



AMERICAN QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION

2025 DIRECTOR APPLICATION

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS:

- Must be received in the AQHA office on/before February 1, 2025.
Type or print in blue or black ink, or complete electronically using Microsoft Word; may not be altered or amended; and must be four (4) pages only.
Utilize the space(s) provided; additional attachments will not be provided to the Nominations & Credentials Committee.
Submit a photo with your application; photo will not be returned.
Letters of recommendation should be sent directly to AQHA from the providing affiliate, individual, etc. and received prior to February 1, to be provided to the Nominations & Credentials Committee.
Unless otherwise indicated by applicant, application is submitted for Elected Director position created by a vacancy or new opening per Director allocation.

AQHA I.D. # (evidencing three consecutive and uninterrupted calendar years of AQHA membership immediately previous to the nomination date at the next Annual Convention):

AQHA I.D. # 3012152

Name: AMANDA I. DIKOFF

Address: 24502 BROPHY RD

City, State, Zip HERMOSA, SD 57744

Date of Birth: 3/4/89

Cell Phone #: 605-430-6234

Daytime Phone #:

Home Phone #:

Email Address: amanda.dikoff@hotmail.com

Fax #:

Occupation: rancher

Current Employer: self-employed

Number of American Quarter Horses in your or your business's name:

Number of American Quarter Horses in which you or your business is named as the breeder:

- Your primary area(s) of interest:
Racing [ ] Showing [x] Youth [ ] Recreational Riding [ ]
Ranching [x] Breeding [x] Education [ ] Public Policy [ ]

List the AQHA or AQHYA state/provincial/international Affiliate(s) you are or have been a member or officer of:

Table with 4 columns: Affiliates, Affiliates, Years(s), Years(s). Handwritten entries: SDQHYA, 2005-2008, SDQHA, 2009-2024.

Indicate any AQHA or AQHYA programs and the years during which you participated:

Form with two columns of checkboxes and years. Includes categories like AQHYA Officer or Director, AQHYA Racing Experience, Assoc. of Professional Horsemen, etc. Handwritten entries include 2008, 2006-2024, 2016, 2014-2018, 2024, and SDQHYA Officer 2006-2008.

## EQUINE/AGRICULTURE-RELATED ACTIVITIES

Specify any equine/agriculture related clubs or activities in which you have participated:

I was an active 4-H and FFA member, I still volunteer to help the 4-H kids grow their knowledge by helping with activities such as horse judging

List any leadership roles you have held through your equine-related activities:

Throughout my time in 4-H, FFA, SDQHPA and SDQHA I held officer positions in those organizations.

## ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Highest level of education completed:

Undergraduate

College/University you attended:

University of Phoenix

Years Attended:

2020

Major:

Medical Records

List any leadership roles you have held through your non-equine related activities:

What hobbies/civic involvement do you have other than those associated with horses?

I like making things by sewing, baking and carpentry work. I also enjoy gardening and most things outdoors. I am an avid reader, I relish expanding my knowledge on various subjects. I have a herd of commercial cattle, whom I spend a considerable amount of my time with.

Are you active in legislative/public policy issues in your state/province/country? If so, please describe.

No

Have you or your business been the subject of any AQHA or other equine organization(s)' investigations and/or disciplinary action(s) (including, but not limited to, fines, suspension, reprimand, disqualification, etc.) associated with rule violation(s)? If so, please explain the circumstances and outcome of such matter(s).

No

## REFERENCES:

- Letters of reference are recommended and would be helpful to the Nominations & Credential Committee, particularly a letter of support or endorsement from an equine related organization.

Any questions regarding the eligibility or requirements for becoming an AQHA Director should be directed to Shelly Spears at (806) 378-4712 or [SSpears@aqha.org](mailto:SSpears@aqha.org).

**In the space provided, please tell the Nominations and Credentials Committee why you would like to become an AQHA director. Please list issues for which you have an opinion and explain how you can make a positive impact on or changes to the American Quarter Horse industry.**

I am passionate about the American Quarter Horse, which means, I am also passionate about the Association. I am involved in many aspects of this great animal from breeding and showing to using them on the ranch. I hope to use my experience and knowledge to lead me on this journey.

On the breeding end of the business, I find it so rewarding to see how mares and studs cross. Some exceed expectations and others completely disappoint. I think the advances that are being made on the reproduction end are amazing but I still think it's important that we still remain somewhat true to nature. The genetic testing is also very important to me and I believe it's an amazing tool for responsible breeders to use. It gives breeders a baseline for the animal on whether they should want to use it to reproduce while also allowing them to improve the breed as well.

