

Beginning July 1, 2010, an exhibitor may show any mare or gelding in a novice youth or novice amateur class, with the owner and their immediate family still retaining the ability to show the horse in any class other than the same class as the novice exhibitor. Exhibitors will be required to have a novice amateur or novice youth membership to participate. Memberships can be purchased at the show or prior to the show through AQHA.

All novice eligibility rules still apply.

To maintain a level playing field at the top-10 show circuits, which have been determined by the number of entries in the previous year. This option is not available to those novice competitors. At these specific shows, the novice exhibitor can use novice permits to show a non-family owned horse.