

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 clearly define that a multi-day Regional rated competition is limited to a maximum of three days, to establish that the maximum amount of prize money offered at a Regional-rated competition is limited to \$24,999, and to indicate how prize money can be reallocated at competitions of all ratings if sections do not fill. These proposed changes support 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	Contact Information
Competitions Task Force	Leslie Mangan
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Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Competition Management
Council - Member Services
National Hunter Committee

## **SUBCHAPTER HJ-4 COMPETITION SCHEDULING AND PRIZE MONEY**

See also GR901.21b, GR901.24 and Chapter GR3.

### **HJ109 Premier Rated Competitions**

1. Must be held and judged over a minimum of five (5) days on the same competition grounds.
2. Number of horse entries required for a Premier rated hunter or HJ competition is a minimum of two hundred (200).
3. A minimum of fifteen (15) **Premier** rated Hunter sections listed in GR312.6 must be offered.
4. A minimum of ten **Premier** rated hunter sections listed in GR312.6 must be held and judged. Ladies Side Saddle does not count towards these requirements.
5. Scheduling
  - a. A minimum of two performance classes from two different **Premier** rated Hunter sections must be scheduled and judged on four of the five days.
  - b. Classes in recognized sections must run on consecutive days. (Exception: Hunter Classics).
6. The High Performance Hunter section must be offered.
7. Prize Money
  - a. **A Premier rated competition must pay a minimum of \$75,000 in prize money in rated hunter sections and classes. If more than the minimum required is guaranteed, the guaranteed amount becomes the minimum required prize money payout. Add backs do not count towards the total prize money requirement. If an add-back is offered, the details must be provided in the prize list.**
  - b. ***Prize money from a section that did not fill and run may be reallocated in accordance with HJ116 to another section(s) that did fill.***
  - c. If sections are canceled or entries are insufficient to award all prize money, then additional money not awarded must be pooled and redistributed **as follows:**
    1. **60% of the pool to the champions of the remaining rated hunter sections in which prize money was paid, and**
    2. **40% of the pool to the reserve champions of the remaining rated hunter sections in which prize money was paid. BOD 8/30/21 Effective 12/1/22**

Model classes do not count towards the number of required classes to meet the rating requirement, therefore the prize money offered in Model classes cannot be used to determine the amount of required prize money to calculate the Premier rating.

### **HJ110 National Rated Competitions**

1. Must be held and judged over a minimum of three days on the same competition grounds.
2. Number of horse entries required for a National rated hunter or HJ competition is a minimum of seventy-five (75).
3. A minimum of ten **National** rated hunter sections listed in GR312.6 must be offered.
4. A minimum of five **National** rated hunter sections listed in GR312.6 must be held and judged. Ladies Side Saddle does not count towards these requirements.
5. Scheduling
  - a. A minimum of two performance classes from two different **National** rated Hunter sections must be scheduled and judged on each of the three days.
  - b. Classes in recognized sections must be held on consecutive days (Exception: Hunter Classics)
6. The High Performance Hunter section must be offered.
7. Prize Money

Minimum Prize Money paid - **A National rated competition must offer a minimum of \$5,000 and a maximum of \$74,999 in prize money in rated hunter sections and classes. A minimum of 80% of the total hunter money offered in rated hunter sections or classes must be paid out. If more than the minimum required is guaranteed, the guaranteed amount becomes the minimum required prize money paid out.**

- a. **Add backs do not count towards the total prize money requirement. If add backs are offered, the details must be provided in the prize list.**

- b. **Prize money from a section that did not fill and run may be reallocated in accordance with HJ116 to another section(s) that did fill.**
- c. If sections are cancelled or entries are insufficient to award all prize money, then additional money not awarded must be pooled and equally redistributed as follows:
  - 1. 60% of the pool to the champions of the remaining rated hunter sections in which prize money was paid, and
  - 2. 40% of the pool to the reserve champions of the remaining rated hunter sections in which prize money was paid.

