

Michigan Sire Stakes

For 2- and 3-Year-Old Pacers & Trotters

Serviced By:

Michigan Harness Horsemen's Association

For:

Foals of 2023 (Subject to USTA Foaling Date Rules).

To Be Raced As:

2025	2026
2-year-old Filly Trot	3-year-old Filly Trot
2-year-old Colt & Gelding Trot	3-year-old Colt & Gelding Trot
2-year-old Filly Pace	3-year-old Filly Pace
2-year-old Colt & Gelding Pace	3-year-old Colt & Gelding Pace

To Be Raced At:

A Michigan pari-mutuel track or tracks designated by the Director of Agriculture.

Nomination:

June 30, 2024 \$25

All 2023 Michigan sired foals that are the first foal per year, except for twins, carried to term by the natural mother are eligible for nomination by June 30, 2024. Michigan sired is defined as a foal sired by a Standardbred stallion that was leased or owned by a resident or residents of this state and registered with the Michigan Department of Agriculture for the year of conception. Michigan sired foals conceived inside the state or outside the state by means of transported semen are eligible.

Late Nomination:

December 15, 2024 \$100

If June 30, 2024 deadline is missed and foal has not been nominated to the Michigan Sire Stake, a supplemental payment of \$100 may be made by December 15, 2024 for eligibility to Michigan Sire Stake.

Sustaining Payments:

March 15, 2025 \$200

March 15, 2026 \$200

Note: All sustaining payments must be made when due to maintain eligibility.

Supplemental Payment:

April 15, 2025 \$750

A supplemental payment of \$750 can be made for two year olds by April 15, 2025 to make horses, who were previously nominated, eligible to the Michigan Sire Stake. All sustaining payments must be made when due to maintain eligibility.

Starting Fees:

\$150 or 1% of the advertised purse (whichever is higher). Check with host track for entry box deadline. Entry will not be allowed for any horse whose owner, or trainer is indebted for a previous starting fee to any event administered by MHHA.

Payment Distribution:

Nomination fees will be divided equally among the eight divisions. Sustaining payments and starting fees shall be added to their respective divisions. All funds allocated by the Director of Agriculture will be credited to the respective divisions. Monies will be deducted for administrative and promotional expenses.

Purse Distribution:

Five or more starters 50% 25% 12% 8% 5%. If less than five starters, all non-contested monies will be paid to the winner. If there is a premium or premiums for which a horse started but was unable to finish, due to an accident, all unoffending horses that did not finish will share equally in the premiums. However, if there are

fewer unoffending horses failing to finish than there are premiums for which horses have started, but have not finished, then the number of premiums more than the number of unoffending horses not finishing shall go to the winner.

NOTE: Payment of purses is contingent upon receipt of funds allocated by the Michigan Department of Agriculture and will be released after October 30, 2025 in accordance with the Michigan Department of Agriculture budget guideline for the applicable fiscal year.

Racing Conditions:

Should elimination races be necessary, eighty percent of the total money available for each division shall constitute the purse for the final event of each division and twenty percent will be for the eliminations. If there are more horses declared into any race than can be accommodated by the number of positions in the front tier of the starting gate, elimination races shall be held no less than 7 calendar days prior to the final race. There will be no more than 2 trailers in any elimination race. Elimination races may be raced as betting races or as pre-programmed races at the discretion of the host track. The number of horses that qualify for the final heat to be raced at a pari mutuel track shall not exceed the number of horses that can be accommodated by the number of positions in the front tier of the starting gate and there will be no second tier in the final heat. In the event the finals are raced at a county fair, there will be no more than 2 trailers in the final.

Preference to qualify for the final will be given to the horses in their official order of finish in the eliminations. If an elimination race is necessary, a colt must start and finish in the Sire Stakes Elimination race to be eligible to race in the final. Should two or more horses tie for the final position(s) by their finish in the elimination heat or heats above, such tied horses shall be eliminated by giving preference to the horses with the highest earnings in that year as compiled by the USTA and including the elimination heat earnings. In addition, two horses will be selected from those in the eliminations that do not qualify for the final to be designated as "Also Eligible ("AE") for the final. The preference to determine which horse is the first "Also Eligible" (AE1) shall be determined by taking the horse that placed highest in the official order of finish of all eliminations, but did not qualify for the final. In the event horses are equal in the finish position, tied horses shall be eliminated by giving preference to the horse(s) with the highest earnings in that year, as compiled by the USTA and including the elimination heat earnings. Undeclared or scratched horses in the final will be replaced in the following manner. If post positions have not been drawn, the horse will take its place in the normal draw. If post positions have already been drawn, the horse will assume the position of the scratched horse. No horse will be moved into the final as a replacement after the official "scratch time" deadline for publication in the program. If the number of horses declared into any race can be accommodated by the number of positions in the front tier of the starting gate, they shall race the final without elimination heats, for the total money available for that division. If the number of horses declared into any race is more than can be accommodated by the number of positions in the front tier of the starting gate, but not enough to split the race under these conditions, that race will be held with a single elimination heat to "qualify" only enough horses that can be accommodated by the number of positions in the front tier of the starting gate. All horses qualifying and desiring to enter the finals shall re-enter for the finals and the post positions shall be drawn by lot.

All colts entering to race on the live betting card at a pari-mutuel track must have a current charted line within 45 days AT TIME OF ENTRY. Races scheduled at a pari-mutuel track may be raced as betting or non-betting races at the discretion of the host track. In the event a race is non-betting or raced on a date when the pari-mutuel track is not hosting a live betting card race date - the 45 day charted line rule will be waived. The MHHA recommends all horses have a 45-day charted line to prevent scratches.

Ineligible Horses:

If a horse has been determined ineligible to the program it was nominated to and you believe this is an error, you have 30 days from the date of the ineligibility letter to contact the MHHA office to discuss. If after 30 days the MHHA office has not received any objections to those notified of ineligibility, the horse(s) are deemed ineligible and no additional recourse can take place to make the horse eligible,

Refunds:

All requests for refunds must be made to the Michigan Harness Horsemen's Association at least 30 days prior to the scheduled race date. Requests will be considered only for (1) horse declared ineligible, (2) duplication of payment, or (3) clerical error. NO SUBSTITUTIONS.

Rules:

Racing of the Michigan Sire Stakes where not specifically covered by the Department of Agriculture, Regulation 814, shall be raced pursuant to the rules of the Michigan Gaming Control Board.

Emergency Clause:

If because of unfavorable weather or other unavoidable circumstances, the Michigan Sire Stakes are postponed, then they may be rescheduled at the discretion of the Michigan Gaming Control Board.

Ineligibility

A person or entity willfully falsifying any documents required by these rules or willfully accepting and retaining any purse monies contrary to these rules, shall be ineligible to participate in any future sire stakes program under the provision of these rules.

**Make Nomination Checks Payable
(in U.S. Funds Only) To and Send To:**

Michigan Harness Horsemen's Association
2501 Jolly Rd, Suite 110
Okemos, MI 48864