

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Extraordinary	12/1/2022	9/21/2021	Approved 11/22/2021

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. Those initial rule changes 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 to the nomenclature associated with Hunter-rated competitions and rated Hunter sections outlined in the USEF Board-approved Hunter competition structure and the two distinct competition channels for Hunter competitions 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 lmangan@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/08/2021
Council - Intl Discipline Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/09/2021
Council - Member Services Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/09/2021

CHAPTER 3 COMPETITION LICENSING

SUBCHAPTER 3-B COMPETITION CLASSIFICATION

GR307 Classification

1. Licensed Competitions may be classified as Regular Competitions, Local Competitions, Eventing Competitions, Dressage Competitions, Driving Competitions, Endurance Competitions, Reining Competitions, and Vaulting Competitions.
2. Divisions and sections of Regular Competitions are classified as follows for the purpose of reckoning points toward the Federation Annual Horse of the Year Awards. (Exception: Jumper Division, see GR1114):
 - a. A, B, or C; **or Premier (“AA”), National (“A”) or Regional (“B”) hunter**, or
 - b. To include any of the following, individually or combined:
 1. Andalusian/Lusitano;
 2. Arabian;
 3. Friesian;
 4. Hackney;
 5. National Show Horse;
 6. Morgan;
 7. Roadster;
 8. American Saddlebred;
 9. Shetland;
 10. English Pleasure. *BOD 8/30/21 Effective 12/1/22*
3. Divisions and sections of Local, Dressage, Driving Competitions, Endurance Competitions, Reining Competitions, Vaulting Competitions, and Eventing Competitions are not rated. However, Dressage Competitions are categorized by levels.
4. Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation classes must be held at a competition that holds at a minimum, a **Regional Hunter Rating**. Competitions choosing to offer only Hunter and/or Jumping Seat Equitation classes must obtain a **Regional Hunter License**, and the **Regional** mileage will apply (see GR314 Mileage). *BOD 8/30/21 Effective 12/1/22*
5. Federation Endorsed Competitions, Divisions, or Levels or those events receiving approval pursuant to the Federation Bylaws.
 - a. Eventing competitions may be eligible for either licensure or endorsed designation. The Federation may endorse Eventing competitions at the Training Level and below. The Federation may license Eventing competitions at the Modified Level and above. An Eventing Licensed Competition and an Eventing Endorsed Competition may run concurrently.

[...]

GR311 Awards Rating Classifications

1. For the purpose of equalizing competitions for the National Horse of the Year Awards, divisions and sections of Regular Competitions fall into one of three classifications: “A”, “B,” or “C” rated **or Premier, National or Regional hunter**.
2. **In the Hunter division, points for ribbons won in any rated section will be awarded in two awards channels using the applicable point chart. Channel I includes Premier and National rated hunter competitions and Channel II includes Regional rated hunter competitions. Points earned in a channel are exclusive to that award channel. BOD 8/30/21 Effective 12/1/22**
 - a. In the Green Hunter 3’0”, 3’3”, 3’6” and 3’9”, Young Hunter 5 and under, Young Hunter 6 and under, Young Hunter 7 and under, High Performance Hunter, Performance Hunter 3’3” and 3’6”, Green Conformation Hunter 3’6” and High Performance Conformation Hunter, standings for the National Horse of the Year Awards based on money won will be determined by dollars won in the horses respective sections. See GR1131.

GR312 Determining Ratings

1. A division or section rating or classification is determined from the number of classes, amount of cash premiums offered in these classes and the holding of required classes in certain divisions. A competition may not offer the minimum requirements for a rating higher than the rating approved by the Federation. **Exception: Hunter competitions**. See Ratings Charts.
2. A competition may qualify for several different ratings. Some competitions will earn an “A” or “B” rating in all

divisions and sections; others may earn a combination of ratings. **Exception: Hunter competitions will qualify for one rating, Regional, National or Premier.** If more than the minimum number of classes is offered, prize money should be increased proportionately.

3. The Paso Fino Division is rated "C" regardless of the number of classes or amount of prize money offered. A competition may apply for an "A" rating if offering a minimum of \$2,000 and prior year competition had more than 250 horses. The PFHA National show shall be an "A" rated Federation Licensed Competition as per PF155.1i. Exception: the Paso Fino Division may be offered at Local Competitions.
4. In Stake classes in "A" and "B" divisions or sections **or at Premier and National hunter competitions**, competitions must guarantee amount offered as prize money except where the monies offered in other classes are sufficient to meet the Horse of the Year Award minimum requirements. In such cases, Stake classes may run as sweepstakes. **BOD 8/30/21 Effective 12/1/22**
5. The Connemara and Half-bred Connemara is "C" rated, regardless of the number of classes or amount of prize money offered. Exception: the Connemara and Half-bred Connemara Division may be offered at Local Competitions.

