

MID-AMERICA FOX TROTTING HORSE ASSOCIATION

FOUR YEAR MATURITY

Rule # 1. All entries must be owned by a Mid-America member. Membership fees of \$15.00 - Individual or \$25.00 - family, payable to the secretary at the time of nomination or before. No entry will be accepted without current membership.

Rule # 2. Entries must be in or postmarked by April 1 or be subject to late penalties in rule # 3.

Rule # 3. The entry fee will be \$200 paid as follows:

\$ 200.00 with the nomination on/or before June 1

\$ 300.00 with the nomination after June 1 of the calendar year up till the day of show.

Entries must be paid in full by April 1 in order to cast a ballot for selection of judges.

Rule # 4. All nominations shall include the entry fee, completed entry form and a copy of the registration papers. The rules and entry form are also available at our web site www.mofoxtrot.com/midamerica.

Rule # 5. All horses must be nominated by their registered name.

Rule # 6. All entry nominations, entry fees and judges' ballots are to be sent to the following address:

Mid America Fox Trotting Horse Assoc.

Four Year Old Maturity

P.O. Box 726

Republic, MO 65738

Please make checks payable to MAFTHA. Please do not send cash in the mail. Be sure to mail all correspondence to the address above.

Rule # 7. Entries may have been shown at halter or in performance classes previously, and remain eligible for the show.

Rule # 8. The entry fee will be refunded upon receipt of a death certificate from a licensed veterinarian, provided the certificate is presented to the Futurity Treasurer within 30 days of death.

Rule # 9. Not Used.

Rule # 10. Owners of a nominated entry will be allowed to cast a ballot, but not nominate judges, provided the nomination is made and paid in full by April 1.

Rule # 11. Declaration as to the division (Open or Amateur) will be made at the maturity check in on the first day of the maturity horse classes. A horse may not be shown in both Amateur and Open Divisions. There will be no Amateur Owned & Trained Division in the Four Year Old Maturity Classes.

EXHIBITING

Rule # 12. Both owner and rider of any horse shown in the Maturity shall be required to be a current member of the Mid America Fox Trotting Horse Association.

Rule # 13. Horses will be ridden (and timed, if desired), at the discretion of the call judge. In the event of large classes, the judges may stop the class and dismiss a number of entries for simplicity of judging the class. Should this be determined by the judges, the procedure will be announced when the class is called. ***This rule may be modified or adjusted by the board of directors.***

Rule # 14. Check – in will be held on the first day of the Maturity. An original or photocopy of the MFTHBA registration papers, with up-to-date ownership transfers, coggins papers and health papers for out-of-state horses must be presented at the check in.

Rule # 15. If a rider dismounts because of a fall or without permission he/she will be disqualified.

Rule # 16. Time-out will only be allowed if approved by the ring steward.

Rule # 17. The USDA/HPA rules will take precedence over Mid-America rules in case of conflict.

Rule # 18. If preliminary workouts are necessary, they may be adjusted at the board's discretion. The top ten from each preliminary workout are eligible to show back in the semi-final classes and the top ten from each semi-final classes are eligible to show back in the championship classes.

Rule # 19. Amateur – Conforms to the rules of the MFTHBA.

Rule # 20. An infraction of the rules must be protested in writing within 60 minutes of the offense by submitting a \$100.00 fee to a board member. Frivolous protests will not be considered.

Rule # 21. Not Used.

Rule # 22. Any entry that is disqualified by a judge will be excused from the class.

JUDGES AND JUDGING

Rule # 23. All Maturity entries paid in full by April 1, are eligible to vote for the judges as nominated by the Owners of the Two Year Old Futurity entries. The top ten names will be determined and a ballot sent to all eligible Two Year Old Futurity entries who will select five judges. The ballots will be mailed by May 1 and must be returned to the Futurity Treasurer postmarked by June 1. The judges will be determined by exhibitor ballot.

Rule # 24. Neither the judge nor members of their family shall exhibit or own a horse in the show.

Rule # 25. The judge will not be eligible to judge provided that he/she has trained, exhibited, conditioned, boarded, or owned any horse to be shown. If a judge cannot exercise an objective opinion, free from possible prejudice, bias, or, outside influence, because of a connection with an owner, exhibitor or anyone else connected with the horse, or, for that matter, if such connection would appear to others of possible bias, whether or not the judge feels he or she would be affected, a judge must disqualify himself or herself, or may be disqualified by the MAFTHA Board of Directors. The judge must have a current MFTHBA judge's card and be in good standing with MAFTHA and MFTHBA.

Rule # 26. The judge shall not appear on the show grounds more that 15 minutes before the judging begins from the day the show begins until the conclusion of the final day of the show. Judges shall not visit with the exhibitors, owners, or handlers before the show, nor inspect or discuss any horse prior to class time. In the event this rule is violated, the judge will be dismissed and the alternate will judge. Judges shall not discuss horses or judging from the day the show begins until the conclusion of the final day of the show.

PAYBACK – *(This section of the rules is currently under review and modifications subject to change at the discretion of the Board).*

Rule # 27. Payback money will be split between the Divisions based on the number of entries per division on a percentage basis. 5% of the money received will be held for administrative and operational expenses of the Mid-America Fox Trotting Horse Association.

Rule # 28. Prize money will be mailed to the owner of the horse, unless a release is signed by the owner, designating the prize money to another individual. The Social Security Number is required for the prize recipients who receive the prizes and/or money. It is crucial the horse owners notify the Futurity Treasurer when they sell or purchase a horse, so the prize money is sent to the current owner.

(MAFTHA reserves the right to make minor revisions to the Rules as determined by Board of Directors.)