



NEW JERSEY QUARTER HORSE YOUTH ASSOCIATION (NJQHYA)

2026 YOUTH PACKET: AWARDS, RULES AND BYLAWS

NJQHYA ASSOCIATION ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

The purpose of this award is to recognize the achievements of NJQHYA members in the AQHYA. It is the member's responsibility to notify the youth advisor when a goal has been completed, or an award has been earned. Only members in good standing are eligible and only during the year the award was earned.

Awards will be recognized at the NJQHA/NJQHYA Awards Banquet.

Submission Requirements

1. The Youth Advisor needs to be notified before the end of the year.
2. The deadline to submit achievements is the same date that year end award selections are due.
3. Members must provide official proof from AQHA for verification.

Eligible NJQHYA Achievement Awards:

1. AQHYA Youth Performance ROM or Halter ROM
2. AQHYA Youth Superior in any event.
3. AQHYA Championship title as per AQHA Rules SHW807-807.1
4. 500 hours or more in the Horseback Riding Program.

NJQHYA WALTER 'DOC' SEADER EDUCATIONAL GRANT

A one-time grant of \$100.00 will be awarded to any NJQHYA member that meets the following criteria:

1. Must be a member in good standing of NJQHYA for 3 years, including the year of application.
2. Must provide proof of enrollment in college or trade school.
3. Documentation must be provided by December 31 of the year you are first enrolled.

Roberta Sharpe-Drout Up-and-Coming Showmanship Exhibitor

This award is for current NJQHYA members in good standing who are nominated in the small fry division. This award will go to the small fry exhibitor who earns the most state showmanship points in level 1 youth and youth 13 & under combined for the year. Nomination in Level 1 Youth or Youth 13 & Under is not required, as long as the exhibitor is nominated in the small fry division.

NJQHYA 2026 PROGRAM RULES

The following rules apply to Small Fry, Youth, & Novice Youth members for Year-end Awards, Congress Team (NYATT), & AQHYA World

1. Advertising Requirement

- **Each member must submit \$150.00** in ads for show program (per person...not family.)
- **Ads must be turned in by Saturday at the May show, NO exceptions!!**

2. Meeting Attendance Requirements

- **Members must attend and remain at 50% of the meetings.**
 - Live youth meetings will be held at most AQHA shows in New Jersey. Times will be announced at the show and posted on the NJQHA Facebook page and emailed. If you cannot attend a meeting, it is your responsibility to find out what was discussed and what is required of you.
 - Virtual Attendances: Members may attend meetings by facetime call to an approved advisor or youth board member. Facetime calls must be for the whole meeting to be considered present.
 - We will also have 2 zoom meetings July & August since we do not have any shows.

3. Youth Show Work Requirement

- You, or someone representing you, **must work at the Youth Show /Region 5 Show.**
- Any youth member with a nominated horse must show at the Youth Show/Region 5 Show to be a member in good standing and to be eligible for year-end awards and to be on the NYATT team. The only exception is if your horse is injured; in this instance you must have a vet note.
- Job assignments will be posted at the show, a sign-up list will be emailed before the show.

4. Fundraising & Activity Requirements

You are expected to participate in **all fund raisers.** Fund raisers and activities will include:

- Ad book sales (\$150 minimum per person). As described in 1. Above.
- A \$10.00 Scratch off ticket to be submitted to the youth advisor at the 1st Youth meeting, the ticket will be put into a basket that will be raffled off at the Youth Show.
- Working at our Youth show circuit. Youth members must sign up for time slots (with our online tracking forms) and check in with youth advisor so we can make sure everyone is doing their work detail.
- Sell thirty Dream Big raffle Tickets that will be drawn at our June Youth Show. Tickets not handed in prior to the drawing will not be counted. The member who sells the most tickets will win a free stall at the 2026 Youth Show. This credit must be redeemed at the 2026 show and has no cash value.
- Sell raffle tickets or other designated fundraiser tickets. Youth members must sign up for time slots to help sell raffle tickets.
- Members attending YES, Youth World, NYATT that qualify for funding must sell 50/50 tickets at designated shows to participate in the events they will be attending.
- Youth raffles will be held at all NJ shows. Qualifying members for the upcoming event are required to participate in the fundraising specified for the event. Any exceptions must be approved by the youth advisor(s).
 - March show: 50/50 raffles benefiting YES attendees
 - May show: 50/50 raffles benefiting Youth World attendees
 - June show: Scratch off lottery basket tickets.
 - September show: 50/50 raffles benefiting NYATT attendees

