



# NRHA 2026 NOMINATION CONDITIONS

- The NRHA Nomination of North American horses began with 2008 foals.
- The NRHA Nomination of European horses began with 2009 foals.
- In order for horses to be eligible to enter the North American or European Futurity and the North American or European Derby they must be nominated into the respective NRHA Nomination Program.

**1. Substitutions.** There will be no substitutions or transfer of nominations permitted for any reason.

**2. Nominator Incentive.** 5% of money earned by a horse at the NRHA Futurity and/or Derby (not including ancillary classes) is paid to the nominator of the horse.

**3.** Only one member ID number can be used for nomination and/ or option.

**4. Membership.** The nominator of the horse must be a current member in good standing of NRHA at the time of nomination. In addition, the owner of the horse at the time it is entered into the Futurity and/or the Derby must be a current member of NRHA. Associate members are not eligible to nominate, only active Youth, General, Non Pro, and Professionals members can nominate. If the owner and/or nominator are not members, a membership application must accompany the nomination and competition license application. If members are inactive with NRHA and no membership form accompanied the nomination and competition license forms, then the forms will be put into the problem file. If not resolved within appropriate time, nominator will lose their nomination and will have to reapply. (Please refer to the membership requirements in the current NRHA Handbook.)

**5. Nomination Fees.** A \$10 handling fee will be applied to any nomination mailed or sent in to the

NRHA office in any form. This fee will be applied per each individual nomination. Nominations completed with the online process will not be charged this \$10 handling fee. The following nomination fees will apply and make the horse eligible to enter the NRHA Futurity and the NRHA Derby. The Nomination fee is a one-time payment and must be received in office by January 10th. Nominations received after January 11th through January 31st will be charged a late fee of \$300 for weanlings and \$2250 for yearlings.

Nomination Received	Late Fee
Jan 1 (of previous year)- Jan 10	None
Jan 11- Jan 31	Price of nomination + late fee of \$300 for weanlings and \$2250 for yearlings (older aged horses do not have a late fee). Late fees are retained by NRHA.
Feb 1- Jan 10	Applicable years fees

Age of Horse	NA Nom	EU Option	EU Nom	NA Option
Weanling	\$570	\$100	\$470	\$200
*Nomination Fees listed above include a \$70 licensing fee				
Yearlings	\$2250	\$500	\$2000	\$750
2-Year-Olds	\$5250	\$2000	\$5000	\$2250
3-Year-Olds	\$7750	\$3000	\$6500	\$4250
*Fees differ because European Futurity is an event for 4-year-olds				
4-Year-Olds	\$7750	\$4000	\$7500	\$2250
5-Year-Olds	\$5000	\$1000	\$5000	\$1000
6-Year-Olds	\$1000	\$750	\$2000	\$500
7-Year-Olds	\$750	\$500	\$1000	\$250
8-Year-Olds (EU Only)		\$250	\$750	

Example: 2026 weanling will cost \$500 through January 10th of 2027; will cost \$800 from January 11th of 2027 through January 31st of 2027; and will cost \$2,250 as a yearling from February 1st of 2027 to January 10th of 2028.

These late fees will be retained by NRHA. Nominations received February 1st and for the remainder of the year will cost the applicable years fees. The nomination fee does not enter the horse into the Futurity or the Derby; normal entry fees will apply when the horse reaches the age to enter. The horse will not be considered nominated unless all nomination fees are paid in full.

**6. Southern Hemisphere.** Horses foaled July 1st through December 31st will be considered a weanling during the next calendar year after which it was foaled and a yearling during the subsequent year. Horses foaled January 1st through June 30th will be considered a weanling during the calendar

year in which it was foaled and a yearling during the following year. (Please see current NRHA Handbook for further explanation)

**OPTIONING.** (For horses nominated in 2010 and after) If the nominator wishes for the horse to be able to compete in both the North American and European Futurity and Derby, an additional Option fee must be paid in supplement to the nomination fee at any time after the horse has been nominated but prior to entry into applicable event. This option is available to any subsequent owner of the horse. 100% of the Option fees will be allocated to their NRHA respective Nomination Program. When the horse reaches the age to enter all NRHA events, normal entry fees will apply and must be paid by the appropriate deadlines for that event. The person who pays the option will receive the nominator incentive for that respective continent.

