

Exciting Things Happen....

... when young people and American Saddlebred horses meet. Harness some of the youthful energy flowing through your house or barn, by channeling that enthusiasm into activities that are fun and productive. Tomorrow's trainers, breeders, exhibitors, judges, and pleasure riders are growing up NOW, and NOW is the time to get them excited about our wonderful Saddlebred horse.

An American Saddlebred Horse Association Youth Club (ASHAYC) is the place for young people to learn about horse care, judging and how to promote the American Saddlebred. Clubs can have trail rides, field trips and parties, compete in youth events and receive recognition and awards for levels of achievement.



ASHAYC members are young people interested in horses, who plan and participate in programs which benefit the club, the Saddlebred business and the community, all while having fun with other people interested in horses.

ASHAYC Groups

Horsemanship— Everyone benefits from learning basic horse knowledge. Well-rounded riders should not only perfect their equitation skills, but also expand their equine knowledge by learning the parts of the horse, proper grooming and care, and how to safely handle a horse, along with the history and development of the breed.

The ASIYP program is a perfect way to fine-tune these skills and earn achievement awards by working through the books, worksheets and puzzles. This program provides an excellent basis for further club activities.

Horse Judging— Continue the education by learning to evaluate horses on conformation and way of going. Prepare club members to compete in ASHA Junior Judging contests or open judging competitions held at horse shows across the nation.

Demonstrations, Clinics and Guest Speakers—

Your own community abounds with people eager to share their enthusiasm and knowledge. Learn how to dress for success in the show ring, administer basic horse first aid, observe a farrier at work, or hold a driving clinic to prepare for the ASHA Driving Challenge Finals.

Field Trips— Your club can visit horse-related facilities, barns, veterinary clinics and museums in the community and away. Meet other American Saddlebred enthusiasts from around the country by attending the ASHA Youth Conference, an educational and fun-filled weekend.

Trail Rides and Activities on Horseback— Just for fun or for a great purpose, raise funds for the ASHA Scholarships through the ASHA Ride-A-Thon program. Horses may be owned by members, rented or borrowed. Take a day to go for a trail ride or hang out at the barn and play games on horseback. Receive recognition and awards through the ASHA Saddle Time program, for doing what you already love to do, riding American Saddlebred horses.

Promotional Activities— Help spread the word about American Saddlebred horses, your lesson program and youth club, by dressing up in the cutout American Saddlebreds, ASHA Little Saddler costumes, or in everyone's favorite furry ASHA representatives, Max and Maxine. Clubs can also promote the breed and their stable by setting up the ASHA display booth at local fairs, malls, shows and other horsey and non-horsey events.



Social Events— Above all, your club should be a source of fun for everyone involved. Getting together is a great way to meet new friends and develop barn spirit!

ASHA Youth Club of the Year

Every year, ASHA honors the most active youth clubs, recognizing their outstanding achievements in various categories. Each club is asked to submit a yearbook documenting the club's activities. All yearbooks are displayed and judged for awards

that are presented at the annual ASHA Youth Conference.

ASHA Academy Awards— This program encourages and recognizes beginner riders participating in Academy classes, held at tournaments and horse shows around the country, by awarding bronze, silver and gold medals.

ASHA Scholarships— The ASHA awards scholarships to outstanding members of ASHA, grade 11 or higher, and age 21 and under, based on academic success, financial need, personal references, and extracurricular activities, including community service and involvement with American Saddlebred horses.

The possibilities for ASHA Youth Club activities and recognition are endless. Remember, members are not required to own a horse, only love being involved with the American Saddlebred.

Take the first step

Here's how to get started!

This checklist will help plan that crucial first meeting and lay the foundation for a strong and active youth club.

- Decide on a date and time. The first meeting is best tied in with a social event, like a party the prospective members will already be attending. Or, plan a gathering on a day most of the kids will be around—Saturday noon at the stable or after class at school.
- Post a notice. A colorful meeting notice can be used to circulate among prospective members to notify them of the first meeting. A sign-up sheet may encourage attendance.
- Plan a short activity. Show a tape or film. Play a game. Decorate the stable office for a holiday.
- Serve food. Simple snacks like cookies, pretzels or chips with punch or cocoa will help keep your new members around long enough to do business.
- Keep the business meeting brief and have someone take notes. Try this agenda:
- Propose the idea of an ASHA Youth Club, explaining what is involved.
- Toss around some ideas for a club name.
- Make a list of members, their addresses and

phone numbers.

- Brainstorm ideas for club activities.
- Announce the date, time and location of the next meeting. This bears repeating. If you don't give your club something definite to look forward to, there is a chance they will lose interest. Plan to meet again soon. Keep their enthusiasm strong.
- Return your application to become an ASHA Youth Club with the start-up fee. The "Youth Leader's Manual" you will receive will provide more details and ideas for meetings and activities.

Here's what to do next!

The following are ASHAYC requirements for club recognition:

- One or more advisors, age 18 or over. The advisor must be a senior member of ASHA.
- An initial start-up fee of \$25.00.
- A list of names and addresses of all members (minimum of five) submitted to ASHA.
- At least one promotional event (for example, library display, mall or horse show booth) and one other event (educational, social, community service) conducted each year by the club.
- A program of yearly activities submitted to ASHA with annual membership fee of \$25.00 by April 30 of each year.
- A yearbook of club activities (refer to leader's manual) submitted to ASHA by January 15th of each year.