Moving on to the showing side of things, I want to make sure we are representing the breed well in the show pen. My main focus is on the ranch classes and I want to see them stay true to the original intentions. I know that it is a show and those show horses would most likely never survive a ranch life but I want people to see a glimpse into a life that a small percentage of people see nowadays. I want to be a voice for those people that I know from the ranching community.

I want to positively impact the AQHA community with the knowledge I have gained from those that have shared experiences and history with me. As well as continue gaining knowledge about the Association that I can use to positively impact the growth and popularity of the breed. I would take my knowledge and the opinion of others into consideration in my role as a director.

## VERIFICATION BY APPLICANT:

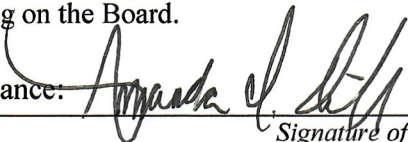
By signing below, I verify and warrant that I (1) am currently a member in good standing and (2) will have been a member in good standing for three consecutive and uninterrupted calendar years immediately prior to the nomination date for Directors at the next Annual Convention. Furthermore, I verify, warrant and agree that, if elected as a Director, I will:

- Meet and abide by all requirements for Directors set forth in Article III of AQHA's Bylaws.
- Remain an AQHA Member in good standing throughout my tenure, be subject to AQHA rules and regulations pertaining to membership conduct, and, in addition, my conduct shall favorably reflect on the Board of Directors and AQHA.
- In carrying out my role of providing service to AQHA and the Board, recognize the need to do so in a professional manner, and will deal with the membership, public and my colleagues with the highest degree of integrity.
- Adhere to the professional standards of AQHA and will work to further its goals and objectives.
- Recognize that even the appearance of misconduct or impropriety can be very damaging to the reputation of AQHA and the Board and will act accordingly.
- Ensure that the welfare of the American Quarter Horse is paramount and that every American Quarter Horse shall at all times be treated humanely and with dignity, respect and compassion.
- Instill confidence among the public in the American Quarter Horse industry, avoiding any action conducive to discrediting it or membership in the AQHA.
- Refrain from conduct that is detrimental to the interest of AQHA, its programs, policies, objectives and harmonious relationship of its members.
- Represent members of AQHA in a professional manner in matters pertaining to the business, property and activities of the AQHA.
- Assist in providing beneficial services for AQHA members and serve as a positive communication link between AQHA and its members.
- Be active in the American Quarter Horse industry through attendance and/or participation at events or in my areas of interest.
- Be active and represent AQHA in a professional manner in my state/province or country's American Quarter Horse Affiliate and be visible and available to that organization's members.
- Promote AQHA programs, membership and the registration of eligible horses on a constant basis through contact with individuals and groups.
- Initiate communication with AQHA staff regarding constituents' issues.
- Actively participate on the standing committee to which I am appointed.
- Subscribe to *The American Quarter Horse Journal*.
- Attend AQHA's Annual Conventions, which includes a New Directors Briefing, at my own expense.
- Timely complete and return annual Director's report form.
- Timely complete and return Annual IRS Form 990 Reporting Questionnaire.
- Be actively involved with legislative affairs.
- Agree that my name and contact information will be published by AQHA.
- Within two years of appointment to the AQHA Board, at my own expense, attend a New Director's Orientation to visit AQHA's headquarters and the American Quarter Horse Hall of Fame.

I understand that serving as a Director is a privilege, not a right. If elected as a Director, I further agree that I will remain an AQHA Member in good standing throughout my tenure, be subject to AQHA rules and regulations pertaining to membership conduct, and, in addition, my conduct shall favorably reflect on the Board of Directors and AQHA. I understand an AQHA elected Director is subject to continual review by the Board, and may be removed by the Board of Directors with or without notice and formal hearing. Finally, I understand and agree that in order to promote candor, the deliberations, discussions and material reviewed by the Nominations and Credentials Committee are confidential, and I am not entitled to such information.

I hereby certify the statements recorded in this application are true and accurate. I understand if any statement presented in this application is untrue, I may be disqualified from being considered to serve on or, if later discovered, may be disqualified from serving on the Board.

My signature of acceptance:



*Signature of Applicant*

Date: 11/29/24

**COMPLETE AND RETURN APPLICATION VIA MAIL OR EMAIL FOR AQHA'S RECEIPT BY  
FEBRUARY 1, 2025**

**Mail: AQHA•Shelly Spears•1600 Quarter Horse Drive•Amarillo•Texas•79104•Email: [SSpears@aqha.org](mailto:SSpears@aqha.org)  
Application must be submitted with signature**