

Current Futurity Rules (beginning on page 76 of the rule book)

K. Three Year Old Futurity Class Regulations: Registered Missouri Fox Trotting horses may be nominated as two-year olds to show the following year in the Three-Year Old Futurity held each spring at the national show grounds in Ava, MO.

1. **Nominations:** Will be accepted through October 31, with a midnight postmark of that date acceptable, in order to qualify for the nomination fee of \$200. For those wishing to pay in full at time of nomination, a 10% discount is offered for a total cost of \$180. Late nominations will be accepted November 1 through May 30, however the nomination fee will be increased each month with the total amount due at time of nomination. Fee is due at time of nomination. No nominations will be accepted unless paid in full along with any applicable penalty beyond close of business day May 31.

a) A fee payment schedule has been established for those horses nominated on or before October 31, and is shown as follows:

1) At time of nomination, \$40, plus four subsequent payment of \$40 each due on or before the 10th of these months: November, December, February, and March.

2) A penalty for late payment is equal to the amount of the monthly payment, i.e., a November payment after November 10 would be \$80 -- \$40 for monthly installment and \$40 penalty.

c) All horses must be paid in full, including any applicable penalties, by close of business May 31. Postmark is not acceptable for the May 31 deadline.

d) Notices are sent as a courtesy to members choosing to pay by installment. Penalties will still be assessed in the event a notice is not received prior to a due date.

e) A sufficient number of nominations, as determined by the Board of Directors, must be received by January 1 or fees will be refunded.

2. **Entry Form:** A completed entry form, available from the MFTHBA Office and on the MFTHBA website, must show all requested information.

a) All entries are to be sent to the MFTHBA Office, accompanied by check payable to MFTHBA.

b) In the case of death of a nominated horse, a refund in full will be made upon receipt of a death certificate from a licensed veterinarian, dated the day of death and received by the MFTHBA office within thirty (30) days of date of death.

3. **Training Rules:** Horses may be shown at halter until January 1 of the year the horse is to be shown in the Futurity, but no horse may be shown in a performance class prior to the Futurity.

a) For those wanting horses to be shown in Amateur Owned & Trained class the exhibitor must first hold a current Amateur Card and be owner of the horse. Further, the exhibitor and horse must be in compliance with the section titled

(Horse Show & Show Ring Procedures & Policies, F. 4. d) of these rules which provides: Effective January 1, 2009, it will be permissible for such horses to be started under saddle by a person other than the owner. Starting under saddle is meant to convey breaking, including saddling, accepting the bit, forward motion, stop, and responding to the reins. A period not to exceed 30 days will be permitted. (see that section specified above for reporting requirements)

4. **Exhibiting:** Horses will show in Futurity classes under current MFTHBA rules, in the MFTHBA Spring Show, traditionally held during the second week of June. Declaration as to Division, whether Open, Open Amateur, Amateur Owned & Trained shall be made at the time the horse is entered in the class. Entries must be made before class entries are closed on day of show.

a) Classes will be adjusted in number by the Board of Directors or their designee.
 b) Each class is to be ridden a period not to exceed 20 minutes maximum.
 c) Time is to be kept by an Official Timekeeper appointed by the Board of Directors to assure compliance with specific timing requirements.
 d) Horse Show & Show Ring Procedures and Policies shall be observed, and exhibitors are required to be aware of and comply with this section as it relates to the Futurity classes.
 e) Those showing in Open, Open Amateur, Amateur, or Amateur Owned & Trained must be entitled under the rules to show in such division. The current MFTHBA member who shows the horse must meet the requirements of that specified division.
 f) In Amateur Owned & Trained the horse as well as the member must meet the requirements. In addition, for a Futurity-nominated horse, the 30-day maximum period allowed for starting of the horse by an individual other than the owner must be completed prior to February 15 of the Futurity year.
 g) If protested and found guilty of violating these rules, the member will forfeit all winnings and be suspended from showing at MFTHBA shows for thirteen months.

5. **Judging:** The Futurity classes will be judged by the current system of judging in place as approved by the Board of Directors.

a) A judge will not be eligible to judge if he/she has trained, exhibited, conditioned, boarded or owned any nominated horse or has acted as an agent or handler of a nominated horse to be shown during a one-year period prior to Futurity date.
 b) The judge and the immediate family of the judge shall not own or exhibit a horse in the Futurity classes or other Spring Show classes.
 c) Discussion of Futurity classes either before or during the show by those judging the show is inappropriate and will not be permitted.

6. **Payback:** This amount will be determined by the number of entries in each division. Of the total nomination fees paid, 15% will be allocated as an administrative fee to be retained by the MFTHBA and 85% less DQP expenses will be paid back to the Futurity performance classes.

a) Entry fees paid for horses which do not show will be prorated to each of the three divisions based on the percentage of horses shown in that particular division. This is accomplished by dividing the actual number in a division by the total horses in Futurity classes to establish the appropriate percentage.
 b) Each entry must provide a W-9 form. Payback entries will be mailed to the person listed on the entries W-9 form as soon as possible after the show.
 c) Payback distribution of allocated money shall be as follows in each Futurity performance class:

| | | | |
|------------------------|-----|-------------------------|------|
| 1 st Place: | 25% | 6 th Place: | 6% |
| 2 nd Place: | 20% | 7 th Place: | 5% |
| 3 rd Place: | 15% | 8 th Place: | 4% |
| 4 th Place: | 10% | 9 th Place: | 3.5% |
| 5 th Place: | 9% | 10 th Place: | 2.5% |

d) Should preliminary classes not be full, any unpaid or remaining funds will be added to the stake class payback funds.