Here's how ASHA will help!

Upon receipt of your application and membership fee, ASHA will provide each club with the following:

- Certificate of Club Membership
- Youth Leader's Manual
- Membership Cards
- Promotional materials as needed
 - ASHA display booth
 - Brochures
 - Little Saddlers Costumes
 - Max and Maxine Costumes
 - Videos
- Recognition
 - Coverage of club activities in Junior Junction

newsletter

- Listing of your club in the American Saddlebred magazine, Junior Junction youth newsletter, membership directory and Website
- National recognition for Youth Club of the Year Awards
- Benefits
 - ASHA Junior Membership discount
 - ASHA Youth Conference
 - Suggestions for club activities
 - Scholarships

Here's how to apply!

If you wish to start an ASHA Youth Club, please return the attached membership application along with the appropriate Youth Club fee to ASHA. Read "Take the First Step" for some ideas on how to conduct your first meeting, what is required and how your club will benefit.



When your application is received, we will send you a "Youth Leader's Manual." This manual will help your club conduct meetings and will offer suggestions for activities and projects.

Fill out and return with the \$25.00 start-up fee to:
American Saddlebred Horse Association, Attention:

Youth Coordinator
4083 Iron Works Parkway
Lexington, KY 40511.



ASHA YOUTH CLUBS

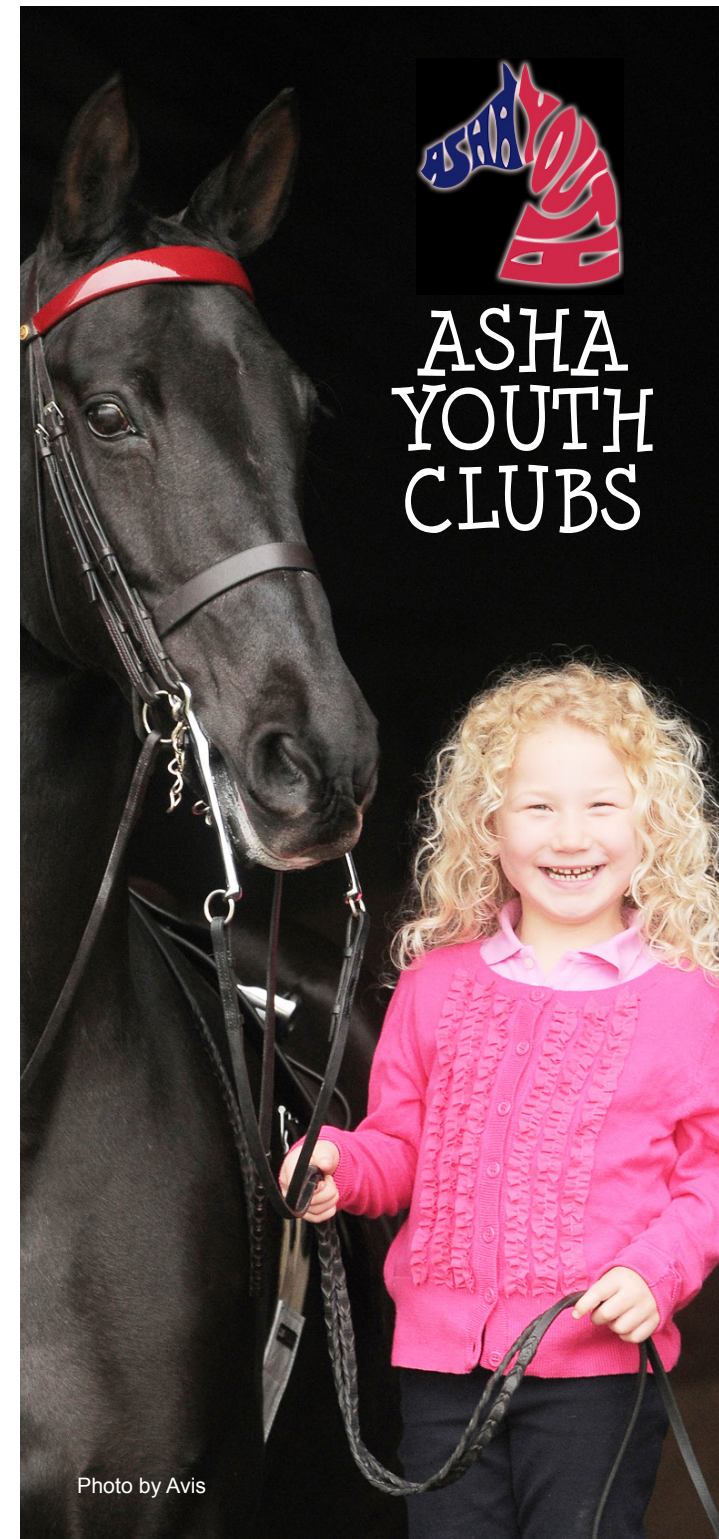


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