5. Year-End High-Score Award Rule.

- Rules will apply to all members. All shows designated “2026 pointed” by the NJQHA board count towards Year End Awards. Please refer to the NJQHA rules (posted on the website)

6. Funding for YES, Youth World and NYATT Events

- Will be decided each year after our Youth Show. This will allow us to evaluate our profit from our show and by this time we would have an estimate on the amount of attendees we have for each of these events.
- The funding decided will then be used for that years Youth World, NYATT, and the following years YES conference.
- Funding we be decided by the Youth Advisor and the NJQHA Treasurer. It will then be approved by the Youth Officers and the NJQHA Senior Board.
- To receive the funding payment for YES, Youth World, and NYATT the youth member must provide NJQHA senior Treasurer a reimbursement form within 60 (sixty) days after the event. If the reimbursement form is not received the funds will be forfeited and kept by the youth association.
- To qualify for funding at YES, Youth World, NYATT members must have been a member in good standing for the year prior.

AQHA Youth Excellence Seminar Conference (YES)

Four (4) Delegates shall be appointed by the officers of the NJQHYA to serve as delegates at the AQHYA YES Convention. They shall have the responsibility of voicing concerns on issues raised at the convention and electing AQHYA Officers. Appointment of the four Delegates shall be based on the ability to attend the AQHYA YES Convention held each year in June. NJQHYA Officers will have first opportunity to be chosen as the voting delegates at the convention should they attend. Funding for the four voting delegates will be the same as the Congress and YWS team funding. Subsidizing will be decided yearly by the NJQHYA membership, after profits are calculated, from our major fund raisers. YES attendees eligible for funding must be members in good standing the *in* year prior to attending. Attendees will be required to sell 50/50 tickets at the NJQHA March show. Youth Advisors attending YES will be eligible for funding as well. Advisors attending also gives the option of supervising members as their chaperone and allowing more members to attend this event.

CONGRESS TEAM NYATT

The Congress Team will be determined by the highest total number of AQHA points, accumulated at shows held in New Jersey, by the member and horse combination, in the related event, beginning with the PJC Show (2025) and ending with the New Jersey Quarter Horse Youth Association Show Circuit (2026). In case of a tie, the current year state points will break the tie. Alternates may be named in the same manner. Rules 1-5 (above) must be followed by all members. If there are no members with national points, then the member showing the 13 & under or and/or 14-18 youth class with the highest 2025/2026 state points will be asked to attend. If there are no members with national points or state points, then the member with the highest number of 2025/2026 Level 1 youth state points in the class will be invited to represent the state. NYATT members will be required to sell 50/50 tickets at the September Show. If NYATT members would like to try to gain additional sponsorship to cover their outfits cost, NJQHA can help with that by providing sponsorship forms and all of these funds will go directly to the NYATT team.

