

Application for Team USA to the American Quarter Horse Youth World Cup

The American Quarter Horse Youth World Cup is an international youth event of superior horsemanship, leadership, and camaraderie among equine enthusiasts of many nations. The members chosen for Team USA will represent the United States not only in horsemanship but also in international goodwill.

It is important to understand that riders in the American Quarter Horse Youth World Cup will compete on horses donated in the host country and that not all horses will be highly qualified or trained show horses. Teams will draw for horses to be ridden, and every horse drawn by a team must be exhibited by a member of that team. No coach, trainer, or adult will be allowed to ride the horses at any time during the event; all training and preparation of the horses will be done entirely by the youth team members.

For these reasons, the qualifying process to select five riders for Team USA for the 2008 American Quarter Horse Youth World Cup is designed to identify youth who

- a) are talented horsemen who can get the best results from horses of varying abilities and training levels
- b) have show experience in a variety of AQHA events, preferably on more than one horse
- c) have a proven record of working cooperatively with peers and displaying leadership qualities in various activities
- d) demonstrate exemplary standards of behavior and ethics.

Therefore, it will benefit the applicant to submit points earned on every horse shown, in as many categories as possible, during the two-year qualifying period preceding the American Quarter Horse Youth World Cup event. It will also be advantageous to present a copy of this memo to the two people writing letters of recommendation so that they may address the points of consideration listed above.

It is also necessary to understand the personal expense that will be involved for each member of Team USA. AQHA sponsors the actual event; underwriting the facility, judges, prizes, bus transportation, field trips, entertainment, and other associated expenses during the week. Team USA will solicit sponsorships to pay team entry fees, however each team member will be required to cover his or her own travel expense. Airfare may be high due to peak travel time and extra baggage fees will be incurred because of the saddles and tack. The 2008 Youth World Cup will be held in London, Ontario, Canada from July 6th to July 13th, 2008.

The American Quarter Horse Youth World Cup will include the events of Showmanship, Western Pleasure, Western Horsemanship, Hunter under Saddle, Hunt Seat Equitation, Western Riding, Trail, Reining, and Cutting. Two to three members of each team will compete in each event. In order that Team USA will include members experienced in all of the above events, three riders will be selected using Group A points (see application) and two riders will be selected using Group B points. It will be preferable that those selected for Group B have additional points from Group A, but it will be the advisory committee's responsibility to see that the USA fields a balanced team with sufficient experienced riders available for every event.

Team USA selection committee will announce two runners-up in the rider selection process (one from Group A and one from Group B). A runner-up will replace a rider only if the committee decision is made before the Team USA arrives in Canada. A runner-up will not travel with the team to Canada if he or she has not previously been announced as a replacement rider. If a rider becomes unable to compete in Canada or for any reason is removed from the team while in Canada, Team USA will continue to compete with only four riders.

Complete the following application in its entirety. Select two personal references (not members of your family) - one who is familiar with your horsemanship skills, and one who has observed you in a leadership or cooperative position with your peers - and ask each one to send a letter of recommendation to the committee on your behalf. Do not send more than two letters of recommendation. The following items will be considered in the selection process for five riders and two alternates: number of points earned in the two-year period preceding the World Cup; number of events in which points were earned; number of horses on which points were earned; involvement and leadership in school, equine associations, and community; personal recommendations.

Prepare a three minute video or DVD introduced by yourself and exhibit all aspects of your riding ability. This video will be used by Team USA coaches to evaluate your personality and riding expertise.

It is necessary to have a valid United States passport to travel to Canada. Please be sure and apply for a passport before applying because it can take upwards of 4 months to get a passport.

Anyone who rides for Team USA in the 2008 American Quarter Horse Youth World Cup will be ineligible for Team USA in a future AQHY World Cup.

All applicants must be members in good standing of the AQHYA for at least two years prior to the World Cup date. All applicants must be USA citizens and must meet the AQHYA age requirements set forth in the AQHA handbook. All applicants must sign the enclosed team member agreement.

Thank you for your interest, and good luck! Any questions, please call Dawn Forest (Team USA Manager) 281-705-8033 or email to dives88934@aol.com

**Advisory Committee, Team USA
American Quarter Horse Youth World Cup**

Nancy Cahill, Texas
Debbie Cuvelier, Illinois
Tracey Hatakeyama, California
Joe McAllister, Connecticut
Willard Nordick, Colorado
Russ Smith, Iowa and Texas
Laurel Walker-Denton, Arizona (Chairman)
Wanda Waters, Texas

Application B Team USA
2008 American Quarter Horse Youth World Cup
London, Ontario, July 6 – 13, 2008

Application Deadline, January 20, 2008

Fill in all areas completely. This information will be used in your selection and in press releases and the official show program should you be selected to represent the United States at the 2008 American Quarter Horse Youth World Cup. Also enclose a recent photograph (head and shoulders, color or black-and-white, 5x7 preferred). This photo will be used in press releases and the official show program if you are selected.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Telephone _____ **Fax** _____ **E-mail** _____

Age _____ **Date of Birth** _____ **AQHYA #** _____

Parents' names _____

Name, address & phone of two references from whom we will be receiving letters:

Hometown newspaper & address _____

State Quarter Horse Association, address & phone _____

Director of State Q H Assoc. _____

Youth Advisor of State Q H Assoc. _____

Sizes: (S, M, L, XL) T-shirt no collar _____ **Polo shirt w/ collar** _____ **Jacket** _____

(Measurements) **Dress shirt neck & sleeve** _____ **Jeans waist & length** _____

Applicants must submit qualifying points for a two-year period. All points must be AQHYA points. For the 2008 American Quarter Horse Youth World Cup the qualifying period is January 1, 2006, through December 31, 2007. An official AQHA show record detailed printout must accompany this application verifying points. (This may be obtained by calling the AQHA Records Dept. or by downloading from www.aqha.com) Points earned but not officially recorded by the AQHA by deadline time may be verified by show secretary. **The application deadline is January 20, 2008.**

Give horse name(s) and number of points earned on each horse in each event:
(Be sure to include every horse on which points were earned.)