6. Rated Hunter Section & Classes

HUNTER SECTION RATINGS AND CLASSES	Premier/National ("AA"/"A") Required Classes Min-Max Required Classes	Premier/National ("AA"/"A") Min Money	Regional ("B") Multi-Day Comp Min/Max Required Classes	Regional ("B") One Day Comp Min/Max Required Classes	Regional ("B") Min
Open Hunter Sections					
Green Conformation Hunter	4-6*	500	3-5***	3-4***	0
High Performance Conformation Hunter	4-6*	500	3-5***	3-4***	0
High Performance Hunter	3-5	750	3-5***	3-4***	0
Performance Hunter 3'3"	3-5	400	3-5***	3-4***	0
Performance Hunter 3'6"	3-5	500	3-5***	3-4***	0
Green Hunter Sections					
Green Hunter 3'0"	4-6	500	3-5***	3-4***	0
Green Hunter 3'3"	4-6	500	3-5***	3-4***	0
Green Hunter 3'6"	4-6	500	3-5***	3-4***	0
Green Hunter 3'9"	4-6	500	3-5***	3-4***	0
Young Hunter Sections					
Young Hunter 5 and under	3-5	0	3-5***	3-4***	0
Young Hunter 6 and under	3-5	0	3-5***	3-4***	0
Young Hunter 7 and under	3-5	0	3-5***	3-4***	0
Amateur Owner Hunter Sections					
Amateur Owner Hunter 3'6" 18-35	4-6*	500	3-5***	3-4***	0
Amateur Owner Hunter 3'6" 36 & over	4-6*	500	3-5***	3-4***	0
Amateur Owner Hunter 3'3" 18-35	4-5	500	3-5***	3-4***	0
Amateur Owner Hunter 3'3" 36 & over	4-5	500	3-5***	3-4***	0
Junior Hunter Sections					
Small Junior Hunter 3'6" 15 & under	4-5*	500	3-5***	3-4***	0
Small Junior Hunter 3'6" 16- 17	4-5*	500	3-5***	3-4***	0
Large Junior Hunter 3'6" 15	4-5*	500	3-5***	3-4***	0

& under					
Large Junior Hunter 3'6" 16-17	4-5*	500	3-5***	3-4***	0
Small Junior Hunter 3'3" 15 & under	4-5*	500	3-5***	3-4***	0
Small Junior Hunter 3'3" 16-17	4-5*	500	3-5***	3-4***	0
Large Junior Hunter 3'3" 15 & under	4-5*	500	3-5***	3-4***	0
Large Junior Hunter 3'3" 16-17	4-5*	500	3-5***	3-4***	0

Hunter & Green Hunter Pony Section

Small Pony Hunter	4-5*	400	3-5***	3-4***	0
Medium Pony Hunter	4-5*	400	3-5***	3-4***	0
Large Pony Hunter	4-5*	400	3-5***	3-4***	0
Green Small Pony Hunter	4-5*	250	3-5***	3-4***	0
Green Medium Pony Hunter	4-5*	250	3-5***	3-4***	0
Green Large Pony Hunter	4-5*	250	3-5***	3-4***	0

Children's Hunter Sections+

Children's Hunter Younger	4-6/3-5	0	3-5***	3-4***	0
Children's Hunter Older	4-6/3-5	0	3-5***	3-4***	0
Children's Hunter Pony Small/Medium	4-6/3-5	0	3-5***	3-4***	0
Children's Hunter Pony Large	4-6/3-5	0	3-5***	3-4***	0

Low Children's Hunter Horse

4-6/3-5 0 3-5* 3-4*** 0**

Low Children's Hunter Pony

4-6/3-5 0 3-5* 3-4*** 0**

Adult Amateur Hunter Sections+

Adult Amateur Hunter Younger	4-6/3-5	0	3-5***	3-4***	0
Adult Amateur Hunter Middle	4-6/3-5	0	3-5***	3-4***	0
Adult Amateur Hunter Older	4-6/3-5	0	3-5***	3-4***	0

Low Adult Amateur Hunter

4-6/3-5 0 3-5* 3-4*** 0**

Miscellaneous Hunter Sections

Ladies Side Saddle	4-6/3-5	0	3-5***	3-4***	0
Hunter Breeding	4-6/3-5	0	3-5***	3-4***	0
Small Hunter	4-6/3-5	0	3-5***	3-4***	0
Thoroughbred Hunter	4-6/3-5	0	3-5***	3-4***	0

USHJA Hunter Sections

USHJA Hunter 2'0"	3-5	0	3-5***	3-4***	0
USHJA Hunter 2'3"	3-5	0	3-5***	3-4***	0
USHJA Hunter 2'6"	3-5	0	3-5***	3-4***	0
USHJA Hunter 2'9"	3-5	0	3-5***	3-4***	0
USHJA Hunter 3'0"	3-5	0	3-5***	3-4***	0

Other Rated Classes

USHJA International

Hunter Derby

USHJA International Hunter Derby Welcome

USHJA National Hunter Derby

USHJA Green Hunter Incentive

USHJA Green Hunter Challenge

USHJA Pony Hunter Derby

Hunter Classics

BOD 11/22/21 Effective 12/1/22

(+ Denotes sections which may have USHJA Zone Specifications that govern number of classes and prize money)
(*See HU161.3, HU117 regarding Model Classes, and other class requirements).

See HU150.2 for requirements regarding minimum number of classes to award a championship.

***No more than two (2) one-day **Regional 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 HJ422**112** and HJ423**113**). **BOD 11/22/21 Effective 12/1/22**

7. All classes offered in a licensed Open Western Division shall be conducted in accordance with GR818, unless the competition has applied for and received a rating. (See ratings chart GR312.)
8. Any breed-restricted division, or combination of breed-restricted divisions, may be offered at Local Regular Competitions, in accordance with GR310.
9. **IMPORTANT:** See Chapter HU and HJ. There are special conditions and requirements for determining the ratings of Hunter sections. Management's attention is directed to these conditions in particular, HU131 and HJ127 - 133.

SUBCHAPTER 3-C COMPETITION MILEAGE

GR314 Mileage

[...]

