

# Great Lakes Stake

## Serviced By:

Michigan Harness Horsemen's Association

## For:

2-Year-Olds (foals of 2023) and 3-Year-Olds (foals of 2022) that are Michigan sired.

## To Be Raced As:

Eight Races

2-Year-Old Colt & Gelding Pace

2-Year-Old Filly Pace

2-Year-Old Colt & Gelding Trot

2-Year-Old Filly Trot

2-Year-Old Colt & Gelding Trot

2-Year-Old Filly Pace

2-Year-Old Colt & Gelding Trot

2-Year-Old Filly Trot

## Estimated Purse:

\$20,000

## To Be Raced At:

A Michigan county fair track or pari-mutuel track as approved by the Michigan Department of Agriculture and/or Michigan Gaming Control Board.

## Eligibility:

- Foals sired by a Michigan stallion properly registered with the USTA during the year of conception, that resides in Michigan that is owned or leased by Michigan resident(s), and that did not serve a mare at a location outside of this state from February 1 through July 31 of the calendar year in which the conception occurred.
- Foals from a mare owned by a resident or non-resident of Michigan at the time of conception either in state or outside the state of Michigan by means of transported semen from a properly registered Michigan stallion with the USTA during the year of conception.
- Eligibility will be verified with the USTA at time of nomination.
- If there are questions about eligibility you will be contacted by the MHHA.

## Nomination Fee (in U.S. Funds Only):

March 15, 2025 .....\$200

Any nominating check returned for insufficient funds or credit card payments declined will automatically be considered failure to nominate. A 3.5% processing fee will be applied to all credit card payments.

## Late Nomination Fee (in U.S. Funds Only):

April 15, 2025 .....\$400

(If the March 15, 2025 deadline is missed, a supplemental payment may be made to be eligible to the Great Lakes Stakes.)

## Starting Fee (in U.S. Funds Only):

\$200 due at the time and place designated by MHHA.

## Change of Gait:

Any eligible colt changing gait after April 15, 2025, will be eligible to race at the gait adopted upon notifying MHHA of the change.

## Refunds:

All requests for refunds must be made in writing to the Michigan Harness Horsemen's Association by June 2, 2025. Requests will be considered for: a.) Horse declared ineligible; b.) Duplication of payment; c.) Clerical error.

## Conditions:

- Unless otherwise noted in the conditions, the Great Lakes Stakes conducted at a county fair track are raced under the rules of the Michigan Department of Agriculture and the United States Trotting Association. The Great Lakes Stakes conducted at a pari-mutuel track are raced under the rules of the Michigan Gaming Control Board.

- Prior to the declaration to race, each colt must be named, registered, tattooed or freeze branded, and such registration number shall be on file with the MHHA.
- Each owner, shareholder, lessee, managing partner of a fractional owner group, and trainer of each colt nominated shall remit with nomination, a program service fee of \$50.00 to cover administrative, insurance and processing costs. This fee is waived for current members of the Michigan Harness Horsemen's Association. Declarations to start will not be accepted until this fee is paid as outlined above. Further, all owners, shareholders or lessees of each colt must provide the MHHA with a Social Security number or Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) for the purpose of reporting race earnings.
- If a horse has been determined ineligible to the program it was nominated for and you believe this is an error, you have 30 days from the date of the ineligibility letter to contact the MHHA office to discuss. If after 30 days the MHHA office has not received any objections to those notified of ineligibility, the horse(s) are deemed ineligible, and no additional recourse can take place to make the horse eligible.
- All races one mile. If the event is to be contested at a county fair track and more than 8 starters declare into race in any one of the eight divisions, that race will be divided and raced in divisions and each division shall race one heat for an equal share of the purse. If the event is to be contested at a half-mile pari-mutuel track, and more than 9 starters declare in to race in any one of the eight divisions, that race will be divided and raced in divisions and each division shall race one heat for an equal share of the purse. There will be no more than 3 starters from the 2nd tier for races contested at a county fair track and no more than 1 starter from the 2nd tier for races contested at a parimutuel track.
- All colts entering to race on the live betting card at a pari-mutuel track must have a current charted line within 45 days AT TIME OF ENTRY Races scheduled at a pari-mutuel track may be raced as betting or non-betting races at the discretion of the host track. In the event a race is non-betting or raced on a date when the pari-mutuel track is not hosting a live betting card race date - the 45-day charted line rule may be waived. The MHHA recommends all horses have a 45-day charted line to prevent scratches.
- The starting fee must be paid on a scratched colt prior to entering any standalone stake races. There is no penalty for a withdrawal before the entry box closes. Entry will not be accepted for a horse whose owner or trainer is indebted for a previous starting fee to any event administered by MHHA.
- In the event a starter fee is returned for insufficient funds (NSF), the horse is not eligible for entry in any other Michigan Early Closing Colt Stake, Spartan Stake, Sire Stake elimination, Sire Stakes Final, Michigan Championship eliminations or Michigan Championship Final race until the insufficient funds starter fee is paid including a \$50 NSF penalty. 2 insufficient fund starter fee payments made at any point during the 2025 summer racing season will result in future entry fees to be paid in cash for the remainder of the 2025 racing season.
- Phenylbutazone (Bute) and/or Lasix are permitted medications for 3-year-old Great Lakes Stake races that are held at a pari-mutuel track. Phenylbutazone (Bute) and/or Lasix are not permitted medications for any race that takes place at a county fair. No medications are allowed for 2-year-olds in Michigan.

10. Horses racing in Michigan must have negative Coggins results posted on electronic eligibility in the current year. Proof of EHV vaccination within six months is required prior to entering horses to race at a Michigan pari-mutuel track.
11. If a race is called off and unable to be rescheduled due to unavoidable causes, weather, etc. starting fees paid shall be returned less administrative and program expenses.
12. Monies will be deducted for administrative and program expenses from the starter fee.
13. All of the events and the advertised purses herein are contingent upon approval and funding by the Michigan Department of Agriculture. If it becomes necessary to cancel any event (or part thereof) or if funds are not available for the full advertised purse because the Michigan Department of Agriculture is unable to provide the necessary funds MHHA shall not be held responsible.

**Mondy Division:**

Five or more starters – 50%-25%-12%-8%-5%. If less than five starters, all non-contested monies will be paid to the winner.

**Make Checks Payable To:**

MHHA

**Send To:**

Michigan Harness Horsemen's Association  
2501 Jolly Rd, Suite 110  
Okemos, MI 48864  
Phone: 517-349-2920  
Email: info@mhha.com