**7. Sale Horses.** Starting in 2015 if a yearling or 2-year-old is being sold through the NRHA Market Marketplace Sale and is not previously nominated, the horse may be nominated for half of the applicable year's fees. This horse must sell through the NRHA Market Marketplace Sale for this nomination to be considered complete. If the horse does not sell through this sale, the nominator may complete the nomination by paying the remaining half of the applicable year fees (by the nomination deadline of the year consigned).

**8. Futurity/Derby Show Years.** Horses are eligible to show in the NRHA Futurity, Derby, and 4-year-old only division according to the following ages if nominated into the applicable program:

NA Futurity: 3-Year-Olds	NA Derby: 4-5-6 & 7-Year-Olds
EU Futurity: 4-Year-Olds	EU Derby: 5-6-7 & 8-Year-Olds

**9. Entries:** If a horse is being nominated at the same time they are being entered into the Futurity or Derby; the applicable Nomination fee must be paid at the time of entry completion. The same practice applies to option fees.

**10. Sire & Dam Program:** [FOR NORTH AMERICAN FUTURITY AND DERBY ONLY] Eligible foals are not required to be nominated into the Nomination Program in order to be eligible to enter the Futurity

or Derby. However, if the nominator wishes to participate in the Nominator Incentive or NRHA European events, they must pay to nominate the horse into the program. If a Sire & Dam horse is shown without a completed nomination, the nominator incentive money will be retained by NRHA. For horses who are in the Sire & Dam program and still wish to Euro Option they can do so for the same option fees and regulations as North American Nominated horses.

**11. Online.** Starting in the year 2015 all eligible aged horses can be nominated online by the nominator. Nominators with a current membership can log into their account at nrha.com to nominate online (or to renew, then nominate). Registration papers may be uploaded to complete the license at the same time. The papers also can be uploaded after the horse is nominated. To do so, log into ReinerSuite and search for the horse (by pedigree and foal date). Papers submitted must list the correct owner's name.

The nomination will be completed in the name of the member who is logged in at the time of the nomination.

Nominations completed online must be paid with credit card at the time of nomination. If the nominator does not confirm payment completion or receive the confirmation email, they should contact NRHA immediately for assistance. A list of completed nominations will also be available on nrha.com. Nominations not completed before the deadline will be treated as a late nomination.

**12. Payment of Fees.** It is the nominator's responsibility to make the nomination fee payment on or before the due date. NRHA will not be responsible for nominations not received by the due date, lost in the mail, or incomplete nominations. All fees are to be made payable to the National Reining Horse Association (in U.S. funds) and payments should be sent by guaranteed mail to ensure delivery. When the payment deadline falls on Sunday, it will be due on or before the next business day. A nomination check returned due to insufficient funds will constitute an incomplete nomination. Failure to pay applies to the rider, owner, or agent for any unpaid debts, related to the entry, exhibition, showing, stalling or any related fee of an



entry at an approved NRHA event. Agent is defined as anyone who acts and/or signs on the behalf of an owner or rider (see General Rules and Regulations, Failure to Pay in the current NRHA Handbook.)

**13. Payment by Credit or Debit Card In Office.** If you wish to pay by credit or debit card on a form sent into the office, please include the credit or debit card number, expiration date, and csv code in the space provided on the nomination form. NRHA is authorized to charge the credit or debit card for the appropriate payment amount as stated in these Conditions. By completing, signing, and returning the nomination form to NRHA, you authorize NRHA to process your nomination payment to the credit or debit card listed. NOTE: A declined, or cancelled credit or debit card will be treated as an insufficient check.

**14. Payment via Wire.** European Nominations may be paid via wire transfer to the Belgium Bank Account. Wires must be received no later than 10 days past the deadline. When paying via wire, a wire RECEIPT must accompany the nomination's form.

**15. Rush Services.** The NRHA office offers a 3-day rush service for nominations: The cost is an additional \$50 per nomination and an emailed confirmation is included.

