DEPARTMENT 63 – WESTERN HORSE SHOW

Superintendent: Tracy Taft (#217-836-7018)
Show Manager: Illinois Quarter Horse Association
Open Class Premiums Offered: $30,000.00
Land of Lincoln Class Premiums Offered: $15,000.00

INFORMATION

Contact
westernhorseshowinfo@gmail.com

Entries
Advanced entries are due **June 15, 2026**. Late entries will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. the day before competition, at double the entry fee. A copy of breed registration papers and membership cards must accompany AQHA entries. Entries will be accepted online only. No entries will be accepted by telephone, email, or mail. Entries will be accepted online at:
https://www.cognitoforms.com/ILQuarterHorseAssociation/_2026EntryFormIllinoisStateFairWesternHorseShow

Refunds
Refunds will be allowed only in the event of the death of the horse. Vet certificate is required. Substitution is allowed with the same owner and same class.

Substitutions
Horses may be substituted in the event of death, and a veterinarian's certificate must accompany all substitutions. Substitutions must be made no later than the day before competition.

Heath Paper Requirements
Each exhibitor must comply with the Illinois Exhibition Health Requirements. All horses (12) months of age or older, shall present a negative test for equine infectious anemia (EIA) conducted within the last twelve (12) months. AGID(Coggins) or ELISA tests are accepted. All out of state horses must provide by a CVI (health paper) issued within thirty (30) days.

Stalling
Stall fee is $150.00. Stall reservations will be accepted online at:
https://www.cognitoforms.com/ILQuarterHorseAssociation/_2026StallReservationsIllinoisStateFairWesternHorseShow Only one agent should make group stall reservations. All stalls will be preassigned. Move out required by midnight July 4, 2026.

Directions & Parking
Illinois State Fairgrounds is located at 801 E Sangamon Ave, Springfield, IL.
Trucks and trailers shall enter Gate 11 located on Sangamon Ave and proceed directly to the designated unloading area. Trucks and trailers must be parked in the area assigned by show management.

Camping
Camping fee is $35.00 per day. No cash or personal checks accepted, only credit cards or money orders made payable to IDOA. Reservations are not required.
There are 300 sites available that can accommodate motor homes, RV's, fifth wheels, and tents with electric and water and limited sewer hook-ups. Shower facilities and permanent restrooms are available. The campground offers water and electric hookups. Security monitors the Illinois State Fairgrounds twenty-four hours a day and campground supervisors are centrally located in the campground to assist with assigning spots, parking, and general information on the fairgrounds and the Springfield area.

Dogs
Dogs must be on a leash at all times while on the Fairgrounds.

Feed and Bedding
Feed and bedding are available on the Fairgrounds. Pre-bedding orders are available with payment at the time of ordering. Pre-bedding forms are available with the online entry form.

Class Descriptions
Non Pro is any Youth age 18 and under and Amateur age 19 and over.
Open refers to horses of any age. Any age exhibitor is eligible.
Junior refers to the horse 5 years of age and under.
Senior refers to the horse 6 years of age and older
Lead Line May not cross enter into any walk-trot classes
Walk-Trot division- May not cross enter into any loping class at the horse show
Small Fry- Walk-Trot ages 9 and under. Small Fry exhibitors may also show in Youth Walk-Trot 18 and under classes.
Youth Walk-Trot-Youth age 18 and under
Adult Walk-Trot-Amateur age 19 and over

All Breed Classes – Any stock horse is eligible. Registration papers are not required.
All Breed Pattern Classes - An exhibitor is not limited to the number of horses that can be shown by one exhibitor in an individual All Breed pattern class i.e. All Breed Reining, All Breed Western Riding, All Breed Trail, All Breed Showmanship At Halter, All Breed Ranch Trail, All Breed Ranch Pattern.
The same horse can only be shown one time in each class.

Land of Lincoln Classes - To be eligible for Land of Lincoln classes the breeder must be an Illinois resident, the current owner must be an Illinois resident and the horse must have been foaled in Illinois. Owned, Bred and Foaled in Illinois. All information will be verified from the breed registration papers. Breed registration papers required for all Land of Lincoln classes.