3. Mileage Boundaries. Mileage consideration may be applicable to more than one mileage provision.
 - a. The below divisions will be conducted under the following mileage:
 1. Andalusian/Lusitano: 250 miles;
 2. Arabian: 250 miles;
 3. Friesian: 250 miles;
 4. Hackney: 100 miles;
 5. Morgan: 100 miles;
 6. National Show Horse: 50 miles;
 7. Roadster: 100 miles;
 8. Shetland: 100 miles;
 9. American Saddlebred: 100 miles;
 10. Local Regular: Any breed competition restricted to one breed or multi-breed competition including any of the above listed breeds (1-9), regardless of number of classes offered: 50 miles;
 11. Western Dressage: 100 miles.
 - b. Mileage Boundaries for Hunter and/or Jumper Sections.
 1. Hunter and/or Jumper competitions are categorized by Rating and/or Level. Additional criteria required for each Rating and/or Level in the Hunter and Jumper Mileage Charts can be found on the Federation website at www.usef.org under Competitions.
 2. Jumper Levels are based on the prize money offered. See JP104.
 3. Hunter mileage shall be independent of the Jumper mileage and applied separately to each division of a

competition.

- The distances between Licensed Competitions held in USHJA Zones 1 & 2 (ME, NH, VT, MA, CT, RI, NJ, NY, and PA) offering hunter or jumper divisions shall be in accordance with the mileage tables (H1 & J1) shown below effective 12-01-08.

Hunter Mileage Chart – H1 USHJA Zones 1&2				
Priority Date Holders	New Competitions w/ Same Rated Division			
		Premier (“AA”)	National (“A”)	Regional (“B”)
	Premier (“AA”)	125	125	0
	National (“A”)	125	125	0
	Regional (“B”)	0	0	50

Jumper Mileage Chart – J1 USHJA 1 & 2						
Priority Date Holders	New Competitions w/ Same Rated Division					
		Level 5 & 6	Level 4	Level 3	Level 2	Level 1
	Level 5 & 6	125	125	90	0	0
	Level 4	125	125	90	0	0
	Level 3	90	90	75	0	0
	Level 2	0	0	0	0	0
	Level 1	0	0	0	0	0

The distances between Licensed Competitions held in USHJA Zones 3 thru 10 and Canada [with the exception of Florida in the first trimester - December through March – see GR314.5] offering hunter or jumper divisions shall be in accordance with the mileage tables (H2 & J2) shown below effective 12-01-08.

Hunter Mileage Chart – H2 USHJA Zones 3 thru 12 and Canada (excluding FL in 1st trimester)				
Priority Date Holders	New Competitions w/ Same Rated Division			
		Premier (“AA”)	National (“A”)	Regional (“B”)
	Premier (“AA”)	250	250	0
	National (“A”)	250	250	0
	Regional (“B”)	0	0	50

Jumper Mileage Chart – J2 USHJA Zones 3 thru 12 and Canada (excluding FL in 1st trimester)						
Priority Date Holders	New Competitions w/ Same Rated Division					
		Level 5 & 6	Level 4	Level 3	Level 2	Level 1
	Level 5 & 6	250	250	100	0	0
	Level 4	250	250	100	0	0
	Level 3	200	200	100	0	0
	Level 2	0	0	0	0	0
	Level 1	0	0	0	0	0

- The distances between Licensed Competitions held in Florida in the first trimester (December through March) offering hunter or jumper divisions shall be in accordance with the mileage tables (H3 & J3) shown below effective 12-01-08.

Hunter Mileage Chart – H3 (1st trimester Florida)				
Priority Date Holders	New Competitions w/ Same Rated Division			
		Premier (“AA”)	National (“A”)	Regional (“B”)
	Premier (“AA”)	225	200	0
	National (“A”)	200	200	0
	Regional (“B”)	0	0	50

Jumper Mileage Chart – J3 (1st trimester Florida)						
Priority Date Holders	New Competitions w/ Same Rated Division					
		Level 5 & 6	Level 4	Level 3	Level 2	Level 1
	Level 5 & 6	225	200	100	0	0
	Level 4	200	200	100	0	0
	Level 3	200	200	100	0	0
	Level 2	0	0	0	0	0
	Level 1	0	0	0	0	0

BOD 8/30/21 Effective 12/1/22

SUBCHAPTER HJ-1 INTRODUCTION TO HUNTER/JUMPER COMPETITION STANDARDS TYPES

Hunter Jumper Competition Standards, set forth below are established to provide consistency in the quality of facilities and services offered in Federation hunter and jumper competitions.

HJ100 Types of Standards and Application

1. Distinguish HJ Competition Standards (HJS) and Basic Standards from Other Federation Standards. The reference to standards can occur in relation to separate and distinct sets of requirements.
 - a. Federation Standards which are applicable to multiple situations, disciplines, procedures and/or competitions.
 - b. Federation H/J Competition Standards (HJS) which are applicable only to Federation Rated licensed H/J competitions or H/J sections of multi-breed competitions.
 - c. Basic Standards set forth in HJ 100 to 108 applicable to both Rated and Local HJ competitions.
2. When Standards Are In Conflict.
In the event that a HJS within this section exceeds the requirement in other Federation rules or Standards the higher standard is applicable.
3. HJS Application to Multi-Breed and Breed Restricted Competition Standards.
HJS apply only to the H/J portions of a multi-breed competition and are not applicable to breed restricted competitions.
4. Standards Application.
 - a. All hunter competitions fall into one of the following classifications: Premier (“AA”), National (“A”), or Regional (“B”).
 - b. All jumper competitions fall into one of the following classifications: Level 1, Level 2, Level 3, Level 4, Level 5 or Level 6.
For purposes of this chapter, hunter and jumper competitions are considered a single discipline and subject to the same HJS or Basic Standards where applicable.

