



## 2026 ASHBA Half Saddlebred Futurity – Rules and Requirements

**DIVISIONS AND HOW SHOWN** – The ASHBA Half Saddlebred Futurity will be held in Two divisions: A Three (3) year old Open Fine Harness class and a Weanlings shown In-Hand class.

The classes are conducted under the USEF Half Saddlebred breed rules and will be held at the All American Horse Classic (AAHC) in Indianapolis, Indiana. Refer to the AAHC prize list for additional information.

**DIVISION OF IN HAND CLASSES** – Any class in the IN-HAND division with 41 or more entries shall be divided as equally as possible into two sections. When a class has been divided, the division of entries will be posted in the horse show office and also announced. No more than 12 entries from the sections shall be selected by the judges to return for a final class to be held at a morning, afternoon or evening performance, at least two days following the preliminary sections. All prize money will be awarded in the final class.

**SHOWING PROCEDURE FOR IN-HAND ENTRIES** – Entries will enter the ring one at a time showing at a trot, be led down the right-hand rail to the other end of the ring, return to the judges at a trot, and then be judged on conformation. On the return lead, entries are permitted to trot past the judges to the end of the ring, if so desired, and then return to the judges. Entry will then be led to the opposite rail at a walk, out of the way of subsequent entries. A second workout is strongly encouraged in a large class at the judge's discretion. If judged on conformation a second time, entries must again be led at a walk and trot. Entries are not to be judged lunging. A diagram will be posted in the horse show office.

NOTE: Pursuant to Half Saddlebred breed rules: Conformation and finish count 50% of the total score. Way of going and natural action count 50% of the total score. Labored way of going to be severely penalized.

**WEANLING ELIGIBILITY** – For a weanling to be eligible to show in the ASHBA Half Saddlebred Futurity, the following conditions must be fulfilled:

1. A weanling nomination fee of \$150.00 must be paid to the ASHBA Half Saddlebred Futurity on or before May 31 of the year the foal is born. NOTE: A weanling nomination fee of \$150.00 must be paid for each foal/embryo produced by a donor mare in order to maintain eligibility for any of the foals/ embryos.
2. Weanling nomination payment(s) not made by the May 31 deadline will be allowed a 30-day penalty period with an additional \$100 penalty per weanling per nomination.
3. A weanling must be registered with the ASHBA Half Saddlebred Registry and ONE PARENT (sire or dam) must be a purebred American Saddlebred duly registered with the ASHBA.
4. Weanlings showing in the ASHBA Half Saddlebred Weanling Division must have applications for registration received in the ASHBA office by July 31 or, in the event this date falls on a Saturday or Sunday, by 4:30 p.m. Eastern Time on the following business day. NO EXCEPTIONS. A rush fee of \$100 will be assessed for any such applications received after July 31. Such fee will be billed to the applicant and will be due and payable immediately. ALL WEANLINGS MUST BE DNA TESTED PRIOR TO SHOWING IN THE ASHBA HALF SADDLEBRED FUTURITY.
5. All owners, trainers, riders, drivers and handlers participating in the ASHBA Half Saddlebred Futurity at the All American Horse Classic Horse Show must be competing members of ASHBA.

### SHOWING THREE (3) OLD OPEN FINE HARNESS

The Half American Saddlebred Fine Harness horse should possess elegance and refinement, and its energy should be directed toward animation rather than speed.

Shown to an appropriate vehicle, preferably a small buggy with four wire wheels but without top. Light harness with blinkers, martingale, snaffle bit and overcheck are required (overcheck should be attached but may be unchecked in the line up). Overcheck bit is optional.

Horses are to enter ring at park trot.

Entries are to stand quietly but shall not be required to back. They may be unchecked while lined up. An attendant

may stand the entry on its feet but must remain at least two paces from the head when that entry is being judged. Only one standard riding crop is permissible for an attendant to carry. Exhibited at an animated walk, park trot and "show your horse" (speed to be penalized); to stand quietly. Judged 75% on performance, presence, quality and manners; 25% on total conformation.

**THREE YEAR OLD FINE HARNESS ELEGIBILITY** – to be eligible to show in the ASHBA Half Saddlebred Futurity, the following conditions must be fulfilled:

1. A nomination fee of \$200.00 must be paid to the ASHBA Half Saddlebred Futurity on or before May 31, 2026.
2. Nomination payment(s) not made by the May 31 deadline will be allowed a penalty period up to the AAHC close of entries with an additional \$100 penalty per nomination.
3. Nominated horse must be registered with the ASHBA Half Saddlebred Registry and ONE PARENT (sire or dam) must be a purebred American Saddlebred duly registered with the ASHBA.
4. All owners, trainers, riders, drivers and handlers participating in the ASHBA Half Saddlebred Futurity at the All American Horse Classic Horse Show must be competing members of ASHBA.

**PAYMENT OF FEES** – Payments can be made by check, money order, Visa, MasterCard, Discover or AMEX. A 3% processing fee will be added to all credit/debit card transactions. A \$25.00 service charge will be assessed on any returned checks and added to the total due. All payments must be made to the ASHBA Half Saddlebred Futurity and mailed to 4083 Wing Commander Way, Ste. 50, Lexington, Kentucky 40511, faxed to (859) 259-1628 or emailed to [futurity@saddlebred.com](mailto:futurity@saddlebred.com), on or before the dates herein specified, or bear U.S. postmark before midnight of such dates. In the event a closing date falls on a Sunday or legal holiday, postmark bearing the date of the following day will be accepted. NOTE: U.S. Postal Service postmark supersedes a postage meter date.

**LIABILITY** – No entry is liable for more than the amount paid in, but there will be no return of payment. The right is reserved to reject any entry and bar any entry from competition for failure to comply with the conditions of this futurity. For future reference, keep a copy of all nominations and rules.

**PRIZE FUND** – The value of the prize fund of the ASHBA Half Saddlebred Futurity each year shall be the total amount of money paid in fees, miscellaneous funds, added donations, and interest, less administrative costs.

#### **DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZE MONEY**

##### **- FOAL OWNER PURSE**

The prize money is paid to the owners of the winning entries at the time the Futurity classes are held. In the case of a leased horse, written authorization from the current owner will be required to release the prize money to the lessee. The winner will receive 40% of the prize fund for that division; 2nd, 25%; 3rd, 15%; 4th, 10%; 5th, 5%; 6th, 2.5%; 7th, 1.5%; and 8th, 1%. Should there be fewer than eight entries showing, the entries that do show will share the remainder of the prize fund in the same proportion designated to the place they have won. The ASHBA Half Saddlebred Futurity reserves the right to cancel the class if there are no entries. If the class is cancelled, the prize fund will be carried over to the following year. If applicable, an IRS W-9 form (Request for Taxpayer ID number) must be submitted prior to December 1 of the payout year in order to receive a prize money payout. Prize money checks not cashed after 90 days from the date of issue will be voided and returned to the general prize fund. An IRS 1099 form will be sent to all winners.