BY HORSEMEN – FOR HORSEMEN
SUPER · SIRES

AQHA | PLEASURE VERSATILITY CHALLENGE

OE&G COLISEUM
Saturday, November 14, 2026

6:00 PM
Approximate Start Time

AWARDS
Ceremony to Follow

2026

THE GOLDENN GIRL

Our 2025 AQHA PVC Winner, sired by Nothin But Nett and out of A Good Sweet Peach, owned by Eric Mendrysa (Boerne, TX), shown by Jesse Jones (Pilot Point, TX), and bred by Bret & Candy Parrish (Pavo, GA).



Hosted *by*
MARKEL AQHA
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WCHA

The Super Sires AQHA Pleasure Versatility Challenge

THE CONCEPT

The American Quarter Horse receives wide acclamation as the most versatile breed in the world. Undeniably, two of the most important disciplines of the American Quarter Horse are conformation and western pleasure. Two highly sought-after talents of an all-around horse are the ability to change leads and navigate trail poles. Blend these four components into an event and you have the Pleasure Versatility Challenge.

The event will highlight a well-conformed, athletic western pleasure horse, with a solid base of proper training, that has the potential to transition and become world-caliber in several classes – eventually reaching the level of the highest performing AQHA all-around horses.

THE EVENT

Open to 3-year-olds. The order of "go" will be determined by draw 48 hours before the AQHA Pleasure Versatility Challenge.

Horses are shown, sequentially, in three classes:
1) versatility pattern to count 40 percent, followed by **2) western pleasure** to count 40 percent, and finishing with **3) conformatio**n to count 20 percent. Prior to exiting the arena after completion of the versatility pattern, exhibitors will be required to dismount. All exhibitors will be able to mount after the final horse has completed the versatility pattern. Horses remain in the make-up ring, or show pen, for the duration of the event. Horse must show in all classes to receive final placings. The same exhibitor must show the same horse in all classes.

These classes will highlight conformation, form to function, trainability, quality of movement and performance using traditional AQHA class rules. A unique set of four (4) judges will determine placings in each class, with no overlap in judges. All judges will be sequestered until completion of their judging responsibilities. The low judge's score of each exhibitor will be dropped in all three classes, thereby rewarding excellence. Placings will NOT be announced, or made known to any judge, until the event has been completed.



JIMINY CRICKET
Our 2024 AQHA PVC Winner, sired by Batt Man and out of Two Kriketsonthewall, owned by Lindsay Gunderlock Smaltz and shown by Anthony Montes.

OBJECTIVES

1. Promote superior American Quarter Horses that demonstrate form to function, quality forward movement and trainability.
2. Promote two fundamental AQHA classes, conformation and western pleasure, that serve as the foundation of the American Quarter Horse breed, as well as a pattern class that demonstrates desirable characteristics of the AQHA all-around horse.
3. Promote an AQHA World Championship Show entertainment value event for spectators.
4. Promote a showcase for potential private-treaty sale opportunities as an AQHA all-around horse.
5. Promote an event that is beneficial to the horse industry.

GOVERNING MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Governing membership is open to all AQHA Professional Horsemen in good standing. There is a one-time, lifetime membership fee ($1000 if postmarked January 1, 2021, or later) for the Governing Membership Committee structured as follows:

1. Each membership carries with it one (1) vote. Voting rights begin when the membership fee is received.
2. Elected from and by the Governing Membership Committee annually at the AQHA World Show will be a five (5)-person Governing Board that will be charged with bringing key votes to the Governing Membership Committee and interacting with AQHA on pertinent issues. The initial members of the governing committee are indicated below with an asterisk (*).
3. Participation in the "AQHA Pleasure Versatility Challenge" does NOT require a Governing membership.
4. Officials of AQHA are NOT eligible to participate on the Governing Membership Committee.
5. The AQHA Executive Committee has final approval of the governing document developed by the members of the AQHA Pleasure Versatility Challenge Governing Membership Committee.

The AQHA Executive Committee reserves the right to approve sponsors to ensure there are no conflicts with existing AQHA corporate partners.

All membership income is used at the discretion of the Governing Membership Committee.

