



THE AMERICAN MINIATURE HORSE ASSOCIATION, INC.

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http://www.amha.org

## AMHA AOTE Opt-Out Declaration Form

**This form must be received in the AMHA office prior to the horse being handed to a trainer or non-family member, for the horse named below to opt out of any AMHA AOTE classes.**

I have chosen to opt out of the AMHA AOTE program with the horse listed below. I understand by doing so, that I may not show this horse in any AOTE classes until the next calendar year.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Effective Date (effective date may not be during an AMHA show)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Horse's AMHA Registration Number- **One horse per form**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Horse's Registered Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Owner (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
State

\_\_\_\_\_  
Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Owner's Phone Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
e-mail address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Owner's Signature

**AOTE Opt Out Fee:** Fees are payable in U.S. funds only and must accompany form.

**AOTE Opt Out Fee- \$10.00 per horse + \$3.00 processing fee per Work Order.**

Check or Money Order

VISA

MasterCard

Credit Card No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant agrees to abide by all the Rules, Regulations and decisions of the AMHA, its Officers and Directors or its appointees.

Please see the back of this form for complete AMHA AOTE Rules.

## AM-010-A-6, AMHA Official Rulebook

### 6. Amateur Owned, Trained, and Exhibited (AOTE)

The AOTE program was established in 1999 with the intent and purpose of providing classes in which an amateur exhibitor could show his/her horses without having to compete with horses that have been trained, groomed and/or conditioned by a professional during the current calendar year. (Amended 02-11, effective 01-12)

#### a. AOTE Requirements

The horse exhibited by the AOTE must be trained, conditioned (2), groomed (1) and shown (3) ONLY by the AOTE or a nonprofessional family member in all divisions entered. Non-professional family members are defined as: spouse, mother, father, brother, sister, niece, nephew, son, daughter, grand-child, grandparent, legal ward, in-laws, step-children, step-parents and step-siblings. No one with a professional trainer in the household or on premises may compete in the AOTE division.

#### \*CLARIFICATIONS-

1. Grooming includes bathing, clipping, razoring and all other allowable enhancements needed to prepare horse for showing.

2. "Conditioning" includes, but is not limited to, exercising and neck or body wrapping.

3 If you co-own your horse with a non-related individual, only one owner (household/family) can show the horse AOTE and the other owner will not be allowed to show the horse that calendar year.

Dental, medical and farrier care do NOT have to be done by the AOTE exhibitor.

#### 1. Exhibitor exceptions:

Another Amateur may show AOTE horses in Championship classes only when the AOTE exhibitor has more than one horse qualified. Another Amateur may assist in any class requiring multiple handlers.

#### 2. Horse handling exemptions:

An AOTE horse may be held, or petted by anyone. The petting of a horse with your bare hand is not considered grooming the horse. Anyone may assist an AOTE horse in an emergency

#### 3. Transportation

AOTE horses may be transported to and from shows by anyone, including trainers. This includes loading, unloading, feeding and watering during transport.

(Amended 02-11, effective 01-12)

#### b. Ownership

The owner or lessee of record must be so recorded on the registration certificate (not postmarked) by January 1st of each year in which the AOTE horse is to be shown. If a horse is acquired or recorded on the registration certificate in the AMHA office after January 1, the amateur owner/lessee must wait until the following year to enter the AOTE classes.

(Amended 02-11, effective 01-12)

#### c. Foals

Current year foals, whose dams met the ownership or lease requirements on January 1 (lease must be dated on or before January 1), may be shown by an AOTE exhibitor who would be eligible to show the dam. (Amended 02-11, effective 01-12)

#### d. AOTE Declaration

A horse will be declared an AOTE horse when it enters its first AOTE class of the calendar year. Prior to being declared, the AOTE horse must abide by the AOTE rules starting on January 1st. The AOTE horse must be shown under the AOTE guidelines for one calendar year starting on January 1st regardless of the class entered (including open division classes).

(Amended 02-11, effective 01-12)

#### e. Opt-Out

A declared AOTE horse may be removed from the AOTE program by submitting the AOTE Opt-Out Declaration form to the AMHA Office. The AOTE Opt-Out Form must be on file with the Office prior to the AOTE horse being trained, conditioned, groomed, or shown by a professional trainer. The Opt-Out Declaration will not be accepted during the course of any show. Fees - See Fee Schedule. (Amended 02-09, effective 01-10) (Amended 02-11, effective 01-12)

#### f. Sale of an AOTE Horse

Should a declared AOTE horse be sold during the calendar year it was designated for, an AOTE Opt-Out Declaration Form must be submitted to the Office prior to, or with the Transfer of Ownership or Lease. Once a horse has been sold, it must wait until the following calendar year to enter AOTE classes.

#### g. AOTE showing in other divisions

The AOTE horse and handler may show in their appropriate Amateur Level 1 or 2 classes or open division class.

#### h. Rule Violations

Failure to abide by the AOTE rules once AOTE horse has begun showing within a given calendar year will result in the following penalties:

1. Violations at Local/Championship/World Shows: the declared AOTE horse will be disqualified from all classes at the show where the violation occurred. The AOTE horse will forfeit its AOTE status for the remainder of the calendar year it was declared for. The Amateur will be subject to the AMHA Disciplinary Committee.

2. All alleged violations must be substantiated by official records, show management observation, or other recorded visual evidence.