



December 5, 2025

Kelsey Shanley, Athlete & Horse Services Director
United States Equestrian Federation, Inc.
4001 Wing Commander Way
Lexington, KY 40511
Sent via email: kshanley@usef.org

Dear Kelsey:

Thank you for submitting your request for a Presidential Modification to the application of USEF Transfer of Ownership rules GR1105, GR1107, GR1108, GR1110, GR1111, GR1132.1a, GR1133.1, GR1134.1, EQ103.1-.2, HU103.1a, and JP100.1-.2. A Presidential Modification is granted in cases of extraordinary, special circumstances. When measured against that criterion, it has been determined that your request meets the standard for a Presidential Modification and therefore is approved.

As a result, these rules will be modified as outlined in the attached document for the 2026 competition year until such time as the USEF Board of Directors approves these rule changes.

Please feel free to contact the Federation office if you need further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas F. X. O'Mara", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Thomas F. X. O'Mara
President

cc: William J. Moroney, CEO
Katlynn Wilbers, Competition Operations Director

Attachment

GR1105 Transfer of Ownership

1. Ownership of a Federation recorded horse may be transferred during the year without affecting the animal's points provided proper authorization and fee are received by the Federation. Authorization for transfer of ownership of a horse holding a recording with the Federation may be submitted in the form of a signed Federation recording certificate or a proper bill of sale. Authorization must be signed by the previously recorded owner(s). If these documents are unavailable, a Federation transfer Certification form may be obtained from the Federation which must be completed, signed and submitted to the Federation with proof of ownership. Transfer documents and payment must be submitted online. A horse will not be eligible to receive points under its new ownership until the conditions of GR1110 and GR1111 are met. The fees can be found on the horse transfer form at www.usef.org.
2. Authorization for transfer of ownership within a family (as defined in GR123) may be submitted online and signed by the previous owner(s) and the new owner(s). There is no fee to transfer a horse/pony within a family.
3. For Hunter/Jumper/Equitation divisions, all authorizations and all applicable fees for transfer of ownership and transfer of ownership within a family ~~must~~ also **should** be submitted to the USHJA office ~~in accordance with points 1-3.~~

Check with your Recognized Affiliate for Affiliate Program requirements regarding transfer of ownership requests and associated fees.

GR1107 Change of Name

1. The recorded name of a horse competing in divisions that do not require breed registration may be changed by submission of the recording certificate to the Federation accompanied by the required fee. The recorded name of a horse can also be changed by submitting the Horse Name Change Request form which lists the fee and can be found at www.usef.org. Name changes may also be submitted online via the owner's MY USEF account.
2. The recorded name of a farm, corporation, syndicate, or partnership may be changed by contacting the Federation office and remitting the required fee.
3. All name changes officially recorded with the Federation will be listed in equestrian.
4. For Hunter/Jumper/Equitation divisions, all name change requests and fees ~~must~~ also **should** be submitted to the USHJA office ~~in accordance with points 1-3.~~

Check with your Recognized Affiliate for Affiliate Program requirements regarding name change requests and associated fees

GR1108 Lease Registration

1. The Federation encourages all lessors of horses competing in Federation competitions to register the lease with the Federation. A recorded horse must be shown under a lessee's ownership provided an official lease is registered with the Federation.
2. For points to count with respect to any recorded horse at a Federation competition, such agreement or lease registration form (provided by the Federation) and fees must be received by the Federation office on or before the first day of such competition. The lessee becomes the bona fide owner of the horse for the period of the lease (except for Owner classes) for Federation award purposes. The horse must be entered in the ownership of the lessee and must be shown in accordance with GR1110.