GOVERNING MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE ROSTER

1. *Charlie Cole, Texas
2. Ryan Cottingim, Tennessee
3. Chad Evans, Colorado
4. *Robin Frid, Texas
5. Clint Fullerton, Missouri
6. *Gil Galyean, Oklahoma
7. Becky George, Texas
8. Rusty Green, Texas
9. Murray Griggs, California
10. Kellie Hinely, California
11. Leslie Vagneur Lange, Colorado
12. Kristy McCann, Washington
13. Kelly McDowall, Colorado
14. Jeff Mellott, Kansas
15. Jill Gomes Newcomb, California
16. Joan Logan Smith, Texas
17. *Jim Searles, Arizona
18. Melissa Sexton, Washington
19. Tommy Sheets, Indiana
20. *Gene Spagnola, Connecticut
21. Stephen Stephens, Texas
22. Justin Wheeler, California

RULES

1. The AQHA Official Handbook of Rules and Regulations will apply to the judging and scoring of each class, with the following adaptation: a) the maneuver score for an attempted flying lead change, including simultaneous, non-simultaneous, and hindlegs skipping together will be in the range of 0 to +1 ½; b) no penalties shall be incurred on an attempted flying lead change; c) the maneuver score for a simple lead change will be in the range of -1 ½ to 0; d) no penalties will be incurred for a simple lead change; and e) five (5) point blatant disobedience and three (3) point break of gait penalties will be enforced except in the case of a simple lead change where no three (3) point penalty will be assessed.
2. Up to twenty (20) entries will be accepted by AQHA World Show official entry deadline of September 15, 2026. Entries will be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis according to electronic entry date. An "also eligible' list of entries will be maintained according to postmark date. In the case of entries with the same electronic entry date, a simple draw will be conducted to determine the successful entry(ies). Entry payments made for those horses offered the opportunity to compete, but do not compete, are non-refundable. Entry payments will be refunded for those entries that were not offered the opportunity to compete.
3. Go order will be determined by draw forty-eight (48) hours before the event. The same order will be used for the pattern, western pleasure presentation and conformation working order.
4. Pattern class will be numerically scored and then placed.
5. Horses cannot have been shown ASTRIDE in any Western Riding, Trail, or in any similar AQHA Pleasure Versatility Challenge Event prior to September 15, 2026. As of September 15, 2026 and thereafter, horses may be shown without restriction at any competition without forfeiting PVC eligibility.
6. There are no eligibility restrictions (show record, participation or money earned) for the Western Pleasure or Conformation classes.
7. In the pattern class, three-year-olds will be shown in either a hackamore or snaffle. Any AQHA-approved bit will be optional in the western pleasure class.
8. Pattern markers will be cones with no additional pattern enhancements, such as flower boxes, etc. The practice pattern will be the same as that used for the actual competition pattern (cones and pole colors). Practice time will be allocated the evening before the event on the exercise schedule.
9. Upon the approval to remount after the pattern-class segment of the event, contestants will be given a maximum of five minutes (unless extenuating circumstances) to warm-up for the western pleasure class.
10. Horses will jog in and go down the center of the show pen when entering for Western Pleasure.
11. Horses will be backed up in the western pleasure class in the center of the arena once the rail portion of the class is completed.
12. Pattern obstacles may be removed from obstructing the path for the Western Pleasure or Conformation segments of the event.
13. Upon the completion and line up of the western pleasure class, tack will be removed (with the assistance of up to two grooms), and the horse will be haltered and prepared for the conformation segment of the event. A countdown clock, set to five (5) allowable minutes, will be utilized when preparing horses for the Conformation segment of the event. Time begins when the first wheelbarrow enters the in-gate. Horses will not be jogged for soundness as this is a Conformation class and soundness would have been determined during the first two performance classes.
14. Any horse competing in this event is subject to AQHA drug-testing rules.
15. This event is open to 3-year-old registered American Quarter Horses.
16. Every horse will be placed in each class. The top ten (10) places will receive an award in each class and overall.
17. All payouts will be held until results of all drug testing have been completed.

