

**Application for 2017 "Virginia Bred" Program Grant Funds from the
Virginia Horse Industry Board (VHIB)**



NAME OF ORGANIZATIONS APPLYING: VIRGINIA PRESIDENTIAL PASO FINO HORSE ASSOCIATION, INC. (VAPPFHA)

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Proposed 2017 VA Bred Activities: 2 Horse Shows - 2 Races - 1 Other

We plan to conduct two Paso Fino Horse Association (PFHA)/United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) sanctioned horse shows at the Virginia Horse Center. The two shows will be held July 28-30, 2017. During these two shows we will hold two Largo Races and award a cash prize to the winners.

This year we would like to expand our Virginia Bred Program to include our trail riding members. The other event we will hold is a Trail Horse Test where a judge evaluates the tractability and skills of the horse as a trail horse and the communication between horse and rider.

Budget:

	VHIB Funds	Association Match
Projected Participant Payouts		
Show 1 Cash Awards to Winners of VA Bred Classes	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Show 2 Cash Awards to Winners of VA Bred Classes	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Largo Race Winners (2 Races)	\$200.00	\$200.00
Projected Participant Payouts Totals	\$2,200.00	\$2,200.00
Projected Expenses:		
Judge's travel and lodging expenses for Trail Horse Test	\$225.00	\$225.00
Judge's fee for Trail Horse Test (2 days)	\$200.00	\$200.00
Trail Horse Test (10 participants receive a \$20 gift)	\$100.00	\$100.00
Food for dinner and breaks at Trail Horse Test	\$100.00	\$100.00
Total Projected Expenses:	\$625.00	\$625.00
Projected Association Revenue:		
Nomination fee for show entries (15 horses at \$10 per)		\$150.00
Trail Horse Test Entry Fees (10 participants at \$20 per)		\$200.00
Largo Race Entry Fee (6 participants \$10 per horse)		\$60.00
Paso Fino Horse Association Marketing Support		\$300.00
Total Requested from the VHIB:	\$2,825.00	

ORGANIZATION SIZE**Name of Association: Virginia Presidential Paso Fino Horse Association (VAPPFHA)**

Organization Size and Projected 2017 Participates	
Number of Members as of September 2016:	160
Number of Individuals Projected to Participate in 2017 VA Bred Program Activities:	30
Number of Horses Projected to Participate in 2017 VA Bred Program Activities:	
Show 1 Horses	35
Show 2 Horses	35
Largo Races	6
Trail Horse Test Program	10

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM: The Virginia Presidential Paso Fino Horse Association, Inc. (VAPPFHA) is incorporated in the Commonwealth of Virginia and was recognized by the Paso Fino Horse Association (PFHA) in January 2006 as the regional club that represents the Paso Fino horse breeders, trainers, and PFHA members in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

VAPPFHA has established the VAPPFHA Virginia Bred Program with the primary objective to promote and reward the breeding of quality paso fino horses in the Commonwealth. In this our fifth year of our Virginia Bred Program, we are extending the program to include Largo Races and Trail Horse Tests. Grant funds provided by VHIB will be used to reward owners and breeders of PFHA registered horses foaled in Virginia and cover some of the expenses for the judges for the Trail Horse Tests.

1. PROJECT - PURPOSE AND GOAL: The program's primary goal is to promote quality Virginia bred paso fino horses as the all around versatile sport horse that youth, amateurs, seniors, and professionals can enjoy. The Paso Fino breed has sometimes been labeled as the "fancy show horse". The VAPPFHA strategic marketing plan is to promote the versatility as well as the show aspects of the breed. By rewarding top performers in a variety of classes, we hope to promote the versatility of the breed while benefitting from increased participation at our events. We want to raise the awareness of the tractability, personality, and athleticism of the paso fino horse. The VHIB grant funds will provide incentives to promote the breeding and exhibitions of Virginia bred paso fino horses by our old and new members.

This year we are introducing The Trail Horse Test program which is being established by the Paso Fino Horse Association to:

1. Highlight the pleasure of a trained and responsive trail horse.
2. Set non-competitive goals for the horse in an effort to improve both horse and rider.
3. Provide a structured method to judge a trail horse.
4. Recognize the harmony between horse and rider where there is good communication between them.

This is the first year of the Trail Horse Test program. The grant funding will help introduce this program in Virginia. Our long term goal is to hold multiple tests throughout Virginia whereby we encourage more horse participation. It is our feeling that we can introduce a person to horse ownership with this educational program. The events promote camaraderie in a non-competitive supportive environment.

2. PROGRAM DETAILS:

2.1. Timeframe: VAPPFHA will hold two shows at the Virginia Horse Center in Lexington, Virginia, July 28-30, 2017. We plan to hold our Virginia Bred classes at these shows as well as our Largo races. In April, VAPPFHA will hold a clinic in association with our Trail Horse Test program. It will be a two day event held at one of our Virginia paso fino horse farms. Our president, Ms. Ann Howell has offered to host the tests at her farm which has a large arena in which to test the ground exercises and a trail through streams, valleys, and bridges over which to test the trail abilities of the horses.

