

EQUINE Sports Council

To: Members of the ASHBA Board of Directors
From: Equine Sports Council
RE: 2024 Competition Year
Date: November 30, 2023

As 2023 draws to a close, and we begin preparations for the 2024 horse show season, Equine Sports Council wanted to give you an update on our growth and plans for the coming year.

Since 2019, our “Network” of horse shows continues steady growth. For those of you unfamiliar with us, we are a not-for-profit, non-member organization. Our mission is to support small/medium sized horse shows that have no governance (Open Shows) and to “give back” to those grassroots horse shows as well as to riding lesson programs. Our operations and donations are supported by fees collected by the horse shows that use our rules and guidelines. **Money collected from our horse shows stays within our show horse industry.**

Some of our accomplishments this year:

- Sponsored the purchase of 2 lesson horses for riding programs in underserved/growing areas.
- Supported the UPHA/ASHBA Convention as a vendor.
- Awarded horse shows in our Network over \$12,000 in promotional/marketing grants.
- Collected bad debts for two horse shows this season.
- Organized a [Riding Instructors Workshop](#) that will be held in January 2024 in Nashville, TN. This affordable, educational networking opportunity is being attended by 68 instructors from across and US and Canada. Much of the cost will be underwritten by ESC.

These activities represent over \$25,000 worth of re-investment in the show horse industry in a 12-month period.

With ASHBA’s elimination of the “Star” show designation, Equine Sports Council would appreciate an opportunity to work with you to make the 150+ “Open Shows” aware of our governance option. The more shows we have in our Network, the more we can give back to support the grassroots efforts that are so vital to the success of our breed. I am happy to answer any individual questions or prepare a presentation for the full board.

Please visit our website for answers to [Frequently Asked Questions](#) (which includes answers to questions regarding any conflicting Rules and SafeSport) and to download a copy of our [Rules & Guidelines](#). We look forward to the possibility of working with you to encourage well-run horse shows that have the safety of the exhibitors and the welfare of the horse in mind.

Warmest Regards,



Jackie Hale
Shane Darnell
Tamara Tucker, Esq.