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The Arabian Horse Association West Sport Horse Nationals Exploratory Task Force Concludes Research for Show Viability in 2024

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Greenwood Village, CO – April 7, 2023 –The Arabian Horse Association’s West Sport Horse Nationals Exploratory Task Force has concluded its show viability research. The task force was developed in December 2022 to study and determine the viability of having a West Sport Horse National Show with its own show commission for the 2024 competition year. Our members requested the feasibility of this be considered.

The Task Force was comprised of ten members which included Executive, Board, and Staff Liaisons, in addition to collaborators from a variety of AHA Committees. Members worked to research a variety of facilities, develop a budget, and find an optimal time of year to hold the show.

The Task Force worked diligently to explore all options for holding a West Sport Horse National Show. Members researched and submitted the following:

- Ten facilities were thoroughly evaluated, and two Request for Proposals (RFPs) were returned to the Task Force.
- Two detailed budgets were explored for each facility.
- Task Force members worked with AHA Staff to determine an optimal timeline for the show.
- Through research with AHA staff with various facilities, it was determined a rotational schedule is not an option at this time.

Upon the conclusion of the research, findings indicated that it would not be viable to hold a West Coast show in 2024 for the following reasons:

- Both facilities’ costs outweighed the entries budgeted.
- Conflicting available dates with Regional Shows and National Shows.
- Budget viability.
- Facilities are not willing to rotate on a year-by-year basis.

The AHA Sport Horse National Championship show will be held as scheduled:

September 11-16, 2023	Wilmington, Ohio
September, TBD, 2024	Wilmington, Ohio
September, TBD, 2025	Wilmington, Ohio
September, TBD, 2026	Wilmington, Ohio



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We are extremely hopeful with the development and expansion of various facilities across the nation we will be able to bring the show to a location that best serves all our membership.

However, due to the diligence of the Task Force, the groundwork has been laid to re-evaluate moving the Sport Horse National show to a more centralized location to accommodate both east and west coast exhibitors beginning in 2027. AHA President Deborah Johnson commented, "Creating an accessible show for our membership and exhibitor base is important, and the Task Force has taken the lead in making sure AHA has viable options for future Sport Horse National Show locations."

AHA is committed to receiving membership input. To leave feedback, please email feedback@arabianhorses.org.

For more information on the Arabian Horse Association, please go to www.arabianhorses.org.

About Arabian Horse Association

Arabian Horse Association (AHA) is an equine association serving more than 14,000 Arabian, Half-Arabian, and Anglo-Arabian horse owners across North America. AHA registers and maintains a database of more than one million Arabian, Half-Arabian, and Anglo-Arabian horses. AHA produces four national horse championship events yearly, recognizing over 344 Arabian local and regional horse shows and distance rides. AHA promotes the Arabian breed and ownership through education and outreach programs.