Congress Team NYATT Rules:

1. You may only qualify for two classes for the Congress Team.
2. Subsidizing will be determined as stated in number 6 above of the NJQHYA rules. Funds will be used for outfits to be worn during opening ceremonies, entry fees, and any other Congress related expense. If for any reason you do not participate, funding will go to the alternate or revert to the NJQHYA. Alternates may purchase the same outfit to participate in the walk in ceremony. This cost will be out of pocket for them and they will need to reimburse NJQHA for these outfits. Youth advisors/Assistant Advisors will also receive the same funding for attending congress and helping with the NYATT team.
3. If a participant qualifies and shows in two classes, no additional funding will be provided. Participants are expected to show in all classes that they are registered for. If the participant scratches or no shows in any class with no notice for an alternate with respect to a second class, without a medical or veterinary emergency, the participant will not receive funding. Participant not showing in any class will not receive funding.
4. You must participate in the team photo, at the time scheduled and participate in the walk in ceremony or you will not receive your check. Members participating in Ranch Riding or Reining do not need to walk in the ceremony, they will still need to take their picture, and the photographer can add them to the group photo.
5. NYATT members must be NJQHYA members in good standing in the year prior to qualifying. If no other member wishes to participate, NJQHYA will ask the new members in the current year with the same point calculations as members. New Members will not receive any funding.
6. If a qualified horse dies or becomes unsound and unable to compete with the qualified member, the member may only substitute a horse in showmanship, equitation and horsemanship. Horse substitutions will only be permitted with a vet note stating the following:
 - Horses Registered name/breed/age
 - Date and reason of examination
 - Vet Findings (diagnosis)
 - Recommended medical treatment
 - Statement that the horse is not fit for competition and recommended rest or restrictions
 - Must include Vets signature, address, and phone number
 - Must be provided to the youth advisor at least one week before NYATT entries are due
 - A written statement from the member saying the horse will not be shown at any shows prior to or at the 2026 Congress.
7. Since Reining and Barrel Racing is not available at our NJQHA shows in 2026, members can use their national points from three (3) shows held in 2026 with the period ending June 30, 2026, to qualify. If the member does not have any youth points, the member may use national Level 1 youth points to qualify. Members must notify the youth advisor by May 1, 2026, if interested in representing NJ.
8. Members residing outside of New Jersey must complete a NYATT change of affiliation form, and it must be mailed and received by the Ohio Quarter Horse Association by May 1, 2026.

AQHA YOUTH WORLD SHOW

Youth wishing to participate at the AQHYA World Show as a state representative must submit a letter of intent to the Youth Advisor by **May 31, 2026**. This letter must include the class or classes in which you wish to participate.

1. A minimum of five (5) national points earned during the qualifying year are required for the class(es) of interest.
2. You may only qualify for two classes as a state representative. The two-class limit maybe lifted if no other youth are interested in the class. This class limit changes according to AQHYA and should say something about reflecting what AQHYA dictates each year.
3. If more than six individuals wish to be a representative in the same event, the following will apply:
The youth, who accumulated the most national points, during the AQHYA qualifying year, May 1, 2025 to April 30, 2026, and was a member in good standing in the NJQHYA (refer AQHYA 2026 Rules on page 1) at the time the points were earned. Alternates will be chosen in the same way.
4. Subsidizing will be decided as stated above in number 6 in NJQHYA rules. Funds will be used for stall fees, entry fees, participation in the Parade of Teams, and any other AQHYA World Show related expense. If for any reason you do not participate or scratch from classes/activities, funding will go to the alternate or revert to the NJQHYA.
5. State and National qualifiers, who are members in good standing and were members in good standing the year prior, (refer AQHYA 2026 Rules on page 1) shall receive the same amount given to Congress Team members for that year, if they attend the AQHYA World Show. However, total expenditures may not exceed the cost of a 12 member Congress Team. If for any reason you do not attend, funding will revert to the NJQHYA. Nonmembers who wish to stall with NJQHA will be required to reimburse NJQHA for their portion of the tack stall. Members who attend the AQHYA World show need to participate in the parade of teams to qualify for funding. If members will not be present, they need to contact the youth advisor.
6. Members may participate at the AQHYA Youth World for non-showing activities and will receive half of the funding of those showing. These activities include Horse Judging and Speech Contest. The Scrapbook contest is now digital and youth do not need to be present to win along with other contests that you do not need to be present. NJQHYA will cover the cost of entries for these contests. Youth Advisors must be notified with a letter of intent by May 31, 2026.
7. A member in good standing who does not qualify for the AQHYA World Show under the above rules, may be eligible to qualify for the AQHYA World Show under the hardship clause. Please check the hardship rules and contact the youth advisor.

