



2023 AMERICAN MORGAN HORSE ASSOCIATION OPEN COMPETITION PROGRAM

2023 Guidelines.

The American Morgan Horse Association (AMHA) recognizes Morgans competing in events against all breeds by awarding year-end and lifetime Medallion Awards within the Open Competition program. *Eligibility of submissions from other countries will be determined on a case-by-case basis.*

Year-end awards are tabulated on an annual basis during the competition year, which runs from November 2nd of the previous year to November 1st of the current year. Medallions are a lifetime award horses can earn after they hit certain milestones. Horses may take as many years as needed to earn these medallions.

Horses who earn five of the eight bronze medallions earn the AMHA Morgan Sport Horse Award, a trophy announced at the annual AMHA Convention.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

To be eligible for Open Competition:

- Horses must be registered with the AMHA and compete under the horse's AMHA registered name.
- Horses must be of the minimum age required by the pertinent sanctioning body to be eligible for earning awards in that division.
- The owner and all riders/drivers of the horse must be current AMHA Standard or Premium members or a Youth member if they are under the age of 22. **An Associate membership does not include competition program privileges.**
- **Results MUST be submitted online using the horse's Online Registry PRIOR to November 1st.**
 - Instructions for entering points can be found in the Open Competition section under Programs on AMHA's website.
- The competition must be open to all breeds. Classes for Morgan horses only do not count. Open classes and/or divisions at Morgan shows are acceptable, e.g. the Carriage Driving division at Connecticut Morgan Open Horse Show.
- A horse can be entered in the program any time during the competition year prior to November 1st.
- Competition results may be audited. If there is a significant difference in the information reported by the owner and information reported by the show secretary, the entry will not be accepted.
- Be sure to review the individual "module" rules and regulations for your specific division to become familiar with that division's point system, medallion levels and other requirements.

ENROLLMENT FEES

- Horses may be enrolled by paying an annual enrollment fee of \$40.
Horses previously paying the lifetime enrollment fee will be grandfathered in and will not be required to pay the annual enrollment fee of \$40.
- Retroactive medallion points from up to 10 years that can be verified may be added to the current year's points for a fee of \$100 per year.

Please REMEMBER that owners AND riders MUST have a competing membership – See above notation under General Requirements section. Associate memberships do not allow you to participate in the AMHA Open Competition Program. (This change began with the 2018 competition year.)

DIVISIONS & ACCUMULATING POINTS

The Year-End Award recognizes horses with the most points or highest score in each division during the year. In 2023, ribbons and certificates will be awarded to the champion, reserve champion and through sixth place of each division, including junior exhibitors. Points are assigned to the horses by AMHA staff. The number of points for many of the divisions will be determined by whether the event is sanctioned or unsanctioned. **Individual modules for each division are provided on the website, including details and tables describing requirements for year-end awards and medallions.**

I. Open Shows (awards in nine divisions)

- A. In-Hand
- B. English Pleasure (includes English and hunter pleasure, road hack, bridle path hack, hunter hack, and saddle seat)
- C. Western Pleasure
- D. Pleasure Driving
- E. Hunter/Jumper (includes hunter divisions with at least one class over fences and jumper classes)
- F. Equitation (includes all seats)
- G. Trail (English and western)
- H. Showmanship
- I. General (includes all other classes not listed above, including the following: gymkhanas, barrel racing, games, roadster, races, gaited or competitions from other divisions in the program that do not qualify for an award in that division.)

II. Competitive Trail Riding and Driving

- A. Limited Distance
- B. Medium Distance
- C. Extended Distance
- D. Novice/Competitive Pleasure

III. Endurance

- A. General
- B. Limited Distance

IV. Dressage (awards at each level)

- A. Beginner/Schooling Dressage
- B. Training Level
- C. First Level
- D. Second Level
- E. Third Level
- F. Fourth Level
- G. Prix St. Georges
- H. Intermediate I
- I. Intermediate II
- J. Grand Prix

V. Western Dressage (awards at each level)

- A. Introductory
- B. Basic
- C. Level 1
- D. Level 2
- E. Level 3
- F. Level 4

VI. Eventing

- A. Sanctioned
- B. Unsanctioned

VII. Working Western

Reining, Cutting, Team Penning, Roping, Reining/Working Cow horse, Cowboy Mounted Shooting, Ranch Horse Riding, Ranch Sorting, Competitive Trail Challenges and Trail Trials

- A. Sanctioned
- B. Unsanctioned

VIII. Carriage (awards in each division)

- A. Pleasure Driving Single
- B. Pleasure Driving Multiple
- C. Combined Driving Single
- D. Combined Driving Multiple

Junior Exhibitor Year-End Awards

In 2023, Junior Exhibitor championship, reserve championship and ribbons through sixth place are awarded in each of the eight divisions based on points accumulated by junior exhibitors.

Junior exhibitors are eligible to compete in all divisions under whatever rules are provided for junior exhibitor participation by the sanctioning organization of each division.

A junior exhibitor is an individual who has not reached his or her 18th birthday as of December 1st of the current competition year.

The age of an individual on December 1st will be maintained throughout the following competition calendar year.

International Year-End Awards

In 2023, International Award championship, reserve championship and ribbons through sixth place are awarded in each of the eight divisions based on points accumulated by those who live and compete in countries outside of the United States.

If the exhibitor has already earned Medallion points, they will be able to keep points earned prior to 2023 in any division.

International Exhibitors are eligible to compete in all divisions under whatever rules are provided for participation by the sanctioning organization of each division.

Morgan Medallions

Medallion requirements are provided for each discipline in the individual modules. Upon achieving the requirements for a Dressage Division Medallion, the owner of the horse must submit a supplemental Medallion Report form – see Individual Dressage Module for form.

AMHA Morgan Sport Horse Award

AMHA also awards a Morgan Sport Horse Award to horses that earn medallions in five of the eight medallion divisions. This award represents a lifetime achievement.

For questions or more information about the program, please contact AMHA at nicole@morganhorse.com or 859-448-5109

Questions or disputes regarding submitted information or results will be forwarded to the Disciplines Committee for resolution. All decisions by AMHA are final.

Tentative Schedule for 2023 Competition Year

AMHA has set the goal of achieving the following actions per the dates listed below. Please note that if factors outside our control require us to amend these goal dates, we will advise the participants accordingly.

November 1, 2023: Competition Year Ends (All results MUST be entered via the Online Registry Portal.)

November 29 - December 3, 2023: Verification Period (corrections/edits allowed)

December 5, 2023: Final Results Announced