



IQHA Horseback Riding Program 2025

Purpose: The purpose of the IQHA Horseback Riding Program (HBR) is to promote and reward IQHA members for enjoying their American Quarter Horses, and other breeds, in and out of the competitive show arena. This is not a competitive program, however, awards will be given to those who accumulate the greatest number of hours in the saddle throughout the year. In addition, lifetime achievement recognition will be made to participants who reach benchmark hours.

Divisions: There will be two separate divisions: Quarter Horse and All Breed. Both will offer Adult (19 & over) and Youth (18 & under).

Enrollment: In order to participate in the IQHA HBR Program, you must have a current IQHA individual or family membership (youth participants may fall under a family membership). In addition, each HBR participant must pay an annual enrollment fee of \$15. There is no limit to the number of horses that can be ridden per division under each fee.

Hours: Participants are required to log the hours they spend riding, driving or groundwork with their horse(s), as well as the location. A separate log sheet needs to be completed for each horse. Hours are logged in half-hour increments and no more than 8 hours may be logged each day.

Awards: The “season” will run from January 1 to December 31. Participants have until December 15 to submit their completed log sheets to the program coordinator.

In addition, Lifetime Benchmark Hours have been established. Once a participant reaches 50, 500, 1,000, 1,500 and 2,000 hours they will receive a special award from IQHA. ONLY hours accumulated in consecutive years as an enrolled member will count toward these benchmarks. If an individual chooses not to participate in the HBR Program for a year all past hours are lost and they will begin again at their next enrollment with 0 hours.

Year-end awards will be made for the top 4 participants in each division with award values for 1st/2nd/3rd/4th to be \$50/\$40/\$30/\$20. Awards may be selected by the HBR Committee Chair or participants may be provided the IQHA Show Year-End

Awards catalog, if used, to select their awards. Choice is at the discretion of the HBR Committee Chair.

General Rules:

- Logs are kept by the participant on the honor system.
- In order for hours to count participants MUST have a CURRENT IQHA individual or family membership.
- Separate log sheets must be kept for each individual horse.
- Participants may enroll at any time. Hours may not be counted until the program enrollment has been received and acknowledged by IQHA.
- Log sheets not submitted by December 15 will not be counted for year-end awards or lifetime benchmark awards.
- Eligible hours include time spent riding, driving or doing groundwork with your horse. Time spent grooming, feeding or health maintenance do not count toward hours logged. Some examples of eligible hours may include but are not limited to:
 - Trail Rides and horse shows (events sponsored by IQHA will be awarded DOUBLE HOURS (Maximum of 16 hours per day)
 - Training/exercising while mounted or during groundwork
 - Riding lessons or clinics
 - Horse shows including breed shows, fun shows, county fair 4-H/FFA/open shows, etc.
 - Rodeo and jackpots including roping, barrel racing, team penning or sorting, mounted shooting, etc.
 - Parades
 - Any organized practice events
 - Drill team practice and performance
 - Sheriff Posse or Search And Rescue
 - Outriding
 - General pleasure riding
 - Pen riding (sale barn or feedlot) or pasture gathering
 - Driving for pleasure or competition
 - Dressage, horse trials, 3-day evening competitions
 - Fox hunting
 - Judged extreme cowboy races
 - Horse sale demonstrations

The foregoing rules are subject to interpretation or change, if unusual or unforeseen circumstances arise. Any such interpretation or change shall be made by the Board of Directors of Iowa Quarter Horse Association. We will do our best to inform participants or any changes, via publication on the IQHA website and IQHA social media pages.

2025 IQHA Horseback Riding Program Committee:

Jodi Meyer - Chair, Loren Meyer, Lori Mennenga, Codi Jo Heesch