

2023 Michigan Early Closing MIXED-COMPANY Colt Stakes Conditions

For Two-Year-Olds (Foals of 2021) and Three-Year-Olds (Foals of 2020)

The program consists of an 8 Week event circuit (raced entirely at fairs) for 2/3-year-old *Michigan Sired and/or Michigan-bred horses*.



Nominations Close February 15, 2023

2 and 3-year-old 8 Week Program

Nominating Payment of \$250 is Due February 15, 2023

Sustaining Payment of \$250 is Due April 15, 2023

Late Supplemental Nominating Payment of \$750 is Due April 15, 2023

(If the \$250 2/15/2023 nomination payment is missed, this payment can be made in addition to the \$250 sustaining payment due on 4/15/2023)

Late Supplemental Sustaining payment of \$750 is Due on May 15, 2023

(Open to those having made the 2/15/2023 payment and missed the 4/15/2023 sustaining payment)



**HORSES ELIGIBLE FOR BOTH MIXED and MI Sired- ONLY COLT STAKES PROGRAMS WILL ONLY
BE ALLOWED TO RACE ONCE PER PROGRAM WEEK
- A program week will be defined by the MHHA in the fairbook.**

Michigan Sired horses may enter to race in the mixed program event if they were properly nominated and sustained to the 2023 8 week MI Sired program

Estimated Purses and Starting Fees

Estimated Purse \$11,000

Starting Fee \$150

*subject to revenue received

Fair Circuit: *

(2FT, 2CT, 2FP, 2CP)* - \$11,000 Est.

(3FT, 3CT, 3FP, 3CP)* - \$11,000 Est.

PROGRAM FINAL – Est. Purse \$20,000.00 Starting Fee \$200

The MHHA reserves the right to cancel the Fair Final in the event funding is not available from Michigan Department of Agriculture by
June 2023

The top 9 point earning horses from the 8-week program in each division that enter will be drawn to start in the Fair Final to be raced at Northville Downs. See conditions 21 - 23 for details.

All nominating, sustaining payments and starter/entry fee less administrative fees will be divided equal among the race program.

To be raced at a Michigan county fair track or pari-mutuel track as approved by the Michigan Department of Agriculture.

The Michigan Harness Horsemen's Association, in conjunction with the Michigan Department of Agriculture, reserves the right to define the specific dates of the racing weeks and all race dates are subject to change based on fair availability, weather, and other factors.

1. Eligibility: All Michigan bred or sired
 - a. Michigan Sired is defined as a foal from a Standardbred stallion properly registered with the USTA that resides in Michigan, is owned or leased by a Michigan resident(s) and that did not serve a mare at a location outside of this state from February 1 through July 31 of the calendar year in which the conception occurred. All foals from a mare that is owned by a resident or non-resident of Michigan at the time of conception either in state or outside of Michigan by means of transported semen from a properly registered Michigan Standardbred stallion.
 - b. Michigan bred is defined as a foal from a mare that was owned or leased exclusively by a Michigan resident(s) at the time of conception and is listed on the registration papers as the breeder with the USTA at the time of nomination.
 - c. Eligibility will be verified with the USTA at time of nomination 2/15/2023.
 - d. If there is a question on eligibility you will be contacted by the MHHA.
2. Any nominating payment returned for insufficient funds (NSF) will automatically be considered failure to nominate. Any late nominating payment returned for insufficient funds (NSF) will be considered failure to nominate. Any sustaining payment returned for insufficient funds (NSF) will automatically be considered failure to sustain. Any late sustaining payment returned for insufficient funds (NSF) will be considered failure to sustain.
3. Unless otherwise noted in the conditions, the Michigan Early Closing Colt Stakes conducted at a county fair track are raced under the rules of the Michigan Department of Agriculture and the United States Trotting Association. The Michigan Early Closing Colt Stakes conducted at a pari-mutuel track are raced under the rules of the Michigan Gaming Control Board.
4. Prior to declaration to race, each colt must be named, registered, and tattooed or freeze branded or microchipped and such registration number shall be on file with the MHHA.
5. Each owner, shareholder, or lessee of each colt nominated shall remit with nomination, a program service fee of \$50.00 to cover administrative, insurance and processing costs. This fee is waived for current members of the Michigan Harness Horsemen's Association. Declarations to start will not be accepted until this fee is paid for each owner or part owner. Further, all owners, shareholders or lessees of each colt must provide the MHHA with a Social Security number or Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) for purposes of reporting race earnings.
6. 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.
7. Michigan Sired horses may enter to race in the mixed program event if they were properly nominated and sustained to the 2023 8 week MI Sired program
8. Refunds: All requests for refunds must be made in writing to the Michigan Harness Horsemen's Association by June 1, 2023. Requests will be considered for: a.) Horse declared ineligible b.) Duplication of payment c.) Clerical error.
9. Any eligible colt changing gait after April 15, 2023, will be eligible to race at the gait adopted upon notifying MHHA of the change.
10. All races one mile. If the event is to be contested at a county fair track and more than 8 starters declare into race in any one of the eight divisions, that race will be divided and raced in divisions and each division shall race one heat for an equal share of the purse. If the event is to be contested at a half-mile pari-mutuel track, and more than 9 starters declare in to race in any one of the eight divisions, that race will be divided and raced in divisions and each division shall race one heat for an equal share of the purse. There will be no more than 3 starters from the 2nd tier for races contested at a county fair track and no more than 1 starter from the 2nd tier for races contested at a pari-mutuel track
11. 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 may be waived. The MHHA recommends all horses have a 45-day charted line to prevent scratches.
12. 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.
13. The starting fee must be paid on a scratched colt, and that colt may not enter any other Michigan Early Closing Colt Stake, Great Lakes Stake, Sire Stake elimination and Final, Great Lake Stake, Breeders Stakes or Fair Final race in that Race Week. There is no penalty for a withdrawal before the entry box closes. Entry will not be accepted for a horse whose owner or trainer is indebted for a previous starting fee to any event administered by MHHA.

