

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Extraordinary	12/1/2022	9/21/2021	

## Extraordinary Change Reason

In early 2021, USEF President, Tom O'Mara, appointed the Competition Task Force to analyze all aspects of competition calendar management and address any existing issues identified through that process as expeditiously as possible to ensure that members have a calendar of events that meet their needs and those of their horses. Throughout the process, it became evident that there was a need for some proposals to be deemed as Extraordinary to meet the responsibility assigned to the task force. This proposal supports the rule changes approved by the USEF Board on August 30, 2021. These latest proposals are necessary to properly support the competition structure changes which address the need to increase access to USEF competitions and value for members. The expeditious application of these modifications will permit the Federation to fulfill its duty to responsibly manage the competition calendar and address members' requests to increase accessibility and enhance the value propositions offered by USEF competitions. This will alleviate the current hardship identified by members regarding their ability to participate in USEF competitions and benefit from the USEF framework of organized sport with protections for horses and humans.

## Rule Change Intent

To provide clarification regarding which hunter sections a Recorded "r" judge may adjudicate alone or independently at Premier rated competitions under the USEF Board-approved Hunter/Jumper competition and award channel restructure initiated by the approved rule change to GR307 (Tracking #209-20). These competition structure changes were created to address the needs and priorities identified by members and competitors:

- Safety, fairness, and enjoyment
- Accessibility based on location, cost, and offerings
- The opportunity to attend well-organized, appropriate quality competitions at all levels that comply with standards
- Meaningful recognition for horses and athletes at all levels
- Simplification of the sport

These changes are intended to take effect with the 2023 competition year.

## Proponent Details

Competitions Task Force

## Contact Information

Leslie Mangan

lmangan@usef.org

## Linked Rules

## Comments

## Committee Actions

Competition Management

National Hunter Committee

### GR1009 Registered Judge

1. A Registered judge ('R') may officiate alone at any competition in the divisions in which he is Registered.
2. Registered Dressage judges may officiate in classes at Fourth Level and below except for FEI Dressage Tests for 5 and 6-year-old horses. Registered Dressage judges may officiate in FEI Junior Tests, FEI Pony Tests, FEI Childrens Tests, FEI Para-Equestrian Dressage Tests, FEI and USEF Dressage Tests for 4-year-old horses, and USEF and FEI Eventing Dressage Tests at all levels. Registered Dressage judges may not officiate in any classes above Fourth Level.
4. ~~Rated Hunter sections at Premier competitions must be judged by two Registered ('R') judges.~~ A Registered Eventing judge may officiate the intermediate level and below (see also EV171.1c).
5. A Registered Western Dressage Judge may officiate at any level of Western Dressage including Western Dressage Suitability, Western Dressage Hack and Western Dressage Seat Equitation classes.

### GR1010 Recorded Judge

1. A Recorded judge 'r' may officiate alone or independently in the following divisions:
  - a. American Saddlebred;
  - b. Andalusian/Lusitano, except for National Championship competitions;
  - c. Arabian;
  - d. Carriage Pleasure Driving that do not exceed one day or an aggregate of eight hours judging time;
  - e. Connemara;
  - f. English Pleasure, refer to GR1005 for specific licenses required to officiate this division;
  - g. Friesian;
  - h. Hackney;
  - i. Morgan;
  - j. National Show Horse;
  - k. Reining;
  - l. Roadster;
  - m. Saddle Seat Equitation: in any open division except in the USEF Saddle Seat Medal Championship/Finals;
  - n. Shetland;
  - o. Vaulting: may also be President of the Ground Jury at any Federation licensed Vaulting competition.
2. The following divisions have specific limitations for 'r' recorded judges:
  - a. Combined Driving - A 'r' recorded Combined Driving judge may officiate at any level as a member of the ground jury. The President of the Ground Jury must be a Federation 'R' Registered Combined Driving judge.
  - b. Dressage - A Recorded Dressage judge may officiate at Second Level and below and may not officiate at the Third Level and above. Recorded Dressage judges may not officiate in FEI or USEF Dressage Tests for 4 and 5-year-old horses, FEI Childrens Tests, or in FEI Pony Tests, or FEI Para-Equestrian tests. Recorded Dressage judges may officiate in Eventing equivalent to Second Level or below. Recorded Dressage judges may officiate in Eventing Competitions at the Intermediate Level or below.
  - c. Eventing - A Recorded Eventing judge may officiate at the Preliminary level and below (see also EV169).
  - d. Hunter - A 'r' recorded judge ~~may~~ **is not permitted to** officiate alone or independently in a 'AA' **Premier** or 'A' **National** division or section. **Exception: Recorded 'r' judges are permitted to officiate alone or independently in the following sections: Children's Hunter, Children's Pony Hunter, Adult Amateur Hunter, Low Children's Hunter, Low Adult Amateur Hunter, Small Hunter, Thoroughbred Hunter, Ladies Side Saddle, Hunter and Pony Hunter Breeding, and any USHJA Hunter section.**
  - e. Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation - A 'r' recorded judge may not officiate alone or independently in any of the following Hunter/Jumping Seat Medal classes at a National or Premier rated Hunter competition: USEF Show Jumping Talent Search class, USEF Hunter Seat Medal Class, USEF Pony Medal Class, ASPCA Horsemanship class, WIHS Equitation, WIHS Pony Equitation, National PHA Medal class, USHJA Jumping Seat Equitation class.
  - f. Jumper - A 'r' recorded judge may not officiate alone or independently in a Jumper class offering more than \$2,500.
  - g. Paso Fino - A 'r' recorded judge may not officiate alone or independently in an 'A' or division or section.
  - h. Welsh - A 'r' recorded judge may not officiate alone or independently in a 'AA', 'A' or 'B' division or section, however a Federation licensed Hunter judge may officiate in 'A' rated Welsh Pony Hunter classes and 'A', 'B', and 'C' rated Welsh Pleasure classes without a Guest Card. See GR 1005.
  - i. A recorded ('r') Andalusian/Lusitano judge may officiate alone in any Andalusian/Lusitano class except for National Championship competitions.
  - j. A Recorded Western Dressage judge may officiate Introductory, Basic, and Level 1 only and also Western Dressage Suitability, Western Dressage Hack and Western Dressage Seat Equitation classes.

