



American Junior Paint Horse Association

Novice Youth Program

APHA's Novice Youth program provides a great starting opportunity for youth making their first steps into the show arena. The program is ideal for youth who have shown at the 4-H and local levels but would like to advance to breed competitions.

Novice Youth Classes

Novice Youth classes are available for eligible youth at many APHA approved shows. Youth must be age 18 and under as of January 1st and must show Regular Registry American Paint Horses.

Novice Youth Classes are grouped into 16 APHA approved categories. Categories include:

- 1 Barrel Racing, Goat Tying, Pole Bending, Stake Race
- 2 Western Riding
- 3 Jumping, Working Hunter
- 4 No youth classes offered
- 5 Showmanship
- 6 Breakaway Roping, Tie-Down Roping, Heading, Heeling, Steer Stopping
- 7 Western Pleasure
- 8 Hunter Under Saddle
- 9 Horsemanship
- 10 Hunt Seat Equitation
- 11 Trail
- 12 Working Cow Horse, Limited Working Cow Horse, Team Penning, Team Sorting
- 13 Hunter Hack
- 14 Reining
- 15 Working Ranch Horse
- 16 Cutting
- 17 Hunt seat Equitation Over Fences

Novice Youth Eligibility

Novice Youth eligibility in a category is valid for the entire calendar year. To be eligible for novice status in a category, at the time of application, a youth cannot have earned:

- 20 points in Open and/or Youth in that category in any recognized equine association, or
- 50 points in Novice Youth in that category in any recognized equine association, or
- \$2500 or greater in prize money in that category in any recognized equine association, or
- A World or Reserve World Title in that category in any recognized equine association.

Recognized equine associations include, but are not limited to: APHA, AQHA, ApHC, IBHA, PHBA, PPHA, AHA, ABRA, NSBA, NRHA, NCHA, PRCA, NBHA, and POA.

Novice Youth Card Application

Prior to showing, eligible youth must apply in writing for a Novice Youth Status Card. Novice Youth cards may not be purchased on the internet or over the phone. The price for a Novice Youth card is \$15, and **does not include AjPHA membership.**

Processing Time and Rush Work

Normal processing time for a Novice Youth card is approximately 3 weeks. Any cards requested in less than 3 weeks from the date they are received in the APHA office will be considered rush work and an additional fee of \$25 will be accessed.

Temporary Novice Youth Cards

Novice Youth cards may also be purchased at any APHA Approved Show. A temporary Novice Youth card will be issued and is valid for 45 days from the date of issue.

The temporary application will be forwarded to the APHA for processing, and a permanent card will be issued by mail.

The fee for a Temporary Novice Youth Card is \$15 plus a \$25 rush fee. AjPHA membership may be purchased on the same application for an additional \$20.

Novice Youth Points

Regardless of ownership, eligible youth may participate in Novice Youth classes. To earn APHA points however, a Novice Youth exhibitor must meet the youth ownership requirements outlined in rule YP-015.

Novice Youth ROM

Upon winning at least 10 points in any one event, a Novice Youth/horse combination will be awarded a Novice Youth Register of Merit (ROM). A certificate and letterman patch will be presented by APHA.

National Participation Certificate

Upon completion of 50 points in any category, a national participation certificate will be awarded to the Novice Youth exhibitor.

A participation certificate is based on exhibitor points, and is awarded regardless of the number of horses shown by the exhibitor.

Novice Youth Rookie of the Year

Each calendar year, a Novice Youth Rookie of the Year will be awarded. To be eligible for this award, a youth must be a first time Novice Youth Status Card holder and can not have earned any equine association points at any time prior to the year of the award.

The Rookie of the Year Award is based on total points accumulated on a one horse/one Novice Youth basis per calendar year. Points will only be counted from eligible Novice Youth division classes.

For more information on APHA's Novice Youth program, contact the Director of Youth Activities at (817) 834-2742, ext. 436.