14. In the event a starter fee is returned for insufficient funds (NSF), the horse is not eligible for entry in any other Michigan Early Closing Colt Stake, Spartan Stake, Sire Stake elimination and Final, Great Lake Stake or Fair Final race until the insufficient funds starter fee is paid including a \$50 NSF penalty. 2 insufficient fund starter fee payments made at any point during the 2023 summer racing season will result in future entry fees to be paid in cash for the remainder of the 2023 racing season
15. Phenylbutazone (Bute) and/or Lasix are permitted medications for 3-year-old Michigan Early Closing Colt Stake races that are held at a pari-mutuel track. Phenylbutazone (Bute) and/or Lasix are not permitted medications for any race that takes place a county fair. No medications are allowed in a 2-year-old in Michigan.
16. Horses racing in Michigan must have negative Coggins results posted on electronic eligibilities in current year. Proof of EHV vaccination within six months is required prior to entering horses to race at a Michigan pari-mutuel track.
17. If a race is called off and unable to be rescheduled due to unavoidable causes, weather, etc, starting fees paid shall be returned less administrative fees.
18. Monies will be deducted for administrative and program expenses.
19. All payments must be made in U.S. funds
20. All of the events, dates, and the advertised purses herein are contingent upon approval and funding by the Michigan Department of Agriculture. If it becomes necessary to cancel any event (or part thereof) or if funds are not available for the full advertised purse because the Michigan Department of Agriculture is unable to provide the necessary funds MHHA shall not be held responsible.
21. The MHHA reserves the right to cancel the Fair Final in the event funding is not available from Michigan Department of Agriculture by June 2023.
22. Fair Final Point distribution. Five or more starters – 50-25-12-8-5. If less than five starters, all non-contested points will be awarded to the winner. 1 point shall be award to each horse that makes a start in the designated 8 week program in addition to the distributions outlined above.
23. Qualifying for Fair Final: The top 9 point earning horses from the 8-week program in each division that enter will be drawn to start in the Fair Final to be raced at Northville Downs. A horse must have earned at least 1 point to be eligible to enter the Final. If two or more horses tie for points to declare in for the last position in any race, the last starter shall be drawn by lot. Two AE horses may be drawn. The higher point earner shall be assigned also eligible #1. If there is a tie in points for also eligible horses, they will draw by lot. Also, eligible horses may move in if a scratch occurs prior to the designated scratch time at the Northville Downs.

Mail all Payment forms and fees to:
Michigan Harness Horsemen's Association
2501 Jolly Rd Suite 110 Okemos, MI 48864
Phone: (517) 349-2920 Email: info@mhha.com
Please make checks payable to: MHHA