

ENDURANCE AND COMPETITIVE TRAIL FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS Regarding the Changes in the Arabian Breeders Sweepstakes Program

Q. WHAT IS NEW WITH THE 2007 SWEEPSTAKES PROGRAM?

A. For the first time, riders and breeders will be able to participate in the Sweepstakes program at all levels of AHA recognized Endurance and Competitive Trail Rides (CTR). Additionally, the Sweepstakes program now offers payback to the original Breeder Nominator of each Breeding Entry.

- Reduction in the fee to enroll a colt/stallion that is currently enrolled as a Breeding Entry as a nominated sire from \$2,500 to \$1,500.
- Reduction in the fee to enroll a mare as a Nominated Dam from \$2,500 to \$1,000.
- The Sweepstakes Trustees have approved a motion to allow donated funds to be used to increase the general Sweepstakes fund.
- The AHA Board of Directors has approved a motion to return the Sweepstakes Trust Fund interest earned (that exceeds the program expenses to the fund by 2010).
- Distance Advisory Committee (DAC) was established to determine how AHA can better serve the distance participants. This group is working with AHA to help them better understand the distance riding community and simplify AHA systems for our distance riders.
- Local AHA recognized CTR Rides can now be held using the rules and score sheets of an approved CTR governing body. (All Regional and National CTR Rides must still use the AHA rules and scoring system.)
- The requirement of a steward at the local level has been removed for all recognized Endurance and CTR rides. (Still a requirement for Regional and National Events)

Q. WHAT ARE THE INCENTIVES FOR THE RIDER?

A. Upon paying an annual enrollment of \$100 per horse, a rider has the opportunity to win back prize money based on a point incentive plan. Points accumulated annually at all levels of AHA recognized rides will be assigned dollar values with a payout before March 31 of the following calendar year. Each rider decides annually whether or not to participate in the Points Payback part of the program.

Q. HOW DOES A RIDE BECOME RECOGNIZED FOR SWEEPSTAKES POINTS?

A. The Ride Manager and/or Ride Secretary must be a member of AHA, complete the [Ride Approval Application Form](#), and submit a \$20 sanctioning fee to the AHA office 30 days before an Endurance Ride and 60 days before a CTR. If there are multiple distances held on the same weekend, a separate form and additional \$20 must be submitted for each distance requesting recognition. CTR's must be 25 miles in length or longer and Endurance rides must be 50 miles or longer.

Q. WHERE CAN I FIND A LISTING OF RECOGNIZED DISTANCE EVENTS?

A. All recognized distance rides will be listed on the AHA web site, www.arabianhorses.org as they become recognized. Additionally rides may be advertised as AHA recognized events by governing bodies and ride management.

Q. MAY A RIDE HAVE MORE THAN ONE RECOGNIZED DISTANCE PER WEEKEND?

A. Yes, a ride may have multiple recognized distances on the same day and/or weekend as long as each distance has completed the appropriate paper work and is of the minimum required distance per sport.

Q. HOW WILL POINTS BE CALCULATED IN THE COMPETITIVE TRAIL AND ENDURANCE DIVISIONS?

A. Sweepstakes horses will earn one point for each horse they beat in the ride (regardless of breed) and one point for themselves up to 6th place. For endurance rides this would be the first six horses crossing the finish line and successfully completing the ride. For CTR ALL horses in the ride are placed into one division (including juniors) and the top six highest scoring horses will be placed. Horsemanship scores are not to count. If a horse competes in multiple rides running concurrently (Regional or National Championship being held with an AHA Recognized), the horse will only earn points for the Regional or National ride.

Q. HOW WILL POINTS BE PAID OUT FOR REGIONALS AND NATIONAL EVENTS?

A. At a Regional ride the Top 5 or 50% of the number of horses in the ride will earn points, and at the National level the Top 10 or 50% of the horses in the ride will earn points. Receipt of a Sweepstakes ribbon does not guarantee payout.