3. To be official, a certified copy of a lease agreement or a lease registration form must be submitted and registered with the Federation and must be accompanied by the required fee. The Horse Lease Form which lists the fee can be found at www.usef.org. Either document must contain a start and end date and be signed by the lessee and the lessor. If a lease is not renewed within 30 days of its expiration, a later renewal will require an additional fee. The lease registration with the Federation will then be effective the day the renewal is received by our office.
 4. A written statement of termination must be submitted signed by the lessee and the lessor if the lease is terminated before the end date stated in the lease registration form.
 5. The Federation does not accept agent signatures.
 6. For measurement purposes, the lessor must be an active Federation competing member in good standing at the time of measurement.
 7. For Hunter/Jumper/Equitation divisions, all lease registrations and fees ~~must~~ also **should** be submitted to the USHJA office ~~in accordance with points 1-5.~~
- Check with your Recognized Affiliate for Affiliate Program requirements regarding lease registrations and associated fees.***

GR1110 General

1. Points toward any Horse of the Year Award will not be credited until the applications and fees for the horse's recording, exhibitor's registration, transfer of ownership, name change or addition of owner(s) and owner's Senior Active, Junior Active or Life membership are received by the Federation offices. For these points to count with respect to any competition, the required materials and fees must be received by the Federation on or before the first licensed day of such competition. ~~Furthermore, points toward any Horse of the Year Awards defined in GR1132, GR1133 or GR1134, will not be credited until the applications and fees for the horse's USHJA Horse Registration and the owner's USHJA Active or USHJA Life membership are received by the USHJA offices.~~ Exception: Applications for Federation and USHJA Individual Membership and Horse Recordings submitted online at Licensed Competitions:
 - a. For Dressage Competitions:
 1. Applications completed online at the competition are effective the date the application is submitted.
 - b. For all Competitions other than Dressage Competitions:
 1. Applications completed online at the competition are effective, for points and eligibility to compete only, on the start date of the Competition.
2. A horse must be recorded with the Federation, and the name of at least one individual appearing on the horse recording certificate as owner must be that of a Senior Active, Junior Active or Life Member in good standing. For Hunter/Jumper/Equitation divisions, a horse must be registered with USHJA and at least one individual appearing on the horse registration as an owner must be a USHJA Active or Life member in good standing. If the horse is leased at the time of the competition, per GR1108, the lessee is considered the owner (exception all Owner classes) and must be a Senior Active, Junior Active or Life Member in good standing. For Hunter/Jumper/Equitation divisions, the lessee ~~must also be recorded with the USHJA, and must be an Active USHJA Member in good standing.~~ If the recorded owner is a farm/stable, corporation or any name other than that of a person, refer to GR1106. For the purposes of accruing Federation points, the horse must be entered and shown in the ownership of an individual or entity, including a member of the owner's family, who is included on the Federation horse

recording certificate. Effective date of ownership is the day written authorization is received by the Federation offices. ~~Furthermore, for the purposes of accruing points in the Hunter/Jumper/Equitation divisions, the horse must be entered and shown in the ownership of an individual or entity, including a member of the owner/s family who is included on the USHJA horse recording certificate. Effective date of ownership is the day written authorization is received by the USHJA Offices.~~

3. If the owner, rider, animal, and trainer are all in good standing and an error occurs on the entry blank (i.e. the wrong USEF number is written, the old owner is written in error, the correct number but incorrect spelling is written, etc.), HOTY points may be awarded after review by the Federation.
4. No points can be credited toward an award unless the Federation recorded name and Horse Recording number of the horse and the Federation recorded owner or lessee's name and membership number appears in the competition's records (i.e., result sheets or catalogue) as exhibited in the name of the Federation recorded owner or, if the horse is leased, under the ownership of the lessee as required under GR1108. ~~Furthermore, no points can be credited toward an award in Hunter/Jumper/Equitation divisions, unless the USHJA recorded name and horse registration number and the USHJA recorded owner or lessee's name and membership number appears in the competition's records (i.e., result sheets or catalogue) as exhibited in the name of the USHJA recorded owner or, if the horse is leased, under the ownership of the lessee as required by GR 1108.~~
5. Failure to comply with the rules respecting eligibility for points will result in points not counting for Federation and USHJA purposes and awards. Points standings are available on the Federation website, www.usef.org, and it is the responsibility of exhibitors to check standings and call to the Federation's attention any omissions or inaccuracies. As a service to members the Federation may from time to time advise exhibitors when points are not able to be counted, but the responsibility for checking standings and ensuring that eligibility requirements are met remains solely with the exhibitors.

