

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2023	5/16/2023	

## Rule Change Intent

The USHJA Junior Task Force would like to recommend raising the height of the Small Junior Hunter to 16.1 hands and under and the Large Junior Hunter to over 16.1 hands. The objective is to keep the Small Junior horse relevant with the times of the evolution of the horse becoming larger. Attached is Appendix A which illustrates unique horse height data of horses who have shown a minimum of five times in the Junior Hunters sections for the 2019, 2020 and 2021 calendar year. The three-year average for horses that are physically 16.0hh– 16.1hh is 6.37% competing in all of the Junior Hunter sections. Only 9.22% of horses competing in the Large Junior sections are physically 16.0-16.1hh. The data implies that physically smaller horses are the lowest percentages of horses competing in the Junior Hunters. Therefore, this indicates the physically smaller horses could be choosing not to compete in the Junior Hunter sections because they may not be competitive against the physically larger horses.

See appendix A and B for data:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1dMs3dWGSR\\_zlMvsGpP6SfwxWlIpSJUP/edit?usp=sharing&oid=106653559126804720561&rtpof=true&sd=true](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1dMs3dWGSR_zlMvsGpP6SfwxWlIpSJUP/edit?usp=sharing&oid=106653559126804720561&rtpof=true&sd=true)

This rule change allows impacted horses to be measured again without penalty in the 2024 competition year and addresses how points will be handled in the transition.

## Proponent Details

USHJA Board of Directors

## Contact Information

Katie Patrick

kpatrick@ushja.org

## Linked Rules

## Comments

## Committee Actions

## Competition Management

**Draft 1:** Recommends Approval 04/24/2023

## Council - Member Services

**Draft 1:** Recommends Disapproval 05/09/2023

**Draft 1:** The Council agrees with the intent of this rule change proposal, but feels that the current language is not specific enough to effectuate the desired result. The Council understands that clarifying language has been provided to USHJA to correct the proposal and the Council agrees that it would approve of this proposal if the wording were changed as follows: 2. All horses showing in the small Junior Hunter Section at Regular Competitions must have a Federation measurement card. a. A large Junior Hunter is over 16.1 hands, or any horse without a Federation measurement card, regardless of size. b. A small Junior Hunter is 16.01 hands and under with a Federation measurement card. c. Any Junior Hunter measuring from one section to another will not maintain points from prior section. d. Beginning December 1, 2023, and ending November 30, 2024, a one-time application may be made for Junior Hunters with a Large Junior Hunter standard measurement card to be measured for a new measurement card. 1. During this transition period, there will be no penalties for these horses to obtain a new measurement card and horses may immediately begin competing in the new section. 2. If a horse measures from the Large Junior Hunter section to the Small Junior Hunter section, only points earned in the Small Junior Hunter classes will be credited toward Horse of the Year awards. Exception: If a horse measures from the Large Junior Hunter section to the Small Junior Hunter section, points earned in the Large Junior Hunter section from the previous competition year will count toward qualification for competitions operating under HJ126.

## Council - Natl Breed &amp; Discipline

## National Hunter Committee

**Draft 1:** Recommends Disapproval 04/24/2023

**Draft 1:** 1. The language in the proposal should be updated to reflect the 2023 rulebook language. 2. The dates in points a and b should be changed to December 1, 2023, to correctly match the language in point 1 outlined in the proposal. 3. The committee is in favor of changing the heights of Small and Large Junior Hunter horses to the proposed heights. 4. The committee is in favor of points accumulating from both sections for qualifying purposes for competitions operating under HJ126, but the committee felt that if a horse measures from the Large Junior Hunter section to the Small Junior Hunter section, only points earned in the Small Junior Hunter classes should be credited toward Horse of the Year awards.

**Draft 1:** No Action 05/09/2023

USHJA

**Draft 1:** Recommends Approval 02/13/2023

2. All horses showing in the small Junior Hunter Section at Regular Competitions must have a Federation measurement card.
  - a. A large Junior Hunter is over 16.1 hands, or any horse without a Federation measurement card, regardless of size.
  - b. A small Junior Hunter is 16.01 hands and under with a Federation measurement card.
  - c. Any Junior Hunter measuring from one section to another will not maintain points from prior section.
  - d. ***Beginning December 1, 2023, and ending November 30, 2024, a one-time application may be made for Junior Hunters with a Large Junior Hunter standard measurement card to be measured for a new measurement card.***
    1. ***During this transition period, there will be no penalties for these horses to obtain a new measurement card and horses may immediately begin competing in the new section.***
    2. ***If a horse measures from the Large Junior Hunter section to the Small Junior Hunter section, only points earned in the Small Junior Hunter classes will be credited toward Horse of the Year awards.***
    3. ***Exception: If a horse measures from the Large Junior Hunter section to the Small Junior Hunter section, points earned in the Large Junior Hunter section from the previous competition year will count toward qualification for competitions operating under HJ126.***