

Virginia Breeders Fund

Serviced By:

Virginia Harness Horse Association

For:

2- and 3-year-old trotters and pacers. Colt and filly divisions will be separate.

Eligibility:

To be eligible, all horses must be registered with the VHHA before closing of nomination. No exceptions.

All Virginia bred yearlings must be registered with the VHHA on or before May 15th of the yearling year. Yearling registrations must be accompanied by a nomination form, USTA certification and a check for the proper registration fee.

Nomination Fee:

March 15, 2021*\$200

Any 2-year-old old not properly registered with the VHHA as a yearling will require an additional fee of \$100.00 due at time of 2-year-old nomination payments.

*If the 2-year-old March 15th payment is not paid (or supplemented as below prior to May 15th) the horse is not eligible to race as a 3-year-old.

Sustaining Fees:

May 15, 2021**\$200

**May 15th sustaining payments are not required for two year olds to remain eligible as 3-year-olds.

Supplemental Fee:

May 15, 2021\$800

Any 2-year-old that missed the March 15th payment may supplement prior to the date of the sustaining payment (May 15th) by making the following payments: \$200.00 March 15th fee plus \$200.00 sustaining fee plus \$400.00 supplement fee for a total of \$800.00.

Declaration Fee:

\$200 due at the time of entry.

Entry Fees:

Nomination, sustaining and declaration fees will be added to the final purse.

All Commonwealth bred early closer declaration fees must be paid prior to the finals or the horse will not be allowed to start.

All Commonwealth bred horses entered and drawn to post positions are required to pay the declaration fee at the track. This fee is required even if a horse is scratched.

The declaration fee will not be refunded unless the horse dies between the time of the declaration to start and the start of the prep or elimination race.

When an owner(s) has outstanding debts owed to the Virginia Breeders series, every horse owned in whole or part by that owner, shall be subject to be declared ineligible by the VHHA and the Virginia Racing Commission, until such time that the debt is collected.

An individual whose check for a sustaining payment, nominating payment or starting fee, is dishonored by the bank, will be reported to the Virginia Racing Commission for appropriate action. After any individual has issued more than one dishonored check, all future payments from the individual must be made by certified check or money order.

No partial payments will be accepted.

Race Fees, Purse Schedule, Rules:

Eliminations will be held prior to the finals. Horses must race in the eliminations in order to compete in the finals.

If more than eight (8) horses are entered in a division, there will be elimination races to determine the eight finishers to compete in the finals. Finishers will be decided as follows:

If there are two elimination races in a division, the top four finishers from each race will compete in the finals.

If there are three elimination races in a division, the top two finishers from each race will compete in the finals. The two fastest times of the remaining horses, will also compete in the finals.

The purse for elimination races will be \$4,000.00. Estimated purses for finals will be \$40,000.00 plus all nomination, sustaining and declaration fees.

Declaration fees for two and three year olds will be \$200.00 per horse. After paying the declaration fee, there will be no further fees for starting the finals.

To be eligible for the finals, all horses must be qualified and race in the posted elimination or prep race based on the draw date posted on the condition sheet put out weekly by the race office.

All trainers or owners must notify the racetrack and the VHHA, at the time of declaration, of any conflicts which may necessitate racing horses as an entry.

Cancellation:

The VHHA and the Virginia Racing Commission reserve the right to cancel any and/or all races due to reasons beyond their control, or if it becomes impractical or undesirable to conduct said races. If an event is not raced, the VHHA responsibility and liability will be limited to refunding without interest, nomination and sustaining fees collected towards cancelled events that have not been disbursed at the time of cancellation. These monies paid will be refunded to the owners of all declared horses.

General Conditions:

Races shall be provided for two and three year old Virginia bred Standardbreds.

There shall be races for colts and fillies in each of the trotting and pacing gaits.

Any name changes of foals must be reported to the VHHA and USTA.

Participants in the Virginia early closer races must be licensed by the Virginia Racing Commission prior to racing.

Failure to make payment required by conditions constitutes an automatic withdrawal from the event as stated in USTA Rule 12, Section 4.

Purse money divisions shall be:

5 horse field- 50% 25% 12% 8% 5%

4 horse field- 50% 25% 12% 8%

3 horse field- 50% 25% 12%

2 horse field- 50% 25%

1 horse field- 50%

Eligibility shall be defined by the laws of the Commonwealth, the regulations of the Virginia Racing Commission and the rules set forth by the VHHA.

In order to be eligible to race in the Early Closers, the horses entered must meet one of the following conditions:

Qualifying standards for two year old trotters- 2:13

Qualifying standards for two year old pacers- 2:11

Qualifying standards for three year old trotters- 2:08

Qualifying standards for three year old pacers- 2:06

Any and all horse(s) nominated to the Virginia Early Closers that are found to be ineligible will not be refunded any monies.

Prior to racing in Virginia Early Closers, all horses must be tattooed, freeze branded or microchipped.

General race conditions established by the race secretary and the track must be adhered to as any other race.

Governing Law:

Eligibility to participate in the Virginia Breeders Early Closers, as well as matters pertaining to racing therein, shall be governed by the law of the Commonwealth, regulations of the Virginia Racing Commission and the rules set forth by the VHHA.

Definitions, terms and conditions not otherwise covered, are governed by the rules and regulation of the USTA.

The Virginia Racing Commission and the VHHA reserve the right to amend, interpret and apply these rules as necessary to further the best interest of Virginia racing and to comply with the governing law.

The regulations of the Virginia Racing Commission are as promulgated by the Commission and are excerpted solely for the Commonwealth. Accordingly, if there should be any variance between an excerpt appearing above and any part of an official regulation, the official regulation shall control and neither the Virginia Racing Commission or the VHHA or any employees shall have any liability resulting there from.

Checks Made Payable To and Send To:

VHHA
Debbie Warnick
P.O. Box 1603
Saluda, VA 23149
Phone: 443-463-0917
Fax: 804-655-6161
E-mail: info@vhha.net