AQHYA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW HARDSHIP QUALIFICATIONS

If you were a NJQHYA member in good standing, the previous year, you may qualify for the AQHYA World Championship Show under a hardship category. A hardship case for any event may be filed if no member, who is state qualified, with five national points, plans to attend the AQHYA World Show. Members who are state qualified are given priority.

Any member applying for a hardship case must send a letter of intent, stating the class and the reason for hardship, to the youth advisor by May 31st, 2026.

All hardship cases will be decided by the officers of the NJQHYA, the youth advisor and 2 members of the NJQHA Board of Directors.

CATEGORY 1 The youth member has a newly purchased horse, resulting in the inability to accumulate the required five national points.

- CATEGORY 2 The event in which the youth member wishes to participate is not offered at any NJQHA approved shows or the lack of entries in this event, at the NJQHA shows, make it impossible for the member to accumulate five national points.
- CATEGORY 3 The member and horse have recently begun showing in a new event, in which they wish to participate at the AQHYA World Show.



New Jersey Quarter Horse Youth Association 2026 Officers

President: Lauren Goolsby

Vice President: Natalee DeGroot

Reporter: Haddie Curiale

Secretary: Luci Colasante

Treasurer: Grace Kreft

Advisor: Lyndsey Curiale

Asst Advisor: Caroline

Wisniewski

Constitution and By-Laws

Revised: 6/25/2021 Effective 1/1/2022

Article I Name and Purpose

Section 1: This organization shall be a division of the New Jersey Quarter Horse Association, shall operate within the scope of the by-laws, rules and regulations of the New Jersey Quarter Horse Association and shall be named New Jersey Quarter Horse Youth Association.

Section 2: The objectives and purpose of the New Jersey Quarter Horse Youth Association, hereafter referred to as the NJQHYA shall be as follows:

- A. To improve and promote the American Quarter Horse breed.
- B. To improve and develop the 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 horse people.
- D. To encourage high moral character, sportsmanship and clean living among all its members.
- E. To establish a means whereby Youth members may work in conjunction with the New Jersey Quarter Horse Association.

Article II Membership

Section 1: Membership shall consist of any youth who has not passed their nineteenth birthday on January 1 of the current year.

Section 2: Annual Membership fee shall be \$35.00 due January 1 of each calendar year. Membership to be effective when the application and fee are received by the New Jersey Quarter Horse Association.

Section 3: An annual nomination fee of \$10.00 per horse per Youth Division is necessary for the youth points to be tabulated and point earning privileges to be granted. Nomination to be effective when application and fee are received by the New Jersey Quarter Horse Association.

Section 4: Member is responsible to obtain and maintain his/her own membership in the American Quarter Horse Youth Association (Youth Card) directly through the American Quarter Horse Association.

Section 5: The New Jersey Quarter Horse Youth Association news will be published on the NJQHA website (www.NJQHA.com).

Section 6: Members in good standing consist of a member who has attended at least 50% of the NJQHYA meetings and who has participated in all of the year's fundraisers.

Section 7: Youth members that have graduated high school. If a member has been in good standing for the previous 3 consecutive years, that member will be considered in good standing the year following his/her high school graduation as long as they complete all necessary items to be in good standing as outlined in the youth packet. They will however be excused from the meeting attendance portion of the requirement if they are away at school and unable to attend the meetings because of school.

Article III Officers and Directors

Section 1: Only members in good standing having a minimum of one (1) year tenure in the Association shall be eligible for election to office.

Section 2: Candidates for election to office for the succeeding year shall be nominated by club members at the NJQHYA meeting held at the PJC show circuit. The day and approximate time of this meeting will be announced in advance. To be eligible for the office of President the nominated person must have previously served for one (1) full term as the Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary or Reporter.

