** All errors on entry forms are the responsibility of exhibitor per AQHA rule.

**Section 6.** Any contestant may receive a refund for a class entry fee provided they withdraw from the class by presenting to the show office a NOQHA class withdraw slip at least two classes prior to the class they are withdrawing from. The rule does not apply to Futurity Classes or any added money class.

**Section 7.** If a horse is disqualified it is not to be placed, regardless of the number of horses in the class as per AQHA rules.

**Section 8.** In the event of a NSF check for entries that is not made good within 60 days, NOQHA will refer the matter to AQHA for disciplinary action.

**Section 9.** Any NSF check not made good within 60 days, NOQHA will suspend NOQHA membership privileges.

**Section 10.** Operators of all motorized vehicles at NOQHA Canfield shows must have a valid state driver's license and a complete permit on file at the entry office.

**Section 11.** All animals must be under the control of their handlers at all times.

### **QUEEN CONTEST RULES**

**Section 1.** Contestants must be 18-25 years of age.

**Section 2.** Contestants must be Northern Ohio residents.

**Section 3.** Contestants must be a current Northern Ohio member.

**Section 4.** Contestants must be single, not divorced and not a parent.

**Section 5.** Contestants will be judged as follows:

(a) 20% Horsemanship – multiple judges at the Futurity show.

(b) 40% Written Test – AQHA Rule book

(c) 40% Oral Interview – three judges

(Each portion is worth 100 points.)

### **RESPONSIBILITIES OF QUEEN**

**Section 1.** Pass out awards one day at the summer circuit.

**Section 2.** Pass out awards for all Futurity Classes.

**Section 3.** Crown new queen at banquet the following year.

**Section 4.** Northern Ohio Quarter Horse Association, Inc. pays for room fees for Congress and the Queen shall represent the Association at that event.

### **SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM RULES**

**Section 1.** The Scholarship Committee was established to provide opportunities for deserving NOQHA or NOQHYA members who wish to further their education in a school or institution of higher learning of their choice.

**Section 2.** Each year there shall be appointed by the President a Scholarship Committee

**Section 3.** The Scholarship Committee shall consist of at least, but not limited to, two (2) Board of Directors, and one (1) director shall serve as chairperson by appointment.

**Section 4.** Scholarships will be awarded upon recommendation of the scholarship committee and approval of the NOQHA Officers and Directors.

(a) Eligibility

1. Membership in NOQHA/NOQHYA for the three (3) consecutive years immediately prior to the year of application, plus the year of application.

(b) Criteria for selecting scholarship recipients includes, but is not limited to:

1. Cumulative G.P.A. of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale.
2. School activities.
3. Community service.
4. NOQHYA and/or NOQHA activities.
5. An Annual Service Award will be given based solely on the individual's contribution to the NOQHYA and/or NOQHA. The application will consist of a five hundred (500) word or less essay. Applicant must meet all other criteria except cumulative G.P.A. to be eligible for this award.

(c) Scholarships will be awarded to full time students – twelve (12) or more credits per grading period for the entire academic year the scholarship is to be awarded.

(d) Deadline for new applications and renewals is June 1<sup>st</sup> to be received by Scholarship Chairperson on or before this date.

(e) A full scholarship application consists of a form approved by the Scholarship committee, 3 letters of recommendation, and a current grade transcript.

(f) Any student requesting a Scholarship renewal shall submit a renewal application plus a transcript instead of a full application. Renewal applicants shall possess at least a 3.0 or higher grade point average for consideration.

**Section 5.** Scholarships will be awarded dependent upon monies available in the annual budget prepared by the NOQHA budget committee.

(a) Scholarship awards will be based upon designated amounts as presented by the Scholarship Committee and approved by the NOQHA Officers and Directors.

(b) Scholarship awards will be paid out no later than August 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.

(c) Scholarship checks will be made payable to both the scholarship recipient and the college/university or institution of higher learning and mailed to the recipient.