[...]

HJ103 Definitions

1. Definitions.
 - a. Rated Hunter competitions are classified as Premier (“AA”), National (“A”), or Regional (“B”). Stand-alone International Hunter Derby competitions are a sub-type of the premier hunter rating (see HJ114)
 - b. Jumper competitions are designated as Levels 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 based upon prize money. See JP104.
 - c. Rated competitions offering hunter only, or both hunter and jumper will be subject to HJS set forth under the Premier, National, or Regional hunter rating.
 - d. HJS for a jumper only competition will be:
 1. Standards set forth under Premier (“AA”) required for Jumper Levels 5 and 6
 2. Standards set forth under National (“A”) required for Jumper Levels 3 and 4
 3. Standards set forth under **multi-day Regional (“B”)** required for Jumper Level 2
 4. Standards set forth under **one-day Regional (“B”)** or Jumper Level 1
 - e. Federation Special competitions or Jumper Level 6 competitions may be subject to a Federation approved waiver (GR309) or other modification of a portion of the Standards (including HJS), in connection with the Special competition approval. **BOD 8/30/21 Effective 12/1/22**
2. Whenever two (2) Standards are applicable to a competition, the entire competition is to achieve the highest Standard applicable to any portion of the competition.
3. For multi-breed competitions (see HJ100.3) which contain hunter and/or jumper sections, and for local competitions when operating within an existing rated hunter and/or jumper competition, the highest applicable HJS for any portion of the hunter and/or jumper competition is to be applied to the entire hunter and/or jumper discipline sections only.
4. All competitions must state their competition rating and/or level clearly on the cover of the prize list.

[...]

HJ105 Safety and Welfare

[...]

2. Minimum Requirements

Minimum Requirements to Obtain Rating	Jumper I	One-Day Regional (“B”)	Multi-Day Regional (“B”) Jumper 2	National (“A”) Jumper 3/4	Premier (“AA”) Jumper 5/6
Potable Water	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required
Restrooms	1 per 50 horses entered	1 per 50 horses entered	1 per 50 horses entered	1 per 50 horses entered	1 per 50 horses entered
Accident Preparedness	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required
Safe Sport Information Signage	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required
Veterinarian (GR1211.4, HU114 and JP105.5)	On call with written agreement unless: 1) previous year’s horse entry number exceeds 200	On call with written agreement; for exception see HJ105.1e	On call with written agreement; for exception see HJ105.1e	On call with written agreement; for exception see HJ105.1e	Onsite with written agreement
Farrier (GR1211.5)	On call with written agreement	On call with written agreement	On call with written agreement	Onsite for entire competition	Onsite for entire competition
Human Ambulance (GR848)	On call	On call	On call	On call	On call
Qualified Medical Personnel (GR848)	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required - at least one must be a paramedic
Emergency Horse Transport	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Onsite for entire competition

AED	n/a	Required	Required	Required	Required
Privacy Screens	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required

BOD 8/30/21 Effective 12/1/22

HJ106 Riding and Lunging Areas.

[...]

3. Minimum Requirements to Obtain Rating

Minimum requirements to Obtain Rating	Jumper 1	One-Day Regional ("B")	Multi-Day Regional ("B") Jumper 2	National ("A") Jumper 3/4	Premier ("AA") Jumper 5/6	Additional Requirements for competitions that meet requirements of HJ108 Outdoor	Additional Requirements for competitor that meet requirements HJ108 Indoor
Main Competition Ring	n/a	n/a	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required
Competition Ring - 1 Outdoor	20,000 sq. feet	20,000 sq. feet	24,000 sq. feet	28,000 sq. feet	28,000 sq. feet	n/a	n/a
Competition Ring - 1 Indoor	14,000 sq. feet	14,000 sq. feet	16,000 sq. feet	18,000 sq. feet	20,000 sq. feet	n/a	n/a
Designated Cooling Area for each Competition Ring	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required
Cooling Area 1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	45,000 sq. feet	30,000 sq. feet
Exercise Area - 1 Outdoor	Required	Required	16,000 sq. feet	20,000 sq. feet	24,000 sq. feet	Combined w/lunging area requirement	Combined w/lunging area requirement
Exercise Area - 1 Indoor	n/a	n/a	n/a	18,000 sq. feet	18,000 sq. feet	n/a	n/a
Lunging Area	2,500 sq. feet	2,500 sq. feet	10,000 sq. feet	10,000 sq. feet	15,000 sq. feet	45,000 sq. feet + additional 10,000 sq. feet per 100 horses	30,000 sq. feet additional 10,000 sq. feet per 100 horses
Lighting	Required if night or early morning classes are held	Required if night or early morning classes are held	Required if night or early morning classes are held	Required if night or early morning classes are held	Required if night or early morning classes are held		
Judges' site	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required		
Footing	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required		
Competitor and spectator seating	n/a	n/a	Seating for at least 25 individuals at main competition ring	Seating for at least 50 individuals at main competition ring	Seating for at least 100 individuals at main competition ring	Competitor and spectator seating	n/a
Shelter for horses & riders	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Required	Shelter for horses & riders	n/a
Ring Staff	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required	Ring Staff	Required

BOD 8/30/21 Effective 12/1/22

HJ107 Facilities.

