

2021 Pennsylvania Harness Racing Rules

All participants in Pennsylvania fairs and one or two-day harness racing events must be licensed by The State Horse Racing Commission, Bureau of Standardbred Horse Racing. Please contact the Commission office at any PA harness racetrack for application and fees.

No driver will be permitted to drive in a race unless he or she is wearing a protective safety helmet of a type satisfactory to the commission constructed with a hard shell, and containing adequate padding and an adequate chin strap in place, as specified in United States Trotting Association rule 17, sec. 12. Any person not complying with these directives will be subject to a fine and/or suspension.

Helmets must be manufactured in compliance with the 1984 Snell "H" Harness Racing Standards or the Department of Transportation 218 Standard. This directive is applicable to all persons in Pennsylvania while engaging in any harness racing activities sanctioned by the commission. All drivers competing in races should wear safety vests of a rating of five or better, as defined by the British Equestrian Trade Association (BETA), to provide shock-absorbing protection.

Trainers must have mud gear, including mud fenders, for use at the discretion of the presiding judge.

ALL participants (owners, trainers and drivers) must be members of either the PHHA (Pennsylvania Harness Horsemen's Assn.) or the MSOA (Meadow's Standardbred Owner's Assn.) **and** the PFHHA (Pennsylvania Fair Harness Horsemen's Assn.) in order to be covered by the HHI insurance liability policy covering events included in this book. This is not optional.

Participants (owners, trainers and drivers) must all be members of both PHHA (Pennsylvania Harness Horsemen's Assn.) **and** PFHHA (Pennsylvania Fair Harness Horsemen's Assn.) **in order to be covered for any sulky damage** that occurs while participating at the events included in this book.

All horses must be on the grounds two (2) hours prior to their scheduled post time.

The Bureau of Standardbred Horse Racing will collect random blood samples from horses that participate in fair racing. The purpose of sample collection is to maintain and protect the integrity of fair racing in Pennsylvania.

An ambulance designated strictly for racing is required to be on site one (1) hour prior to post time.

Fair racing judges' decisions are final and are not able to be appealed.

Lasix is not permitted at any Pennsylvania fair.

Fair management reserves all usual rights and releases from responsibility for accident, fire, theft, or any other cause.

In order to comply with federal regulations: An IRS form W-9 must be completed upon payment of entry fees and prior to racing for owners who are US citizens. A W-8 and 4224 Form must be completed and submitted for owners who are not US citizens. The federal ID# or SSN# must match the first name listed on ownership. Purse monies will not be released unless these form(s) are submitted.

2021 Fair Equine Health Requirements

1. All Pennsylvania equines must have a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) issued after May 1, 2021. Non-Pennsylvania equines must have a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) issued within the 30 days prior to the opening date of the exhibition. If an animal comes from a state where Vesicular Stomatitis has been identified or a bordering state, the CVI shall include a statement verifying that "all animals identified on this certificate of veterinary inspection have been examined and found to be free of VS. During the past 90 days, these animals have neither been exposed to VS nor located within 10 miles of a state where VS has been diagnosed."
2. All animals must be free of infectious and contagious diseases.
3. An Animal Owner or Caretaker's Verification of Veterinarian-Client-Patient Relationship (VCPR) form must accompany each animal and be presented upon arrival at the exhibition.
4. All equine animals must test negative for equine infectious anemia (EIA) by an official test within the 12 months prior to the opening date of the exhibition. A copy of the official test results must accompany each animal to its final destination. Foals less than 6 months of age accompanied by a dam that meets the above requirements are exempt from EIA testing requirements. If the foal is not accompanied by the dam, a copy of the dam's test results must accompany the foal to its final destination.
5. A current rabies vaccination administered by a licensed veterinarian is required for animals 3 months of age and older. All vaccine label directions must be followed, and all rabies vaccinated equine animals must either be accompanied by a rabies vaccination certificate or the vaccination information must be included on the CVI. If a rabies vaccination certificate is provided, the certificate must contain a legible name and contact information of the veterinarian who administered the vaccine and his or her signature. A copy of the rabies vaccination certificate is acceptable.

6. If an equine has resided in Texas or New Mexico for a cumulative total of 30 days or more within the 6 months preceding the date of entry into Pennsylvania, that animal must test negative for Piroplasmosis on a competitive enzyme-linked “c-ELISA” test, or a department-approved equivalent test, with the test occurring within the 30 days preceding entry into Pennsylvania. The written laboratory test report, confirming compliance with the requirement described above, shall accompany the equine in transit to a destination within Pennsylvania and the date of test and results shall be written on the CVI.
7. All horses must show proof of the EIV/EHV (rhinovirus and influenza) vaccine every six months

Fair Sire Stakes Fund (Fair Division) Conditions

The Sire Stakes fund encourages horsemen to breed and buy top-level stock in Pennsylvania. The fund offers a rich series of races for two- and three-year-olds that meet “Pennsylvania-eligible” conditions. Each competitor must have been sired by a registered stallion standing in Pennsylvania from February 15th through July 4th of the year of conception.