ENTRY PROCESS

1. The first, and a maximum, twenty (20) horses to meet the qualifying and entry process will be exhibited in 2026. A list of "also eligible" horses will be maintained, on a first-come/first-serve basis, according to electronic/post-mark/hand date stamp, in the event any of the initial twenty (20) horses withdraw, become ineligible for any reason, or are unable to be shown for any reason. To be considered, payments must be received with the entry form.
2. An entry payment of $1,000 is due by 5:00 pm CT, September 15, 2026. Of this amount, $850 goes to purse and $150 goes to AQHA to cover show administration costs. Entry payments made prior to the official entry deadline are refundable per AQHA procedure. After the initial entry deadline, for those horses offered the opportunity to compete, but do not compete, entry payments are non-refundable. Entry payments will be refunded for horses above 20 entered and not offered a slot.
3. A late entry payment will be taken as follows: 5:01 pm CT September 15 through 5:00 pm CT October 1 the entry payment is $1,500; October 1 (5:01 pm) to 5:00 pm CT October 9 the entry payment is $2,000. No late entries after 5:00 pm CT October 9.
4. Entry in the AQHA Pleasure Versatility Challenge does NOT require AQHA Professional Horsemen Association membership, but an AQHA Professional Horsemen Association membership is highly recommended.

TENTATIVE AWARDS*

1. Up to 10 places will receive awards for each class placed. No cash payouts.
2. Up to 10 places will receive awards and payouts for overall winners.
3. Ties will be determined using a tiebreaker judge for each class. Should a tie exist for the overall placings the tie will be broken utilizing the placing of tied entries in Western Pleasure class.

* Final determination of awards pending AQHA Pleasure Versatility Challenge Governing Board Approval

PAYOUTS*†

# Paid	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
1 place	100%	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-
2 places	60%	40%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 places	50%	30%	20%	-	-		-	-	-	-
4 places	40%	30%	20%	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 places	30%	25%	20%	15%	10%	-	-	-	-	-
6 places	30%	24%	18%	12%	9%	7%	-	-	-	-
7 places	28%	23%	16%	12%	9%	7%	5%	-	-	-
8 places	25%	20%	15%	12%	10%	8%	6%	4%	-	-
9 places	23%	18%	15%	11%	9%	8%	7%	5%	4%	-
10 places	20%	16%	14%	11%	9%	8%	7%	6%	5%	4%

* Actual payouts will be based upon total number showing and sponsorship money raised.
† Payouts reeived for this event **will not affect** Level eligibility of horse or exhibitor.

2026 Limited Division

Graciously sponsored *by* **KATHERINE & GW TOBIN**





The objective of a Limited division, initiated in 2026, within the AQHA Pleasure Versatility Challenge (PVC) is to create more interest with exhibitors that may not be as experienced with the PVC. Eligibility for the Limited Division of the AQHA Pleasure Versatility Challenge is as follows:

1. Owners of eligible entries will be the benefactor of an additional $5,000 dollars and an award saddle to the winner.
2. There are no limitations on western pleasure or conformation/halter achievements.
3. Exhibitors eligible for Level 2 competition in Western Riding AND Trail for that given World Show year will be considered “PVC Limited Eligible”
4. The highest placing PVC Limited exhibitors will be eligible regardless of where they place in the PVC overall.
5. Those who have won the overall PVC in the past will no longer be eligible for the Limited.
6. Those who have won the PVC Limited division will no longer be eligible for the Limited.
7. NSBA Quarter Million-Dollar Club exhibitors are not eligible for the PVC Limited.
8. Up to four (4) payouts will be as follows, PLUS a saddle going to the 1 st Place Limited. These dollars are a supplement to the regular PVC purse payouts.

PVC PAYOUTS FOR LIMITED DIVISION TO OWNERS:

# Paid	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
1 place	$5,000	-	-	-
2 places	$3,000	$2,000	-	-
3 places	$2,500	$1,500	$1,000	-
4 places	$2,000	$1,500	$1,000	$500

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AS OF 10/25/2026

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Show headstall for Pattern Class	**Show headstall for Western Pleasure Class**	**Show halter for Conformation Class**	**Work Saddle for high point PVC Limited Horse**

AQHA PLEASURE VERSATILITY CHALLENGE COCKTAIL PARTY & RECEPTION

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