### GR1011 Special Judge

1. A Special judge is a Federation Competing Member already enrolled as a Recorded judge to whom the Licensed Officials Department may grant permission to officiate as a Registered judge in a division in which he is enrolled as a Recorded judge.

2. Such permission, which is not transferable, will be granted upon the request of a Licensed Competition for that competition only. The application must be made on the official form and accompanied by the required fee. The fee is non-refundable. The statement on the form that the competition holds itself responsible that the individual applied for is familiar with the Federation rules and is capable to officiate as requested must be signed by the competition manager.
3. Restrictions:
  - a. Special cards are not issued for the Dressage or Eventing Divisions.
  - b. Recorded hunter judges with Special judges' cards may **are** not **permitted to** officiate alone **or independently** in an 'AA' **Premier** or 'A' **National** rated hunter section. **Exception: Recorded 'r' judges are permitted to officiate alone or independently in the following sections: Children's Hunter, Children's Pony Hunter, Adult Amateur Hunter, Low Children's Hunter, Low Adult Amateur Hunter, Small Hunter, Thoroughbred Hunter, Ladies Side Saddle, Hunter and Pony Hunter Breeding, and any USHJA Hunter section.**
  - c. Recorded Saddle Seat Equitation judges may not receive a Special judges' card to officiate the USEF Saddle Seat Medal Championship/Final.
  - d. Special cards will not be issued to anyone whose application for re-enrollment, promotion or change of status has been denied by the Federation for the respective license applied for.
  - e. Authority to act as a Special judge will not be granted to any person more than twice in a lifetime, in a particular division without the approval of the Licensed Officials Committee Chairmen or their designee, and any two members of the Licensed Officials Committee.
4. Application must be received in the Federation office at least 21 days prior to the start of the competition. In cases where special applications are received prior to the competition, but less than 21 days prior, the competition must pay a processing fee. If management disputes that the application was not timely filed or that the above fine is not properly owing, it may request a procedural review of these issues before the Co-Chairs of the Hearing Committee or their designees, provided that the request is made in writing to the Federation within 30 days of management's receipt of the Federation's notice of fine, specifying the grounds for the procedural review. The Co-Chairs of the Hearing Committee or their designees may waive a part or all of the fee upon a finding of good cause why the application was not timely filed and/or a finding that extreme hardship results from the fee.

[...]

## HU116 Judges

1. In "A" **National** rated sections, at least **a minimum of one Registered** judge of Registered status must officiate. Recorded judges with Special judge's card may not officiate alone. **Exception: Judges of either Registered or Recorded status may officiate the following sections alone or independently: Children's Hunter, Children's Pony Hunter, Adult Amateur Hunter, Low Children's Hunter, Low Adult Amateur Hunter, Small Hunter, Thoroughbred Hunter, Ladies Side Saddle, Hunter and Pony Hunter Breeding, and any USHJA Hunter section.**
- ~~1. All judges who are assigned to a Conformation section must judge the Model class.~~
2. In Premier rated **sections**, a minimum of two **Registered** judges must officiate. They may officiate independently or together. If judging independently, no more than 60% of the classes in the section may be officiated by the same judge. (Exception: High Performance Working Hunter, Performance Hunter 3'6, Performance Hunter 3'3" and Pony Hunter sections held on one day). **BOD 8/30/21 Effective 12/1/2022. Exception: Judges of either Registered or Recorded status may officiate the following sections alone or independently: Children's Hunter, Children's Pony Hunter, Adult Amateur Hunter, Low Children's Hunter, Low Adult Amateur Hunter, Small Hunter, Thoroughbred Hunter, Ladies Side Saddle, Hunter and Pony Hunter Breeding, and any USHJA Hunter section.**
3. **Recorded judges with a Special Judge's card are not permitted to officiate alone or independently. Exception: see GR1011.3b.**
4. **All judges who are assigned to a Conformation section must judge the Model class.**