[...]

2. Minimum Requirements to Obtain Rating

Minimum Requirements to Obtain Rating	Jumper 1	One-Day Regional ("B")	Multi-Day Regional ("B") Jumper 2	National ("A") Jumper 3/4	Premier ("AA") Jumper 5/6
Parking	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required
Level Measurement Area (HJ131)	Required if classes that require measurement are offered	Required if classes that require measurement are offered	Required if classes that require measurement are offered	Required if classes that require measurement are offered	Required if classes that require measurement are offered
Lighting in Stabling	Required if stabling is offered	Required if stabling is offered	Required if stabling is offered	Required if stabling is offered	Required if stabling is offered
Waste Containment and Removal	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required
Sharps Containers	1 container per 50 occupied stalls or 1 container per 75 horses entered	1 container per 50 occupied stalls or 1 container per 75 horses entered	1 container per 50 occupied stalls or 1 container per 75 horses entered	1 container per 50 occupied stalls	1 container per 50 occupied stalls
Stabling	n/a	n/a	n/a	Required	Required
Public Address System	n/a	n/a	n/a	Required	Required
Portable Communication Devices	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required
Night Watch	n/a	n/a	n/a	Required	Required
24 hour facility security	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Required
Horse Wash Areas	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required
Competition Office & Staff	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required
Results Posted	n/a	Required	Required	Required	Required
Competition Website	n/a	n/a	n/a	Required	Required
Online Entry System	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Required
Electrical Outlets in Stabling	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Required
Separate Motor Vehicle and Horse Traffic	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Required if 500+ horses entered in previous year
Drainage System	n/a	n/a	n/a	Required	Required
Food/Beverage Service	Required	Required	Required	Required - hot and cold	Required - hot and cold

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Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Extraordinary	12/1/2021	7/23/2021	Approved 11/22/2021

Extraordinary Change Reason

Board approved Code of Conduct at Mid-Year

Rule Change Intent

At the 2021 Mid-Year Meeting, the Federation's Board of Directors approved the revised Code of Conduct. In an effort to clearly indicate to members the requirement of this policy, this rule change will add any violation of the Code of Conduct to the list of violations against which penalties may be imposed.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
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Linked Rules Comments

Committee Actions
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/08/2021
Council - Intl Discipline Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/09/2021
Council - Member Services Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/09/2021

GR702 Violations

1. A violation is any act prejudicial to the best interests of the Federation, including but not limited to the following:

- a. Violation of the *Code of Conduct or any* rules of the Federation.
- b. Disqualification by a Licensed Competition.
- c. Determination that disciplinary action has been taken by an administrative agency, arbitration or other tribunal body, humane society, other National Governing Body, or a court of law.
- d. Acting, ~~or~~ inciting, or permitting any other to act in a manner contrary to the rules of the Federation, or in a manner deemed improper, unethical, dishonest, unsportsmanlike or intemperate, or prejudicial to the best interests of the sport and the Federation.
- e. Any act committed or remark made in connection with the competition considered offensive and/or made with the intent to influence or cast aspersions on the character or integrity of the licensed officials, approaching a judge before or after a decision without first obtaining permission from the show committee or steward/technical delegate, inspecting a judge's card without the judge's permission, or public verbal abuse of competition officials.
- f. Physical assault upon a person and/or cruelty to a horse as defined in GR839.
- g. Failure to obey any penalty imposed by the Federation.
- h. Exhibiting any horse while in the care, training, or custody of a suspended trainer.
- i. Riding, exhibiting, coaching, or training for the benefit, credit, reputation, or satisfaction of a suspended person.
- j. Failure to pay indebtedness to the Federation or indebtedness for hearing transcripts or other hearing expenses arranged through the Federation.
- k. Participating in any manner at a licensed competition while not in good standing or competing horses not in good standing at a licensed competition. (See GR137)
- l. Prescribing, dispensing, or administering a drug by a veterinarian which results in a finding of a prohibited substance. In the event a positive report is received by the Federation for a horse or pony to which a prohibited substance has been administered in any manner and the veterinarian is identified in any manner as the source of said prohibited substance, said violation will be addressed pursuant to GR412.
- m. Any action which is subject to Reciprocity by the Federation under the Federation Bylaws.
- ~~n. Violating the Safe Sport Policy found at safesport.usef.org.~~
- o. Retaliation against a person for making an allegation of any rule violation, for supporting a reporting party or witness, or for providing information relevant to a potential violation. Retaliation may be considered any adverse action taken by an individual against a person participating in a USEF proceeding. BOD 6/22/20 Effective 12/1/20.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Extraordinary	12/1/2021	5/26/2021	Approved 11/22/2021

Extraordinary Change Reason

This PRC is regarding Accident/Injury Reporting at USEF Licensed Competitions.

Rule Change Intent

This change will clarify that any injury that occurs at a competition must be reported to the Federation on the applicable Accident/Injury Form. This will ensure that the Federation is capturing all injuries occurring at Licensed Competitions, including those that involve non-competitors, like grooms, spectators, owners, etc.

Proponent Details Contact Information

Safety

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Linked Rules Comments

Committee Actions

Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 09/13/2021

Council - Member Services

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/09/2021

GR849 Accidents Involving Competitors *Individuals*

1. This rule pertains to accidents involving competitors *individuals* at Federation-Licensed or endorsed competitions
2. For all competitors *individuals* evaluated pursuant to this rule, the Steward or Technical Delegate shall submit a properly completed Accident/Injury Form to the Federation Director of Competitions with their Steward or TD Report, unless otherwise noted below

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Extraordinary	12/1/2022	11/29/2021	Approved 11/22/2021

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 Contact Information

Competitions Task Force

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Linked Rules Comments

BOD: Draft 2 is BOD approved 11/22/21.