Section 3: The Officers of the Association shall be elected by ballot mailed or emailed to the Association youth advisor or presented in person at the December meeting. The candidate receiving the majority of votes cast shall be elected to the office for which he or she was nominated. Only members in good standing are eligible to vote in the election.

Section 4: Two Inspectors of Election Shall be appointed by the President at the nomination meeting, after all nominations are closed. The inspectors cannot be on the ballot or related to anyone on the ballot.

Section 5: The President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Reporter shall hold office for one-year term or until their successors are elected. An Officer may succeed himself.

Section 6: Any officer may withdraw from the Association by presenting to the Secretary a written statement of resignation.

Section 7: If a vacancy occurs in the office of President, the Vice President shall assume the position of President for the unexpired portion of the term. If a vacancy other than the office of President occurs, it shall be filled immediately by the membership with a general election.

Section 8: Four (4) Delegates shall be appointed by the officers of the NJQHYA to serve as delegates at the AQHYA YES Convention. They shall have the responsibility of voicing concerns on issues raised at the convention and electing AQHYA Officers. Appointment of the four Delegates shall be based on the ability to attend the AQHYA YES Convention held each year in July. NJQHYA Officers will have first opportunity to be chosen as the voting delegates at the convention should they attend.

Article IV Duties of Officers

Section 1: The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association and shall appoint such committees as considered expedient or necessary.

Section 2: The Vice President shall assist the President by heading committee appointments and coordinating special events. In the absence of the President, the Vice President shall perform his/her duties. In the absence of both President and Vice President, the Secretary shall preside and assume the duties of the President. In the absence of the President, Vice President, and Secretary, the Treasurer shall perform the duties of President.

- Section 3:** The Secretary shall attend all meetings of the NJQHYA and shall record all votes taken and the minutes of all proceedings. He or she shall perform like duties for the committees when requested to do so. The secretary shall have the responsibility of submitting all minutes to the youth advisor for posting on the website after approval. The Secretary shall also have the responsibility of mailing any notices or correspondences necessary.
- Section 4:** The Treasurer shall have responsibility for the safe keeping of the funds and securities of the Association, and shall keep or cause to be kept a full and accurate account of all receipts and disbursements in books belonging to the NJQHYA. The Treasurer shall keep or cause to be kept all other books of account and accounting records of the Association as shall be necessary, and shall deposit or cause to be deposited all monies and other valuable effects in the name and to the credit of the Association in such depositories as may be designated by the NJQHYA and the NJQHA. The Treasurer shall disburse, or cause to be disbursed, the funds of the Association, as may be ordered or authorized generally by the Association, and shall render to the Association members, the Advisor, or the parent club, whenever requested, an account of all transaction as Treasurer. Signing privileges of all checks and withdrawals shall be held by the NJQHA Senior Association Treasurer and the Youth Advisor combined. It shall be the responsibility of the Treasurer, at the beginning of each fiscal year, to submit to the NJQHYA and the NJQHA a proposed budget for the coming year.
- Section 5:** The Reporter shall have the responsibility of reporting on the activities of the Association and of the individual members of the Association to the Quarter Horse Journal and to the public relations chairperson of the NJQHA for posting on the website.
- Section 6:** The number necessary to constitute a quorum at meetings is a majority vote of the members present at said meeting.
- Section 7:** All officers shall be required to attend all meetings of the association. Absence from two (2) consecutive meetings, without reasonable excuse, may be cause for removal from office. Removal from office will be voted on by the remaining officers. In the case of a tie, the youth advisor shall be the deciding vote.
- Section 8:** Any situation not specifically covered in the Constitution and By-laws of the New Jersey Quarter Horse Youth Association shall automatically revert to the Constitution and By-laws of the New Jersey Quarter Horse Association.
- Section 9:** All NJQHYA meetings will be run and organized in accordance with Robert's Rules of Meeting Protocol and Parliamentary Procedures.