2.2. Requirements:

- a) **VAPPFHA Shows** - The classes will be held in accordance with the current PFHA rule book and current United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) rules. The PFHA rule book may be accessed on the PFHA website at <http://www.pfha.org/association/rule-book>. Our show secretaries are independently contracted show secretaries who will adhere to the PFHA rule book and who will maintain and record the show results. Adhering to the rules specified in Attachment 2, Virginia Foster, the program's project lead, will verify the horse's eligibility and calculate the amounts to be paid to the Virginia Bred winners. An example of the spreadsheet used to calculate the winnings is provided in Attachment 3. Virginia Bred Cash Awards will be offered in all our classes held at our shows. Only horses foaled in the Commonwealth of Virginia will receive the Virginia Bred Cash Awards.
- b) **Largo Races** – Our Largo Races, which are held at the end of the show day, have been a great draw as far as participants and spectators. We conduct the race inside the show arena with the oval track marked by cones. We position four judges around the track whose job is to ensure the horses remain in gait, i.e. does not break into a canter. If a horse breaks gait, they must stop for 3 seconds. We will allow any paso fino horse to compete in the Largo Race, but only horses that were foaled in Virginia will be eligible to receive the Virginia Bred prize money. The winner is the first horse to cross the finish line.
- c) **Trail Horse Test** – This will be a two day event. The first day is a clinic which provides instruction on horsemanship and exercises on how to improve the athleticism and responsiveness of the horse. A dinner will be held the first evening where we will encourage participants to discuss the program and make suggestions for improvement. Rick Shaffer, a full time paso fino horse trainer, will be the judge for the Trail Horse Test conducted on the second day. Mr. Shaffer has been training all breeds of horses for over twenty years and specializes in helping amateur riders gain confidence.
Ten horses is the optimal number of horses for a single test event. If we receive more than ten interested in attending, we will conduct a second event during the spring of 2017. Attachment 4 is a description of this program and the tests that will be conducted.

2.3. Certification of Eligibility: The horses' eligibility to compete in any of our three Virginia Bred events will be certified by inspection of the PFHA Certificate of Registration which clearly lists the state in which the horse was foaled. Attachment 1 is an example of a PFHA Certificate of Registration.

2.4. Distribution of Grant Monies:

- a) **VAPPFHA Shows** – The total purse amount will be determined based upon the VHIB grant funds and the VPPFHA sponsorship funds. The total "purse" will be divided by the number of class entries of Virginia bred horses in all the classes for each show. A horse may be entered in multiple classes. Each entry will carry a set amount into the class. For example, if the total amount of grant funds and sponsorship funds is \$2,000 for both shows then each show will be allotted \$1,000. Then, if there are 50 Virginia bred horse entries in the first show, then each entry will carry \$20 into the class derived by dividing 1,000 by the 50 entries. The purse for each class will be the product of the numbers of Virginia bred horses in the class times the amount carried in by each entry. A class with 6 Virginia bred entries will have a purse of \$120 (6 horses times \$20 per horse). A class with only 1 Virginia bred entry will only have a purse of \$20. One hundred percent of the funds will be paid to the participants. The treasurer of the VPPFHA will mail checks to the winners within 6 weeks.
- b) **Largo Races:** - All of the funds allotted to the Largo Race will be paid to the two winners of the two largo races. We hope for a large purse so as to attract more "non-show" horse owners thereby building a larger community of paso fino enthusiasts. The treasurer of the VPPFHA will mail checks to the winners within 6 weeks.
- c) **Trail Horse Test:** - We will not be distributing cash awards to participants in the Trail Horse Test, rather we will distribute a \$20.00 participation award to each, such as a halter or a patch. We want to promote this startup program and feel that participants displaying the halters or patches as they trail ride will be the best advertisement.

3. Budget

- 3.1. **VAPPFHA Shows** – The participants will pay entry fees to compete at these PFHA/USEF sanctioned shows. These entry fees will be used to pay expenses for facilities, judges and show administration. All of the VHIB grant funds plus the VPPFHA matching funds will be distributed to the winning Virginia Bred participants.
- 3.2. **Largo Races:** - The participants will pay an entry fee of \$10.00 per horse. The VHIB grant funds and the VPPFHA matching funds will be distributed to the winning Virginia Bred participants. The VPPFHA will retain the entry fees.
- 3.3. **Trail Horse Test:** - The participants will pay an entry fee of \$20.00 per horse. The VHIB grant funds, the VPPFHA matching funds and the entry fees will pay for the following:
 - a) Judge's travel and lodging expenses. (\$450.00 for three days)
 - b) Judge's fee. (\$400.00 for two and a half days)
 - c) Small participation awards (\$20.00 per for 10 participants= \$200.00)
 - d) Food for the dinner and breaks during the test. (\$200.00)

4. Potential Impact and Expected Outcomes

Partnering with the VHIB has directly increased our association's membership. This increase in our membership directly affects our voice at the PFHA board of directors meetings. Our PFHA delegate voting power is determined by the number of members who have designated Virginia as their voting region. The more votes, the more influence we have at directing PFHA activities/events that would benefit Virginia.

An intangible impact is our desire to bring paso fino horse people together to forge the bonds of a community that can be united to advance the well being of the paso fino horse and together promote the Virginia horse industry.

5. Recognition of the Virginia Horse Industry Board: We appreciate the efforts of the VHIB and will recognize their participation by listing them as sponsors of our VAPPFHA Virginia Bred Program in our ads, websites, and entry forms. At our shows we will proudly display a large sign thanking the VHIB for their involvement and will have the show announcer mention the VHIB during the classes eligible to receive the Virginia Bred Cash Awards.

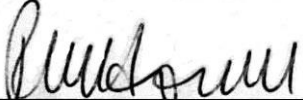
- 6. ATTACHMENTS:** The following attachments are included:
1. Example of a PFHA Certificate of Registration which shows the state in which the horse was foaled.
 2. 2017 VAPPFHA Virginia Bred Program Rules.
 3. VAPPFHA Virginia Bred Award Calculation Sheet.
 4. Trail Horse Test Overview and Judge's Scoring Sheet.

Thank you for the opportunity to further our support of promoting "the smoothest riding horse" bred in the Commonwealth, the Paso Fino Horse.

Signatures:

Virginia Foster, Project Leader

Date: _____



Rose Ann Howell VAPPFHA President

Date: _____