The fund is administered by the Bureau of Standardbred Horse Racing with guidance from the Standardbred Breeders Advisory Committee.

These events are subject to the authority of the Bureau of Standardbred Horse Racing and the applicable rules of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture and USTA rules.

1. All races are to be one-mile dashes. Horses must show an acceptable line at a USTA sanctioned track, *generated on or after February 1st*, within the following time standards (including variant; no HMT allowance):
 - 2:10 for 2YO trotters
 - 2:06 for 2YO pacers
 - 2:08 for 3YO trotters
 - 2:04 for 3YO pacers

This line would qualify horses of either age to race the entire fair season, subject to the horse being put on a fair judges list or otherwise prohibited.

2. For the safety of all competitors, fields will be limited to one trailer behind the gate.
3. Charting will be done at several fair tracks throughout the season but will be allowed only at tracks designated in this fair guide. If a horse does not meet qualifying standards, the horse must qualify at a USTA sanctioned track during regularly-scheduled, multi-horse qualifying races. If you would like charting to be done at another fair, it is up to you to pay and have the lines to do so.

4. All 2YO and 3YO fair starters must have two full days off between starts.
Example: a horse that raced on a Monday cannot race at a fair until Thursday.
5. It is the trainer's responsibility to enter only horses eligible to race. If a horse is entered and subsequently determined not eligible and thus scratched, the entry fee must still be paid.
6. If a race is split, a method of division from the Bureau of Standardbred Horse Racing Rules and Regulations will be adopted. Horses in an entry shall be seeded in separate divisions in which they compete by owners, trainers, or stables, and their post positions shall be drawn by lot. If a trainer owns more than one horse in a race, he cannot drive another horse in the race; he can pick if he owns two or more in a race.
7. The presiding judge will meet with a designated horseman's representative and the race secretary before the day's first race to determine a track variant, which will then be announced. The variant can be adjusted and re-announced during the day if weather changes necessitate.
8. All Sire Stakes events will be raced in separate colt and filly divisions.
9. Starting fees (Group A: \$75 and Group B: \$50) will be payable to the host track and added to the purse. Nominating and sustaining payments are to be sent to the PA Sire Stakes.
10. The purse will be distributed as follows:
50-25-12-8-5 if five starters or more;
50-25-15-10 if four starters;
55-30-15 if three starters;
65-35 if two starters; and 100 in case of a walkover.
11. Should circumstances prevent the racing of any event, purse monies will be pro-rated among owners of horses set to race in a division at the time of declaration. Horses do not have to be on the grounds, but the entry fee must be paid before a check is released.
12. Any horse who is "double-entered" at any two tracks (including fair and pari-mutuel) and then scratched from a fair race will be liable for any starting fee(s), at either or both tracks, **and** a \$100 fine, both payable before the horse may start again at a fair.
13. A judge may put a horse on a "fair judges' list" for unsatisfactory performance and will specify the number of days before the horse can go to a pari-mutuel track to attempt to requalify. The list will be made available from the commission office under normal

circumstances, and all judges will have phone numbers and e-mails when possible for any judge who may have to draw before the commission office would reopen.

14. A functional starting gate is required to conduct fair racing.
15. In the event of inclement weather or track safety concerns, The State Horse Racing Commission assigned Judge will have the final say on whether to race or cancel. This is done so after consulting with a committee of horsemen, track crew, and the starter.
16. The group point system used towards determining championship eligible horses will be 35-25-15-10-8-5-4-2, per the order of finish. A rainout will generate a horse 9 points. A horse who is an official starter but does not finish on his or her own accord will not earn points. Scratches receive no points. DNFs receive no points but are credited with a start. In the case of a dead-heat for finish position, the points for that position and the one(s) under it will be added and divided by the number of horses in the dead-heat
17. All entrants in the fair championship finals must have FIVE starts at PA fairs or two-day events. Starts in both the A and B divisions count towards the minimum start requirement. Group A point earners with at least five starts will have priority for the finals from highest to lowest points; followed by those horses that had the minimum number of starts within the A and B Division. In the case of a points tie, the tie breaker will be total money earned in the current year at PA fairs. No horse with less than five programmed starts will be allowed to race in the fair finals.
18. Qualifying standards for any Fair Finals Championship shall be those of the host track.

Group A purses: If 1 division \$7,500
 If 2 divisions \$5,000 / division
 If 3 or more divisions \$3,750 / division

Group B guaranteed purse of \$2,500

* If you win 3 out of 4 starts In Group B you must move up to Group A.

* Finishing 1st or 2nd In Group A you must remain in Group A for 2 starts.

PA Sire Stakes
Pennsylvania Horse Racing Commission
2301 N Cameron St. Room 301 Harrisburg, PA 17110
Phone: 717-214-9053.