**16. Refunds.** Nomination payment made for weanlings on or before 10/31 will qualify for a full refund if the nominated foal becomes deceased prior to 12/31 of its weanling year. Written notification of the death must be received in the NRHA Office on or before 12/31 of the weanling year. All the nominations made after 10/31, are not eligible for refunds for any reason once the payment has been processed by the NRHA.

**17. Prize Money Distribution.** Of all the nomination fees paid in, NRHA will retain 10% for administrative costs to administer the program. Of the remaining funds (exception: Option fees), 60% is allocated to the Futurity and 40% is allocated to the Derby. If the horse is not nominated before their Futurity year, all the money paid in for that nomination will go toward the Derby, with none going toward the Futurity. For both the Futurity, Derby, and 4-year-old only division, 70% is allocated toward the Open and 30%

is allocated toward the Non Pro. These percentages are based on the number of Open entries versus Non Pro entries. These percentages will be reviewed annually and adjusted as applicable.

NORTH AMERICAN  
FUTURITY, DERBY, & 4-YEAR-OLD ONLY DIVISION ALLOCATIONS  
ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Level 4 Open & Non Pro	35%	Level 2 Open & Non Pro	20%
Level 3 Open & Non Pro	35%	Level 1 Open & Non Pro	10%

EUROPEAN  
FUTURITY & DERBY DIVISION ALLOCATIONS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Level 4 Open & Non Pro	50%	Level 2 Open & Non Pro	17.5%
Level 3 Open & Non Pro	25%	Level 1 Open & Non Pro	7.5%

Nomination fees paid will be allocated to the Futurity and Derby according to the Futurity and Derby nomination fee purse allocation per the approved Futurity and Derby show conditions and the related nomination plan. Collected nomination fees will be paid out of the Futurity and Derby purse in the first year of eligibility of the nominated horse for the applicable Futurity and Derby.

**18. Competition Licensing.** All horses being nominated into the Nomination Program are required to have a NRHA Competition License upon nomination for proper tracking in the NRHA database. A copy of breed registration papers (a completed competition license application and color pictures are required for grade horses) and license fee must accompany the nomination if not previously licensed. Owners of horses that are in the process of being registered through a breed association must still apply for a competition license at the time of nomination even if the registration papers have not been processed by the breed association. The license application will be kept on file and as soon as a copy of the breed registration papers are received, NRHA will process the license and mail it to the owner.

Starting in 2021, all licenses are stored digitally in an NRHA member's ReinerSuite portal for access at any time they wish. The \$5 competition license print fee will be waived for the initial printing of the license.



**19. Change of Ownership.** A nominated horse may change ownership and retain nomination status under the new owner provided that the original competition license transfer is completed and sent to NRHA. The nomination incentive still stays with the original nominator no matter how many times the horse changes ownership

**20.** NRHA Rules will apply unless specifically deleted or altered. Applicable tax information must be on file in the NRHA Office prior to NRHA releasing funds.

**21.** The NRHA Board of Directors reserves the right to interpret, modify or amend conditions for the NRHA Futurity/Derby Nomination Program. If requiring immediate attention, those rights will be deferred to the Executive Committee.

**22. Right to Cancel.** The National Reining Horse Association reserves the right to cancel this program without notice at any time, without liability and these conditions are subject to change without notice by action of the Board of Directors. Nomination conditions changes are retroactive. But in such an event, all the nomination program's funds are the property of NRHA and will be used for Futurity and/or Derby purse.

**NOTE:** NRHA will not be held responsible for nominations that did not arrive in the mail, via email, submitted incomplete, or incomplete online processes. A list of completed nominations is available at [nrha.com](http://nrha.com); please contact the NRHA prior to the nomination deadline if you have concerns.

If the European nomination program is discontinued by the NRHA, the last nominated horses enrolled under the European nomination program will have no nomination funding related to the European event's purse in which those enrollments would have normally been eligible for. Added money for this and future European events will only consist of added money obtained by event management. The nomination funding for the last nominated horses enrolled under this program will have been allocated to the previous year's event due to the nomination conditions change in 2018 with the acceptance of 8-year-olds and the elimination of 4-year-olds in the European Derby.