Model classes do not count towards the number of required classes to meet the rating requirement, therefore the prize money offered in Model classes cannot be used to determine the amount of required prize money to calculate the National rating. *BOD 8/30/21 Effective 12/1/22.*

## HJ111 National Rated Junior/Amateur Restricted Competitions

1. Must be held on a minimum of two consecutive non-school days within the public school system, at the location of the competition, on the same competition grounds.
2. Two day National Junior/Amateur restricted competitions will have a Horse Entry Number requirement of fifty (50).
3. A minimum of six **National** rated Hunter sections listed in GR312.6 must be offered.
4. A minimum of three **National** rated hunter sections listed in GR312.6 must be held. Ladies side saddle does not count towards these requirements.
5. For scheduling see requirements for National Competitions (HJ110.5)
6. At Federation licensed Junior/Amateur competitions, the only rated Hunter sections that may be held are those which are restricted by definition to the participation of juniors and amateurs (example: Junior, Amateur, Children's, Adult and Pony). Exception: Pony Hunter Breeding and Hunter Breeding classes.
7. Prize Money
  - a. **At National competitions restricted to Juniors and/or Amateur a minimum of \$3,000 and a maximum of \$74,999 in prize money, must be offered in the rated Hunter sections and classes. A minimum of 80% of the total hunter money offered in rated hunter sections or classes must be paid out. If more than the minimum required is guaranteed, the guaranteed amount becomes the minimum required prize money paid out.**
  - b. **Add backs do not count towards the total prize money requirement. If add backs are offered, the details must be provided in the prize list.**
  - c. **Prize money from a section that did not fill and run may be reallocated in accordance with HJ116 to another section(s) that did fill.**
  - d. If sections are cancelled or entries are insufficient to award all prize money, then additional money not awarded must be pooled and redistributed as follows:
    - 1. 60% of the pool to the champions of the remaining rated hunter sections in which prize money was paid, and
    - 2. 40% of the pool to the reserve champions of the remaining rated hunter sections in which prize money was paid.

Model classes do not count towards the number of required classes to meet the rating requirement, therefore the prize money offered in Model classes cannot be used to determine the amount of required prize money to calculate the National rating. *BOD 8/30/21 Effective 12/1/22.*

## HJ112 Multi-Day Regional Rated Competitions

1. **A multi-day Regional rated competition is limited to a maximum of three (3) days.**
  1. At least three (3) **Regional** rated Hunter sections must be offered. **(Exception: competitions exclusively offering Hunter and/or Jumping Seat Equitation classes).** Divided sections count as a single section.
  2. No more than two (2) one-day Regional rated competitions, **or one (1) multi-day Regional competition may be held by the same licensee or any entity associated with the same licensee during any calendar week (Monday through Sunday). If the licensee is a business entity, this provision includes all persons listed as principals of the business entity. (See HJ122 and HJ123). BOD 8/30/21 Effective 12/1/22**
4. **Prize Money**
  - a. **At Multi-Day Regional competitions a minimum of \$0 and a maximum of \$24,999 in prize money, must be offered in the rated and miscellaneous hunter sections and classes. A minimum of 80% of the total hunter money offered in rated and miscellaneous hunter sections or classes must be paid out. If more than the minimum required is guaranteed, the guaranteed amount becomes the minimum required prize**

money paid out.

- b. Add backs do not count towards the total prize money requirement. If add backs are offered, the details must be provided in the prize list.
- c. Prize money from a section that did not fill and run may be reallocated in accordance with HJ116 to another section(s) that did fill.
- d. If sections are cancelled or entries are insufficient to award all prize money, then additional money not awarded must be pooled and redistributed as follows:
  - 1. 60% of the pool to the champions of the remaining rated hunter sections in which prize money was paid, and
  - 2. 40% of the pool to the reserve champions of the remaining rated hunter sections in which prize money was paid.