Committee Actions

Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/08/2021

Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/09/2021

Council - Member Services

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/09/2021

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 Horse or Pony, 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 **Hunter** or Eventing Divisions.
 - ~~b. Recorded hunter judges with Special judges' cards may not officiate alone in an 'AA' or 'A' rated hunter section.~~
 - b. Recorded Saddle Seat Equitation judges may not receive a Special judges' card to officiate the USEF Saddle Seat Medal Championship/Final.
 - c. 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.
 - d. 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 Horse or Pony, 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. **2.** In Premier rated **sections, the following applies:**
 - a. **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.**
 - b. **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 Horse or Pony, Low Adult Amateur Hunter, Small Hunter, Thoroughbred Hunter, Ladies Side Saddle, Hunter and Pony Hunter Breeding, and any USHJA Hunter section.**
3. **All judges who are assigned to a Conformation section must judge the Model class.**

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Extraordinary	12/1/2022	11/29/2021	Approved 11/22/2021

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 how National and Zone Horse of the Year points, awards, and event qualification are affected by 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

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Linked Rules Comments

BOD: Draft 2 is BOD approved 11/22/21.

Committee Actions

Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/08/2021

Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/09/2021

Council - Member Services

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/09/2021

SUBCHAPTER 11-F AWARD SECTIONS

GR1131 Hunter and Equitation Divisions

[...]

9. Points are calculated according to the Hunter Division **Point Chart based on the number of horses shown that compete in the first performance class of the section** (Exception: where individual classes may be entered (High Performance Hunter, Performance Hunter 3'6", and Performance Hunter 3'3") in which case the points will be calculated by the number of entries that competed in each individual class (see HU119). In the under saddle classes points will be calculated on the number of horses entered. **BOD 8/30/21 Effective 12/1/2022**

[...]

10. Hunter Division Section champions will be awarded 2.0 times the total 1st place point value of the first class in that section toward any National Horse of the Year point award based on points earned. Section reserve champions will be awarded 1.2 times the total 1st place value of the first class in that section towards any National Horse of the Year award based on points earned. Exception: For National Horse of the Year awards that are based on money won, Section Champions in the Green Hunter 3'0", 3'3", 3'6", and 3'9", Young Hunter 5 and under, Young Hunter 6 and under, Young Hunter 7 and under, High Performance Hunter, Green Conformation Hunter 3'6", Performance Hunters 3'3", Performance Hunters 3'6", and High Performance Conformation Hunter will be awarded dollars equal to 10% of the total prize money offered for each respective section towards National Horse of the Year awards. Reserve Champions will be awarded dollars equal to the amount of 5% of the total prize money for each respective section.

11. Hunter Division Section Awards

In the Hunter division, points for ribbons won or money won, if applicable, in any rated section will be awarded in two awards channels. Channel I includes Premier ("AA") and National ("A") rated hunter competitions and Channel II includes Regional ("B") rated hunter competitions. Points earned or money won, if applicable, in a channel are exclusive to that award channel. BOD 8/30/21 Effective 12/1/22

a. Hunter Division Section awards are offered for the following at the National level from the Federation and at the Zone level from USHJA: Green Conformation Hunter 3'6", Green Hunter 3'0", 3'3", 3'6" and 3'9", High Performance Conformation Hunter, High Performance Hunter, Performance Hunters 3'3", Performance Hunters 3'6", Young Hunter 5 and under, Young Hunter 6 and under, Young Hunter 7 and under, Small Green Pony Hunter, Medium Green Pony Hunter, Large Green Pony Hunter, Small Pony Hunter, Medium Pony Hunter, Large Pony Hunter, Small Junior Hunter 15 yrs. & under, Small Junior Hunter 16-17 yrs., Large Junior Hunter 15 yrs. & under, Large Junior Hunter 16-17 yrs., Amateur Owner Hunter - 18-35 Years Old and Over 35 Years Old, Ladies Side Saddle, Amateur Owner Hunter 3'3" 18-35 Years Old and Over 35 Years Old, Small Hunter, Small Junior Hunter 3'3", 15 yrs. & under, Small Junior Hunter 3'3" 16-17 yrs., Large Junior Hunter 3'3" 15 yrs. and under and Large Junior Hunter 3'3" 16-17 yrs, Children's Hunter Ponies, Children's Hunter Horses, Low Children's Hunter Horse, Low Children's Hunter Pony, Adult Amateur Hunter 18-35 Years Old, Adult Amateur Hunter Over 35 Years Old, Low Adult Amateur Hunter, Small Hunter, USHJA Hunter 2'0", 2'3", 2'6", 2'9" and 3'0", and Thoroughbred Hunter.

b. Additionally, A awards are offered from USHJA for the following at the Zone level:

Children's Hunter Ponies, Children's Hunter Horses, Adult Amateur Hunter 18-35 Years Old, Adult Amateur Hunter Over 35 Years Old, Small Hunter, Thoroughbred Hunter, USHJA Hunter 2'0", USHJA Hunter 2'3", USHJA Hunter 2'6", USHJA Hunter 2'9" and USHJA Hunter 3'0".

c. The USHJA shall determine the Zone and/or Stirrup Cup HOTY points to be awarded for its USHJA Hunter Championships, Finals and Classes. The USHJA shall notify the Federation and publish the point scale to be utilized on the USHJA website a minimum of 120 days prior to the start of each event. The USHJA shall determine the Zone HOTY points to be awarded for its USHJA Hunter Championships, Finals and Classes. The USHJA shall notify the Federation and publish the point scale to be utilized on the USHJA website a minimum of 60 days prior to the start of each event.

