

Admired for their color and known for their ability to adapt easily to different tasks, for years the Spotted Mountain Horse has been a hidden treasure of the mountains. Capable and steadfast in the field as a work horse, as a loyal family friend, and by providing reliable transportation, this colorful breed has been a fundamental part of life in the Appalachian Mountains for years. The demand for a breed registry for these smooth, natural, 4-beat gaited horses was met in 2002 with the creation of the Spotted Mountain Horse Association, affiliated with the Kentucky Mountain Saddle Horse Association. Now, owners of these dependable loyal mountain horses have a place to register their horses. Although new, the Spotted Mountain Horse Association is currently one of the fastest growing breed registries in the world. As more and more people discover the comfortable ride and colorful presence of these beautiful horses, the demand for the spotted mountain horse will continue to grow. Whether you are looking for the perfect trail horse, a flashy show horse, or simply a backyard companion, the Spotted Mountain Horse is the perfect choice.



**FOR INFORMATION, CONTACT
Spotted Mountain Horse Association**

Kentucky Horse Park • 3870 Cigar Lane, Suite 210 • Lexington, KY 40511
Mailing Address: P. O. Box 1405 • Georgetown, KY 40324
Phone: 859-225-5674 • Fax: 859-252-9639
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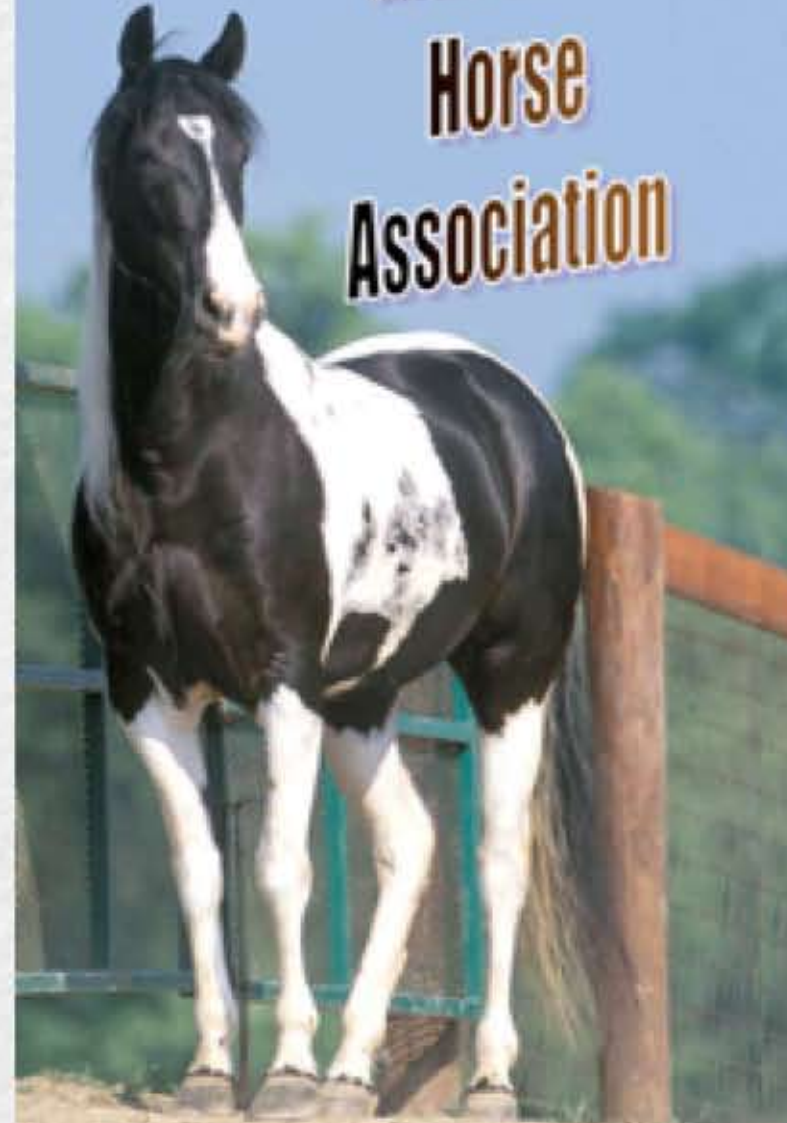
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**Spotted
Mountain
Horse
Association**



A Division of the Kentucky Mountain Saddle Horse Association

*Chocolate & White
Spotted Foal*

Welcome New Members

Membership in the Spotted Mountain Horse Association comes with a wide range of benefits for you and your family to enjoy. Members receive a subscription to the Kentucky Mountain Saddle Horse News, which lists trail rides, shows, and other equine events located across the states throughout the year. There is always an activity to participate in for you and your horse. For support and questions, the SMHA Registry keeps regular business hours during the week.