Model classes do not count towards the number of required classes to meet the rating requirement, therefore the prize money offered in Model classes cannot be used to determine the amount of required prize money to calculate the National rating.

## HJ113 One-Day Regional Rated Competitions

- 1. At least two (2) Regional rated sections must be offered. (Exception: competitions exclusively offering Hunter and/or Jumping Seat Equitation classes). Divided sections count as a single section. Competitions restricted to side saddle may offer a Ladies Hunter Side Saddle Section as the only "C" rated Hunter section.
- 2. No more than two (2) one-day Regional rated competitions or one (1) multi-day Regional competition may be held by the same licensee or any entity associated with the same licensee during any calendar week (Monday through Sunday). If the licensee is a business entity, this provision includes all persons listed as principals of the business entity. BOD 8/30/21 Effective 12/1/22

### 4. Prize Money

- a. At One-Day Regional ("B") competitions a minimum of \$0 and a maximum of \$24,999 in prize money, must be offered in the rated and miscellaneous hunter sections and classes. A minimum of 80% of the total hunter money offered in rated and miscellaneous hunter sections or classes must be paid out. If more than the minimum required is guaranteed, the guaranteed amount becomes the minimum required prize money paid out.
- b. Add backs do not count towards the total prize money requirement. If add backs are offered, the details must be provided in the prize list.
- c. Prize money from a section that did not fill and run may be reallocated in accordance with HJ116 to another section(s) that did fill.
- d. If sections are cancelled or entries are insufficient to award all prize money, then additional money not awarded must be pooled and redistributed as follows:
  - 1. 60% of the pool to the champions of the remaining rated hunter sections in which prize money was paid, and
  - 2. 40% of the pool to the reserve champions of the remaining rated hunter sections in which prize money was paid.

Model classes do not count towards the number of required classes to meet the rating requirement, therefore the prize money offered in Model classes cannot be used to determine the amount of required prize money to calculate the National rating.

[...]

## HJ116 Prize Money

### Total Prize Money in Rated Hunter Sections

Regional ("B") competitions	\$0 - \$50,000 \$24,999 offered in rated and miscellaneous hunter sections and classes. A minimum of 80% of the total money offered in rated and miscellaneous hunter sections or classes must be paid out.
National ("A") competitions	\$5000 - \$74,999 offered in rated hunter sections and classes. A minimum of 50%- 80% of the total money offered in rated hunter sections or classes must be paid out.
	\$75,000 and over must be paid out in rated hunter

1. Prize money offered in the open sections must be awarded on an escalating scale related to the height of fences.
2. No more than 60% of the prize money in the required classes for a Premier or National rated section may be offered on any one day when the division is held on two or more days, exception: Premier or National rated sections in which all required classes are held on one day. Prize money offered in Model classes at Premier rated competitions including add-back money, if any, in rated Hunter sections, does not count toward the minimum prize money required for a section's rating nor is it considered for purposes of determining 60% to be offered.
3. Prize money in all rated classes at all licensed competitions must be distributed as follows: a minimum of 30% for 1<sup>st</sup>, 22% for second, 15% for 3<sup>rd</sup>, with the balance to be distributed at competition management's discretion.
4. Ribbon winners must receive the applicable prize money offered for those placings.
5. Add backs do not count towards the total prize money requirement. If add backs are offered, the details must be provided in the prize list.
6. The following must be published in the competition prize list:
  - a. The total amount of hunter prize money being offered at the competition,
  - b. The minimum amount of guaranteed hunter prize money payout, and
  - c. The total amount of hunter prize money offered, guaranteed, and paid out by the competition in the prior year, unless the competition was not held.
7. The Federation may amend or waive the minimum required prize money payout if circumstances warrant. BOD 8/30/21 Effective 12/1/22
8. **Prize money offered in a section cannot be decreased if the section fills.**
9. **If a section does not fill and run, the prize money may be reallocated to another section(s) offered that does fill. However, the entry fee for the section where prize money was reallocated cannot be increased.**