Q. WHAT ARE THE OBJECTIVES FOR THE NEW SWEEPSTAKES PROGRAM?

- Encourage the breeding, increase the value and stimulate the marketability of Arabian, Half-Arabian and Anglo-Arabian horses for all levels of competition.
- Increase interest and participation in the Sweepstakes Program, from those who compete at the local level to those striving to breed a national champion.
- Create an all-inclusive Breeders Incentive that delivers direct and continuing returns to participating breeders giving owners an incentive to nominate all horses into the Breeders Sweepstakes Program.
- Reward Sweepstakes participants at our highest level of competitions.
- Ensure funds for future payouts and long-term viability.
- Make the program easily adjustable to best serve the needs of the participants.
- Design a program that will pay out approximately \$10.00 per point to exhibitors.
- Encourage the AHA Board to return all Sweepstakes Trust Fund interest that exceeds the program costs to the Program by 2010.

Q. WHAT IS THE BREEDER NOMINATOR?

A. The Breeder Nominator is the individual who enrolls the foal in the Sweepstakes program as a Breeding Entry. This person will receive the Breeders payback for the lifetime of the horse. The Breeder Nominator can be different from the Breeder listed on the Certificate of Registration for the horse.

Q. WHAT ARE THE INCENTIVES FOR BREEDERS?

A. Sweepstakes now rewards the nominator of the Breeding Entry (the person writing the check for \$400.00) with 10% of the value of the points earned in the Points Payback part of the Sweepstakes program for the lifetime of these Breeding Entries. Sweepstakes will also pay 5% of the value of the points earned in the Points Payback part of the Sweepstakes program, as well as 5% of the allocated money won in designated Sweepstakes classes at the Regional and National levels, to the Nominated Arabian Sire owner. The Breeder/Nominator and the Arabian Nominated Sire owner will be paid regardless of whether the enrolled offspring's current owner pays the annual \$100 Points Payback enrollment.

Q. WILL THERE BE A DEADLINE FOR THE POINTS PAYBACK ENROLLMENT, OR CAN I ENROLL AT ANY TIME?

A. The Points Payback Enrollment fee may be paid any time during the competition year, *prior* to the start of the distance ride/event in which the horse will compete for points' prize money. No retroactive points will be paid, meaning that points earned any time during the year prior to the enrollment fee being paid will not be eligible for payout. The enrollment form is available online or enrollment can be made by calling the AHA office. Enrollments will not be accepted by any event management.

Q. WHAT WILL BE THE POLICY FOR PAYOUT WHEN A HORSE HAS CHANGED OWNERS DURING THE COURSE OF THE YEAR?

A. The member listed as the recorded owner of the horse on December 31 of the year in which the prize money was earned will receive the payout. AHA encourages individuals selling or buying Sweepstakes horses to consider this policy when completing a sale.

Q. WILL NOTIFICATIONS OR REMINDERS BE SENT EACH YEAR TO SWEEPSTAKES PARTICIPANTS?

A. AHA will send out renewal notices to previous year's participants in the Points Payback program. It will remain the owner's responsibility to remember to enroll the horse prior to the horse's first competition. These will be courtesy reminders only. Just as in the past, all other Sweepstakes categories (Breeding Entries, Nominated Sires, Nominated Dams and Special Entries) do not require re-nomination.

Q. IS THE BREEDERS INCENTIVE FOR ALL SWEEPSTAKES FOALS, OR ONLY THOSE ENROLLED AFTER THESE CHANGES WERE IMPLEMENTED?

A. All Sweepstakes Breeding Entries will be eligible for the Breeder Incentive payback to the Arabian Nominated Sire owner *and* the Breeder/Nominator. There is no exclusionary period, and as long as you are a current AHA member, payouts will be automatic.

Q. WHAT WILL THE MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS BE FOR PAYOUT UNDER THIS NEW PROGRAM AND THE CURRENT MEMBERSHIP STRUCTURE?

A. Members must have a current base level membership to receive payout and hold a competition card if they are competing. For those horses owned by a business, a Business membership will be sufficient.

Q. CAN I ENROLL IN THE POINTS PAYBACK PROGRAM AT AN EVENT?

A. No, Points enrollments must be made prior to the event in which the horse will compete for prize money. All Points enrollments must be made directly to the AHA office, show secretaries may not accept these enrollments.

Q. WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

A. Log onto the AHA website, www.arabianhorses.org and click the green "Sweepstakes" button for further information, enrollment forms and details. Additionally, you may enroll your horses online through your member home page. Also, you may call AHA and a customer service representative will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Q. WHERE CAN I FIND ENROLLMENT FORMS?