GR1111 National, Regional and Zone Awards

4. Horses are eligible for Zone Awards only within the home zone of the entry's ~~USHJA~~ recorded owner(s), exception Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation, the rider's home residence will be used. However, points won at competitions in states contiguous to an exhibitor's home zone, or in Canadian provinces if contiguous to an exhibitor's home zone, will also count if the state or Canadian province has been designated as provided below.
5. For purposes of distributing Zone Awards, refer to Zone map.
6. An owner's residence at the time they apply for or renews their membership will be maintained throughout the competition year and is considered their home district, region or zone for the purposes of counting points. For a Life Member, their residence on December 1st will be used for this purpose. If the recorded owner moves their residence during the year to a new district, region, or zone, points can be accumulated in the new location provided the owner declares in writing to the Federation that the new district, region or zone will be their home district, region, or zone. The declaration must be received by the Federation office on or before the first licensed day of a competition for points to be counted for that competition. See also JP101.
7. If the recorded ownership of the horse is transferred, valid points earned by the previously recorded owner will be retained in their home district, region, or zone. Points are not transferable from one district, region, or zone to another.
8. Horses showing under multiple ownership involving more than one district, region, or zone must have one home district, region or zone declared for the purpose of these Awards. This declaration must be made in writing to the Federation office by March 1st of the current year or within 30 days of receipt of horse recording application and must be signed by each bona fide owner. Effective date of

declaration is the day the written authorization is received by the Federation office and for points to count, the declaration must be received by the Federation office on or before the first day of the competition. If only one owner is a Federation Member in good standing, this person's residency will automatically become the entry's home district, region, or zone.

9. If the horse is recorded under the ownership of a registered farm, the residence of the farm's owner is the entry's home district, region, or zone. If the owners of a farm reside in different districts, regions, or zones see paragraph 8 above.
10. For changes or updates according to points 6, 7, 8, and 9, USHJA ~~must~~ **should** also be notified.

GR1132 Hunter and Equitation Divisions

1. Eligibility

- a. Points toward any Horse of the Year Award for the Hunter Division will not be credited until the applications and fees for the horse's recording, exhibitor's registration, transfer of ownership, name change or addition of owner(s) and owner's Senior Active, Junior Active or Life membership are received online by the Federation offices. Furthermore, points toward any Horse of the Year Awards for the Hunter Division will not be credited until the applications and fees for the horse's USHJA Horse Registration, ~~transfer of ownership, name change, or addition of owner(s)~~ and the owner's USHJA Active or USHJA Life membership are received by the USHJA offices. Exception: Applications for USHJA Individual Membership and USHJA Horse Registrations submitted at Licensed Competitions.

GR1133 Pony Hunter Breeding and Hunter Breeding

1. Eligibility

Points toward any Horse of the Year Award will not be credited until the applications and fees for the horse's recording, exhibitor's registration, transfer of ownership, name change or addition of owner(s) and owner's Senior Active, Junior Active or Life membership are received online by the Federation. Furthermore, points toward any Horse of the Year Awards will not be credited until the applications and fees for the horse's USHJA Horse Registration, ~~transfer of ownership, name change or addition of owners(s)~~ and the owner's USHJA Active or USHJA Life membership are received by the USHJA offices. Exception: Applications for USHJA Individual Membership and Horse Recordings submitted at Licensed Competitions.