12. Hunter Competitions Utilizing Federation HOTY Points/money won for Qualification for their Events.

a. Premier and National hunter rated competitions (including those held in conjunction with Jumper Level 1-6 competitions) must utilize the applicable Channel I HOTY points for qualification purposes.

b. Regional hunter rated competitions (including those held in conjunction with Jumper Level 1-3 Jumper competitions) must utilize the applicable Channel II HOTY points for qualification purposes.

~~Hunter Division Section awards are offered for the following at the Zone level from USHJA and National levels from the Federation. In the Hunter division, points for ribbons won or money won, if applicable, in any rated section will be awarded in two awards channels, using the applicable point chart. Channel I includes Premier and National rated hunter competitions and Channel II includes Regional rated hunter competitions. Points earned or money won, if applicable in a channel are exclusive to that award channel. BOD 8/30/21 Effective 12/1/22~~

- ~~a. Green Conformation Hunter 3'6", Green Hunter 3'0", 3'3", 3'6" and 3'9", High Performance Conformation Hunter, High Performance Hunter, Performance Hunters 3'3", Performance Hunters 3'6", Young Hunter 5 and under, Young Hunter 6 and under, Young Hunter 7 and under, Small Green Pony Hunter, Medium Green Pony Hunter, Large Green Pony Hunter, Small Pony Hunter, Medium Pony Hunter, Large Pony Hunter, Small Junior Hunter 15 yrs. & under, Small Junior Hunter 16-17 yrs., Large Junior Hunter 15 yrs. & under, Large Junior Hunter 16-17 yrs., Amateur Owner Hunter - 18-35 Years Old and Over 35 Years Old, Ladies Side Saddle, Amateur Owner Hunter 3'3" - 18-35 Years Old and Over 35 Years Old, Small Hunter, Small Junior Hunter 3'3", 15 yrs. & under, Small Junior Hunter 3'3" 16-17 yrs., Large Junior Hunter 3'3" 15 yrs. and under and Large Junior Hunter 3'3" 16-17 yrs.,~~
 - ~~b. The USHJA shall determine the National HOTY points to be awarded for its USHJA Hunter Championships, Finals and Classes. The USHJA shall notify the Federation and publish the point scale to be utilized on the USHJA website a minimum of 120 days prior to the start of each event.~~
13. Grand Champion Horse of the Year Awards are based on National points and are offered for the following Hunter sections:
- a. Amateur Owner Hunter: awarded to the horse with the most points from the rider age sections of Amateur Owner Hunter 3'6"
 - b. Amateur Owner Hunter 3'3": awarded to the horse with the most points from the rider age sections of Amateur Owner Hunter 3'3"
 - c. Junior Hunter 15 Years & Younger: awarded to the horse with the most points in the 15 & Under rider age section of the 3'6" Junior Hunters
 - d. Junior Hunter 16-17 Years: awarded to the horse with the most points in the 16-17 rider age section of the 3'6" Junior Hunters
 - e. Pony Hunter: awarded to the pony with the most points from the small, medium and large Regular Hunter Pony sections
 - f. Green Hunter Pony: awarded to the pony with the most points from the small, medium and large Green Hunter Pony sections
 - g. Conformation Hunter: awarded to the horse with the most points from the High Performance Conformation Hunter and Green Conformation Hunter 3'6" sections
 - h. Green Hunter: awarded to the horse with the most points from the Green Hunter 3'0", 3'3", 3'6" and 3'9" sections.
 - i. High Performance Hunter: awarded to the horse with the most points from the High Performance Hunter section
 - j. Young Hunter: awarded to the horse with the most points from the Young Hunter 5 and under, Young Hunter 6 and under, Young Hunter 7 and under sections. *BOD 6/22/20 Effective 12/1/20*

[...]

GR1133 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 office. Furthermore, points toward Horse of the Year Awards will not be credit until the applications and fees for the horse's USHJA Horse Registration, the owner's USHJA Active or USHJA Life membership are received by the Federation or USHJA offices. Exception: Applications for Federation and USHJA Individual Membership and Horse Recordings submitted at Licensed Competitions.
2. Point Tabulation. See GR1113-GR1119. Children's and Adult Jumper USHJA Zone Horse of the Year Awards and Pony, 5-Year Old, 6-Year Old, and 7/8-Year Old Jumper National and USHJA Zone Horse of the Year Awards will be based on the following:

Exhibitors	3-8	9-15	16-25	26+
1st	15	20	25	30
2nd	10	15	20	25

3rd	8	12	16	20
4th	6	9	12	15
5th	5	8	11	14
6th	4	7	10	13
7th	3	6	9	12
8th	2	5	8	11

*Determined by the number of entries that competed (see JP136.13) in the class.

