

APHA Regional Championship Program

The APHA Regional Championship program is a series of classes held in conjunction with select APHA-approved shows or predetermined set of APHA-approved shows, referred to as a “circuit”. The program was designed to increase amateur and youth participation and provide national recognition to exhibitors who primarily show regionally.

Who is Eligible to Participate in the Regional Championship Program

- The exhibitor must meet the eligibility criteria set forth to be eligible to compete in the APHA Regional Championship classes.
 - Amateur and Youth exhibitors must be enrolled in the APHA Amateur or AjPHA Youth Program and meet the ownership/lease requirements as per Rule AM-020 and YP-015 respectively
- Both the exhibitor and the horse owner/lessee must be current APHA members to be eligible to compete
- Both exhibitor and horse owner/lessee must be residents of the Zone in which the show or circuit is held
- Horses must be registered with the APHA and shown in their respective APHA Regional Championship breed registry class - Regular Registry or Solid Paint-Bred
 - Exhibitors are not required to compete in APHA classes held by the hosting APHA approved show to be eligible for the championship classes.
- Exhibitor must reside in the Zone in which the show or circuit is held per APHA records and be a current member of APHA
- Halter classes: An exhibitor who has placed in the Top 5 in a halter class at an APHA Amateur or AjPHA Youth World Championship Show WITHIN THE LAST FIVE (5) YEARS is NOT eligible to compete in that APHA Regional Championship halter class. In addition, an exhibitor who has won a Regional Champion halter class the previous year is ineligible to compete in that class for one year, but may compete in any others.
 - Example: Susie placed 5th at the 2017 AjPHA Youth World Championship Show in Youth Geldings. Susie is NOT eligible to compete in that APHA Regional Championship program Amateur or Youth halter classes.
- Performance classes: An exhibitor who has placed in the Top 5 in a performance class at an APHA Amateur or AjPHA Youth World Championship Show WITHIN THE LAST FIVE (5) YEARS is NOT eligible to compete in that APHA Regional Championship performance class. In addition, an exhibitor who has won a Regional Champion performance class the previous year is ineligible to compete in that class for one year, but may compete in any others.
 - Example: John was the Reserve World Champion at the 2019 APHA World Championship Show in Amateur Horsemanship. John is NOT eligible to compete in an Amateur Horsemanship Regional Champion performance class.
 - EXCEPTIONS:
 - Amateur/Youth Walk-Trot, Novice Amateur/Novice Youth and Intermediate Exhibitor World Show placings and placings in non-pointed World Show classes such as Sweepstakes, Challenge and Futurities DO NOT impact eligibility in regular Amateur or Youth APHA Regional Championship classes.
 - Amateur/Youth Walk-Trot World Show placings DO count towards exhibitor eligibility criteria in Amateur/Youth Walk-Trot Regional Champion classes
 - Novice Amateur/Novice Youth World Show placings DO count towards exhibitor eligibility criteria in Novice Amateur/Novice Youth Regional Champion classes