GR1134 Jumpers

1. Eligibility.

Points toward any Horse of the Year Award will not be credited until the applications and fees for the horse's recording, exhibitor's registration, transfer of ownership, name change or addition of owner(s) and owner's Senior Active, Junior Active or Life membership are received by the Federation. Furthermore, points toward any Horse of the Year Awards will not be credited until the applications and fees for the horse's USHJA Horse Registration, ~~transfer of ownership, name change or addition of owner(s)~~ and the owner's USHJA Active or USHJA Life membership are received by the USHJA offices. Exception: Applications for USHJA Individual Membership and Horse Recordings submitted at Licensed Competitions.

EQ103 Eligibility to Compete

1. In order to compete in any Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation classes at licensed competitions as an exhibitor, rider, trainer, or their agent(s), a person must be an Active member of the United States Hunter Jumper Association, Inc., or pay a Show Pass fee to the United States Hunter Jumper Association, Inc. Exception: Local Competitions and ex-ceptions listed in GR901.9. Exception: Breed restricted Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation classes.

2. USHJA Horse Registrations.

- a. All horses competing in Federation licensed and/or USHJA sanctioned competitions with Hunter, Hunter Breeding, Jumper and Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation classes (except those activities enumerated in GR901.9, items 1-9) not restricted by breed must be properly identified in accordance with GR1101, and must also be registered with USHJA (See GR1101.1). ~~Any change of a horse's name and/or ownership must be recorded with Federation and USHJA in accordance with GR1105 and GR1107.~~ The USEF **recording and** USHJA registration number for each horse must be entered on all entry forms for licensed competitions. ***Check with your Recognized Affiliate for Affiliate Program requirements regarding changes to horse's name, lease, and/or ownership and associated fees.***
- b. Applications for USHJA Registration can be completed online at ushja.org using the USHJA Horse Registration application form. This form is also available from the USHJA office, as a download from the USHJA website or from competition management. Competition management is responsible for notifying exhibitors of this requirement in their prize list.

HU103 Competition Requirements – Horse & Pony

1. USHJA Horse Registrations.

- a. All horses competing in Federation licensed and/or USHJA sanctioned competitions with Hunter, Hunter Breeding, Jumper and Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation classes (except those activities enumerated in GR901.9, items 1-9) not restricted by breed must be properly identified in accordance with GR1101, and must also be registered with USHJA (see GR1101.1). ~~Any change of a horse's name and/or ownership must be recorded with the Federation and USHJA in accordance with GR1105 and GR1107.~~ The USEF **recording and** USHJA registration number for each horse must be entered on all entry forms for licensed competitions. ***Check with your Recognized Affiliate for Affiliate Program requirements regarding changes to horse's name, lease, and/or ownership and associated fees.***
- b. Applications for USHJA Registration can be completed online at www.ushja.org using the USHJA Horse Registration application form. This form is also available from the USHJA office, as a download from the USHJA website or from competition management. Competition management is responsible for notifying exhibitors of this requirement in their prize list.

JP100 Eligibility

1. In order to compete in any Jumper classes at licensed competitions as an exhibitor, rider, trainer, or their agent(s), a person must be an Active member of the United States Hunter Jumper Association, Inc., or pay a Show Pass fee to the United States Hunter Jumper Association, Inc. Exception: Local Competitions, competitions restricted to a particular breed, and exceptions listed in GR901.9.

2. USHJA Horse Registrations

- a. All horses competing in Federation licensed and/or USHJA sanctioned competitions with Hunter, Hunter Breeding, Jumper and Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation classes (except those activities enumerated in GR901.9, items 1-9) not restricted by breed must be properly identified in accordance with GR1101, and ~~must~~ **should** also be registered with USHJA (see GR1101.1). The USEF/USHJA registration number for each horse must be entered on all entry forms for licensed competitions. ***Check with your Recognized Affiliate for Affiliate Program requirements regarding changes to horse's name, lease, and/or ownership and associated fees.***
- b. Applications for USHJA Registration can be completed online at www.ushja.org or www.usef.org using the USEF Horse Registration application form. Competition management is responsible for notifying exhibitors of this requirement in their prize list.