People Oriented



Youth Activities



Good Family Fun

Colorful Coat Patterns

Tobiano (pronounced: tow be yah' no)

- The dark color usually covers one or both flanks.
- Generally, all four legs are white, at least below the hocks and knees.
- Pattern of white markings that commonly take the form of large splashes.
- The head is usually dark except for a facial marking pattern – blaze, strip, star or snip.
- A tobiano may be either predominantly dark or white. The tail is often two colors. The eyes are usually dark.



Overo (pronounced: oh vair' oh)

- The white originates on the underside of the horse (belly) and will rarely cross the back of the horse between its withers and its tail.
- Generally, at least one and often all four legs are solid colored except for normal white markings.
- The white can be irregular, and is rather scattered or splashy.
- Head markings are predominately white, often bald, apron, or bonnet-faced.
- An overo may be either predominantly dark or white. The tail is usually one color. The eyes are commonly blue.



Sabino (pronounced: sa bean o)

- With color and markings similar to the roan, the Sabino is genetically different.
- Usually markings will be on the belly and appear to extend outward as patches that are flecked and roaned, with ragged edges. The legs often have white extending upward in peaks or points along the front or back of the leg bones; disconnected white leg markings are common.
- The face commonly has a lot of white.



White hairs can be found usually in abundance under the chin. The eyes on Sabinos are often blue and many have eyes that are partially blue and brown.

- Sabinos can be all or nearly pure white (appearing extensively roaned), though they will usually retain a patch of pigmented skin.

Tovero (pronounced: tow vair' oh)

- This horse will show characteristics of both overo and tobiano color patterns.
- Dark pigmentation around the ears, which may expand to cover the forehead and/or eyes.
- One or both eyes blue.
- Dark pigmentation around the mouth, which may extend up the sides of the face and form spots.
- Chest spot(s) in varying sizes. These may also extend up the neck.
- Flank spot(s) ranging in size with possibly smaller spots that extend forward across the barrel, and up over the loin.
- Spots, varying in size, at the base of the tail.



Registration



The Spotted Mountain Horse

Must Demonstrate the following Adopted Standards:

1. Have white body markings other than on the face and legs. The exception is a solid colored foal who has at least one parent registered with the SMHA.
2. The horse is expected to show intelligence along with an alert and willing attitude.
3. Give evidence of a smooth natural and even 4 beat gait under saddle. The "saddle gait" or as otherwise known as a step rack is recognized and defined as a smooth but distinct and INNATE natural 4-beat gait.
4. Be of good conformation based upon the adopted standards. Be well proportioned in the body, neck and legs.
5. Must stand not less than 11 hands (44") to 13.3 hands in height. (Class B registry) Most registered SMHA horses average between 14-16 hands. (Class A registry)

Notes:

- A. The above are the established standards for SMHA "certification" under saddle by a minimum of two certified Examiners, for all acceptable registered SMHA horses. All horses must be certified prior to the age of four and over.
- B. The SMHA foundation books are OPEN on Stallions and Mares and are also open for foundation registration of Geldings.



Trail Riding

Throughout the year you will find weekend trail rides and cookouts for members. SMHA offers a member trail riding club with participants receiving various awards based upon completed trail miles.

Show Opportunities

If you are interested in showing your Spotted Mountain Horse, classes are included in the Kentucky Mountain Saddle Horse show program. There are several different divisions including Western, Trail Obstacle, Country Trail Pleasure, Trail Pleasure, Classic Pleasure, Park Pleasure and Open Four Gait Pleasure. Classes are offered for Novice, Juvenile, Amateur, and Professional riders. Horses are not permitted to wear shoes heavier than a standard "keg" in all divisions. The Kentucky Mountain and Spotted Mountain International Grand Championship Horse Show is held in October at the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington, Kentucky each year.