Proposed Rule Change:

K. Three Year Old Futurity Class Regulations: Registered Missouri Fox Trotting horses may be nominated as two-year olds to show the following year in the Three-Year Old Futurity held each spring at the national show grounds in Ava, MO.

1. **Nominations:** Nominations will be accepted through October 31 of the year prior to the show year. For those wishing to pay in full at time of nomination, a discount may be offered. Nomination fees and discount amount will be determined by the MFTHBA Board of Directors. Late nominations will be accepted November 1 through May 31, however the nomination fee will be increased each month with the total amount due at time of nomination. No nominations will be accepted beyond close of business day May 31. In the event May 31 falls on a weekend, the previous Friday will be the last day for nominations to be accepted. Postmark NOT accepted for May 31 deadline.

a) A fee payment schedule will be established for those horses nominated on or before October 31. The fee schedule, with all applicable penalties for missed payments, will be printed on the nomination form.

b) A sufficient number of nominations, as determined by the Board of Directors, must be received by January 1 or fees will be refunded.

2. **Nomination Form:** A completed nomination form, available from the MFTHBA Office and on the MFTHBA website, must include all requested information.

a) All entries are to be sent to the MFTHBA Office, accompanied by payment.

b) In the case of death of a nominated horse, a refund in full will be made upon receipt of a death certificate from a licensed veterinarian, dated the day of death and received by the MFTHBA office within thirty (30) days of date of death.

3. **Training Rules:** Horses may be shown at halter until January 1 of the year the horse is to be shown in the Futurity, but no horse may be shown under saddle prior to the Futurity.

a) For horses to be shown in Amateur Owned & Trained Division, the exhibitor and horse must comply with the section titled **Horse Show & Show Ring Procedures & Policies, F. 4. d.**

b) Effective January 1, 2009, it will be permissible for horses to be exhibited as Amateur Owned and Trained to be started under saddle by a person other than the owner. Starting under saddle is meant to convey breaking, including saddling, accepting the bit, forward motion, stop, and responding to the reins. A period not to exceed 30 days will be permitted. This period must be completed prior to February 15 of the Futurity Year.

4. **Exhibiting:** Horses will show in Futurity classes under current MFTHBA rules, in the MFTHBA Spring Show, traditionally held during the second week of June. Declaration as to Division, whether Open, Open Amateur, Amateur Owned & Trained shall be made at the time the horse is entered in the class. Entries must be made before class entries are closed on day of show.

a) Each class is to be ridden a period not to exceed 20 minutes maximum. Time to be kept by show management or designated person.

b) Horse Show & Show Ring Procedures and Policies shall be observed, and exhibitors are required to be aware of and comply with this section as it relates to the Futurity classes.

5. **Judging:** The Futurity classes will be judged by the system of judging as approved by the Board of Directors.

6. **Payback:** This amount will be determined by the number of entries in each division. Of the total nomination fees paid, 15% will be allocated as an administrative fee to be retained by the MFTHBA and 85%, less DQP expenses, will be paid back to the Futurity performance classes.

a) Entry fees paid for horses which do not show will be prorated to each of the three divisions based on the percentage of horses shown in that particular division.

b) Each entry must provide a W-9 form. Payback entries will be mailed to the person listed on the entries W-9 form as soon as possible after the show.

c) Payback distribution of allocated money shall be as follows in each Futurity performance class:

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| 1 st Place: | 25% | 6 th Place: | 6% |
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| 4 th Place: | 10% | 9 th Place: | 3.5% |
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d) Should preliminary classes not be full, any unpaid or remaining funds will be added to the stake class payback funds.

Reason for Recommended Change:

As currently written these rules exclude many judges from potentially judging. The rule stating that judges cannot have any connection within a year to any NOMINATED horse would eliminate more judges from the pool, regardless of whether the nominated horse shows at the futurity. Nominated horses get sold, don't make the cut to show, get hurt, or are just never entered/shown. Likewise, restricting family members of judges from showing in any classes at the show, if actually enforced, could reduce the judge pool further, or could impact the show entry numbers. This rule has not been enforced since the pool system has been in use, as each day of the show is considered a separate show in current judging rules. The Futurity should not have different rules for judging. The current judging rules, as written, should be sufficient.

The nomination fees should be removed. The BOD should have the ability to change nomination fees as needed.

The show rules should be the same for all classes. Separate rules for the Futurity are confusing and only open the door for more inadvertent violations.

Finally, the current rules say that horses may not be shown in PERFORMANCE classes prior to the futurity. This would mean horses could be shown in versatility, and then shown as futurity horses. The change to say "may not be shown under saddle prior to the futurity." Will cover all arenas.