Ownership Rules
AQHA Class Ownership rules- Amateur and Youth ownership rules follow AQHA rules. Ownership includes immediate family including: spouse, child, child's spouse, stepchild, parent, grandparents, grandparent's siblings, step grandparent, grandchild, step-parent, sibling, half-sibling, stepsibling, spouse's parent, spouse's step-parent, sibling's spouse, half-sibling's spouse, step-sibling's spouse, sibling's child, sibling's step-child, half-sibling's child, half-sibling's step-child, step-sibling's child, step-sibling's step-child, parent's sibling, parent's half-sibling, parent's step-sibling, parent's sibling's child, parent's sibling's stepchild, parent's half sibling's child, parent's half sibling's stepchild, parent's step sibling child, parent's step sibling's stepchild, legal ward or legal guardian. Persons whose relationship is legally recognized as a domestic partnership or civil union under the laws of the jurisdiction in which they sought such relationship are considered immediate family. Separate legal entities, such as family, and /or youth, corporations, trusts or partnerships, are also authorized owners of the amateur exhibitor's horse so long as all legal and equitable owners and beneficiaries of the legal entity are individuals specifically authorized by this rule.

Leased Horses- Any money won by a leased horse will be paid to the exhibitor as recorded on the day of the show.

Performance Eligibility
In order to be eligible for AQHA Performance Halter, the horse must also be shown in a performance class division or have a Register of Merit. Walk-Trot classes, Showmanship and Longe Line do not count as an eligible performance class.

Ranch Rules
All Breed Working Western Rail, Ranch Riding and Ranch Trail – AQHA crossover rules to apply.

Level 1 Horse Non Pro Rules

Level 1 Horse Non Pro Classes offered: Equitation, Horsemanship and Showmanship

- Amateur and Youth exhibitors combined eligible.
- Amateur or Youth AQHA membership required.
- Horses may not have earned more than 10 points in that class across all divisions to be eligible.
- Points counted as lifetime through October 31 of the previous show year.
- Points earned in these classes will count towards the exhibitor's level eligibility in the class for which points are earned.
- Points earned in these classes will count towards the horse's rookie level eligibility in the class for which points are earned.
- Horses may not be shown in Horsemanship or Hunt Seat Equitation on the flat prior to July 1 of its 2 year old year.
- Ownership, relationship to owner or show lease is required.
- Stallions are not eligible to be shown.

NSBA Information

All horses showing in an NSBA class must be registered with NSBA. The owner and exhibitor must be current NSBA members.

$3000 Added Open/Limited class will run as follows: All entries will pay one entry fee. If the exhibitor also qualifies for the Limited division, this must be indicated on the entry form. The class will run one time with two separate placings. The Limited division will pay $1000 and will be announced first. The Open division will pay $2000. Payout will follow the scale as indicated on the showbill. NSBA Limited Open and Limited Non Pro eligibility can be found on the NSBA website at nsba.com. All other $1000 added NSBA classes will pay $1000 and payout will follow the scale as indicated on the showbill. In addition to the added money, NSBA trophies will be awarded!

High Point Awards

Open, Youth 13 and Under, Youth 14-18, Amateur, Amateur Select, Adult Walk-Trot,
Youth Walk-Trot Level 1 Youth, Level 1 Amateur, Small Fry, EWD
All Breed Open, Youth, Amateur

High Point Award Rules

- Must show to all judges
- Halter is required for Open, Youth 13 and Under, Youth 14-18, Amateur, Amateur Select, All Breed Open, Amateur, and Youth.
- Halter not required but does count for Adult Walk-Trot, Youth Walk-Trot, Level 1 Amateur, Small Fry, and EWD.

Payouts

The premium checks will be made payable to the exhibitor of record. All exhibitors are required to have a tax ID on file in order to receive the payout. In the event of a leased horse, the checks will be made payable to the lessee. Payouts will be available at the show.

Added Money	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
$2000.00	$700.00	$400.00	$350.00	$250.00	$200.00	$100.00
$1000.00	$350.00	$250.00	$175.00	$100.00	$75.00	$50.00
$750.00	$300.00	$200.00	$100.00	$75.00	$50.00	$25.00
$500.00	$200.00	$100.00	$75.00	$50.00	$50.00	$25.00
$300.00	$100.00	$75.00	$50.00	$30.00	$25.00	$20.00
$200.00	$70.00	$50.00	$35.00	$20.00	$15.00	$10.00