A. Enrollment forms are available online at www.arabianhorses.org, or if you would like to call AHA, we would be happy to fax you any forms you may need.

Q. WHAT DO YOU ANTICIPATE POINT PAYOUTS TO BE?

A: *The goal of the Points Program is a per point payout in the \$10 range.*

Q. WHAT IF I NOTICE THAT MY POINTS ARE INCORRECT OR THAT A PLACING HAS BEEN RECORDED INCORRECTLY IN A SWEEPSTAKES RIDE?

A. If your ride results are incorrect, please notify the Ride Secretary from that ride immediately. If corrections are not made prior to December 31 of the competition year, then prize money will not be adjusted if payout is incorrect due to these errors. It is the rider's responsibility to verify these results and notify Ride Secretaries and/or AHA of any discrepancies.

Q. I HAVE AN ANGLO-ARABIAN MARE, AND I WOULD LIKE TO BREED HER TO A THOROUGHBRED STALLION, WHAT CAN I DO SO THAT THIS FOAL CAN BE ENROLLED AS A BREEDING ENTRY?

A. AHA is proud to offer the Anglo-Arabian Nominated Dam category, applicable to this very situation. Refer to the AHA handbook or website for further information on this new category.

Q. I AM INTERESTED IN NOMINATING MY ARABIAN MARE SO THAT HER HALF-ARABIAN FOALS ARE ELIGIBLE TO BE ENROLLED AS BREEDING ENTRIES. WHAT IS THE COST FOR THIS?

A. To benefit our members this cost for both the Anglo-Arabian Nominated Dam and the Arabian Nominated Dam category has been **reduced to only \$1,000.**

Q. WHY DID THE SWEEPSTAKES COMMISSION RAISE THE ORIGINAL (SPECIAL) ENTRY FEE TO \$15,000?

A. When the Sweepstakes program was started the Original Entry category was meant to be a temporary one to allow horses to come into the program that were already born at the start of the program. For whatever reason, this category continued to be utilized. Over time, as this category was not only continued, but was often discounted, it became apparent that people were taking a wait-and-see approach. This category was also used to "cherry pick" and nominate horses that were already proven show horses who would have a high probability of taking out much more money than their nomination fee. This also marginalized the value of in utero nominated foals. Breeders who supported the Sweepstakes program by nominating their foals were not as likely to reap the added value to their foals that their nomination should have provided them. In order to maintain an "Original (Special) Entry" category, it needs to be priced so that those who nominate in utero will realize the added value to their foals and those who do wait to nominate must pay a substantial premium for not taking the risks associated with nominating an in utero foal (breeding entry).

Q. I HAVE A FOAL I WOULD LIKE TO ENROLL IN THE SWEEPSTAKES PROGRAM, HOWEVER, DUE TO THE CHANGES I WOULD LIKE SOME EXTRA TIME TO REVIEW THE PROGRAM WHAT IS THE DEADLINE?

A. The deadline for all 2007 Breeding Entries has been extended to March 31, 2007. This extension is for 2007 Sweepstakes enrollments only. The in utero (breeding entry) nomination fee will again be \$400 for 2007.

Q: WHAT ARE THE CURRENT FEES TO NOMINATE MY PUREBRED ARABIAN STALLION?

A: The good news is, if your stallion is a Breeding Entry into the Sweepstakes program, the cost has been reduced to only \$1,500. The fee for all other purebred stallions is \$3,500.

Q: WHEN CAN I EXPECT TO RECEIVE MY SWEEPSTAKES CHECKS?

A: Because points cannot be calculated until the end of the competition year, all payments will be mailed before March 31 of the following year.

Q: CAN I EXPECT THAT A SWEEPSTAKES-QUALIFIED HORSE MAY BE VIEWED AS MORE VALUABLE THAN A NON-SWEEPSTAKES HORSE?

A: Although there are many variables that impact the value of a horse, one could expect that a horse with Sweepstakes earning power will have a greater value in terms of marketability and/or salability.

For any additional information regarding the sweepstakes program, programs available for distance horses, and all other interests please contact us at:

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