Group A	Horse's Name	AQHA Points	Total AQHA Points in Event
Showmanship at Halter			
Western Pleasure			
Western Horsemanship			
Hunter U Saddle			
Hunt Seat Equitation			
Western Riding			
Trail			
Group B			
Reining			
Cutting			

- Attach a separate sheet of paper listing organizations of which you are a member, church or school extra-curricular activities, and community involvement. List offices held, awards received, committees on which served, and projects in which involved.

Team USA Member Agreement

2008 American Quarter Horse Youth World Cup

If selected as a rider for Team USA, I agree to abide by any and all rules of Team USA, the AQHA, and the American Quarter Horse Youth World Cup. I understand that I will be governed and supervised by the Team USA coach and manager and other chaperones during my participation in the American Quarter Horse Youth World Cup. I understand that I will be asked to sign an agreement to abide by a stringent set of rules of behavior as a member of Team USA and that my parents will also be asked to agree to support these rules. I understand that failure to comply with these rules of behavior or the instructions of my coach, manager and chaperones in the interest of my safety and security or the representation of the USA and the AQHA could result in disciplinary action and subsequent dismissal from the team and that I will be sent home at my own expense. I understand that I will be responsible for my own travel expenses to and from London, Ontario, and that there may be extra baggage fees for my tack. I also understand that my parents and I will be required to sign additional releases as customary for travel and equine competition. I also understand that if I ride for Team USA in the 2008 World Cup I will be ineligible to ride for Team USA in a future World Cup.

I have been a member in good standing of the AQHYA for two years preceding the date of this application, and I am a USA citizen.

Signature of Applicant

Date

Application Deadline: January 20, 2008 (postmark)

Send to: Team USA Advisory Committee
Laurel Walker-Denton Chairman UPS (no Fed Ex)
P.O. Box 26 Tonto Road
Skull Valley, AZ 86338 Skull Valley, AZ 86338

Phone: 928-442-3290
Fax: 928-442-9292
E-mail: barubarranch@gmail.com

Include: Two-page application, plus additional page outlining community activities.
Three minute video or DVD
Signed team member agreement
AQHA printout verifying points
5 x 7 Photograph
Two personal references (to be sent independently of application directly to Laurel Walker-Denton)

**Letter of Recommendation
2008 American Quarter Horse Youth World Cup**

Re: Horsemanship Skills

This letter of recommendation is on behalf of an individual applying for Team USA to the 2008 American Quarter Horse Youth World Cup that will be held in London, Ontario, July 6 – 13, 2008. The individuals selected to ride for Team USA must be proficient in riding horses of varying ability and training levels and must exhibit in two to five different events. No professional trainers, coaches, or adults will be allowed to ride the horses (donated by the host country) during the entire week of the event. Team USA will represent the United States and the American Quarter Horse Association not only in exemplary horsemanship skills but also in teamwork, personal behavior, and international goodwill. Your comments will be taken very seriously and will be an important part of the selection process for the team. Thank you for your assistance.

Your name _____ Phone number _____

Email address _____

Address _____

Occupation _____

Recommending whom _____

Capacity in which you know applicant _____

How long you have known applicant _____

Please indicate in a letter why you feel this applicant should be selected to represent the United States in the 2008 American Quarter Horse Youth World Cup. Attach this sheet to your letter of recommendation.

Signature & Date

Send recommendation directly to:

Team USA Advisory Committee,
Laurel Walker-Denton, Chairman.
P.O. Box 26, Skull Valley, AZ 86338

Fax 928-442-9292

Deadline, January 20, 2008

Letter of Recommendation

2008 American Quarter Horse Youth World Cup

Re: Leadership, Standards of Behavior, and Interaction with Peers

This letter of recommendation is on behalf of an individual applying for Team USA to the 2008 American Quarter Horse Youth World Cup that will be held in London, Ontario, July 6 – 13, 2008. The individuals selected for the team will represent the United States and the American Quarter Horse Association not only in exemplary horsemanship skills but also in teamwork, personal behavior, and international goodwill. Because Team USA will interact with youth from approximately twelve other nations, exemplary standards of behavior plus a proven record of leadership and positive, productive cooperation with peers in school, community, and equine associations will benefit the applicant in being chosen. Your comments will be taken very seriously and will be an important part of our selection process. Thank you for your assistance.

Your name _____ Phone number _____

Email address _____

Address _____

Occupation _____

Recommending whom _____

Capacity in which you know applicant _____

How long you have known applicant _____

Please indicate in a letter why you feel this applicant should be selected to represent the United States in the 2008 American Quarter Horse Youth World Cup. Attach this sheet to your letter of recommendation.

Signature & Date

Send recommendation directly to:

Team USA Advisory Committee,
Laurel Walker-Denton Chairman
P.O. Box 26, Skull Valley, AZ 86338

Fax 928-442-9292

Deadline January 20, 2008