3. The Junior Jumper, Amateur Owner Jumper, Amateur, U25 and Young Rider Jumper Horse of the Year Awards will be based on one point for every dollar won in their classification at Regular Competitions.
4. The Open Jumper Horse of the Year Award will be based on money won in classes which comply with JP151, classes of \$25,000 or more. One point for every dollar won will be awarded.
5. Award Categories. **Federation** National awards will be given in the following categories: Low Junior, Medium Junior, High Junior, Low Amateur Owner, Medium Amateur Owner, High Amateur Owner, Low Amateur, Medium Amateur, High Amateur, Open, Pony, Young Rider and U25. Zone Horse of the Year Awards will be given by USHJA in the following categories (see JP119 for Zone specifications): Low Junior, Medium Junior, High Junior, Low Amateur Owner, Medium Amateur Owner, High Amateur Owner, Low Amateur, Medium Amateur, High Amateur, CHILDREN'S, ADULT, PONY, YOUNG RIDERS, U25 and Thoroughbred Jumper. **National awards will be offered in two awards channels as follows:**
 - a. Channel I – Based on placings at standalone Jumper Level 4-6 competitions or Jumper Level 1-6 competitions held in conjunction with a Premier (“AA”) or National (“A”) rated hunter competition.
 - b. Points earned in a channels are exclusive to that award category **channel**.

Channel II – Based on placings at standalone Jumper Level 1-3 competitions or Jumper Level 1-3 competitions offered in conjunction with a Regional (“B”) rated hunter competition.

 - c. Points earned in a channel are exclusive to that award channel. *BOD 8/30/21 Effective 12/1/22*
6. USHJA Zone awards will be distributed according to the Zone map. **USHJA Zone awards will be offered in two awards channels as follows:**
 - a. Channel I – Based on placings at standalone Jumper Level 4-6 competitions or Jumper Level 1-6 competitions held in conjunction with a Premier (“AA”) or National (“A”) rated hunter competition.
 - b. Channel II – Based on placings at standalone Jumper Level 1-3 competitions or Jumper Level 1-3 competitions offered in conjunction with a Regional (“B”) rated hunter competition.
 - c. Points earned in a channel are exclusive to that award channel. *BOD 8/30/21 Effective 12/1/22*
7. Presentation of the USHJA Zone Horse of the Year Awards will be made at the discretion and auspices of Zone Committees, only after approval of the USHJA.
8. The USHJA shall determine the National, Zone and/or Stirrup Cup HOTY points to be awarded for its USHJA Jumper Championships, Finals and Classes. The USHJA shall notify the Federation and publish the point scale to be utilized on the USHJA website a minimum of 120 days prior to the start of each event.
9. **Jumper Competitions Utilizing Federation HOTY Points for Qualification for their Events.**
 - a. **Standalone Jumper Level 4-6 competitions or Jumper Level 1-6 competitions held in conjunction with a Premier or National rated hunter competition must utilize the applicable Channel I HOTY points for qualification purposes.**
 - b. **Standalone Jumper Level 1-3 competitions or Jumper Level 1-3 competitions held in conjunction with a Regional rated hunter competition must utilize the applicable Channel II HOTY points for qualification purposes.**

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Extraordinary	12/1/2021	11/29/2021	Approved 11/22/2021

Extraordinary Change Reason

The USEF Amateur Task Force was formed by the President in early 2021 to review the existing Amateur Rules (GR1306 & GR1307) to ensure they are meeting the needs of USEF members, the sport, and the organization. The task force was specifically charged with addressing long-standing concerns raised by members and affiliates as expeditiously as possible to make certain that any issues in the existing rules are addressed in a timely manner. Throughout the process, it became evident that some proposals would to be deemed as Extraordinary to meet the responsibility assigned to the task force. Member and affiliate feedback has identified that the current rules create a severe hardship for members, affiliates and the Federation as elements of these rules are no longer relevant in today’s environment and create a barrier to the growth, accessibility and sustainability of equestrian sport.

Rule Change Intent

The current competition environment has changed considerably since the latest version of the amateur rule was approved, therefore, the rule warranted analysis to ensure its relevance. Member feedback, accessibility to equestrian sport and sport growth are driving the need to update this rule. Many members and affiliates have reached out to communicate a need for flexibility due to a growing interest in equestrian sport.

In order to meet this increased demand, coupled with a shortage of labor, professional equestrians are requesting the ability to utilize talent within their barn or community and allow amateurs to assist in the performance of specified barn duties on or off competition grounds in exchange for remuneration. Additionally, the proposal increases the value of a non-monetary gift or token of appreciation that an amateur is allowed to accept from less than \$300, to less than \$750 annually. These changes increase accessibility to the sport for those amateurs who find there are financial barriers by allowing them to offset their costs to participate.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
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Breeds/Disciplines

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Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions

Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

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Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/09/2021

Council - Member Services

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/09/2021

GR1306 Professional/Amateur Status

1. Amateur. Regardless of one's equestrian skills and/or accomplishments, a person is an amateur if after his 18th birthday, as defined in GR101 and GR103, he has not engaged in any of the activities identified in Section 4 below.
 - a. ~~In the Dressage Division, individuals are only eligible to compete as amateurs from the beginning of the calendar year in which they reach age 22~~ For Amateurs in the Dressage Division, see DR119.3.
 - b. For Amateurs in Jumper Sections, see JP118.
 - c. For Amateurs in Hunter Sections, see HU137-HU138.
 - d. For Amateurs in Eventing, see EV Appendix 3-Participation in Horse Trials.
 - e. For Amateurs in the Arabian Division, see AR110.6 and AR110.7.

2. Remuneration. Remuneration is defined as compensation or payment in any form such as cash, goods, sponsorships, discounts, or services; reimbursement of any expenses; trade or in-kind exchange of goods or services such as board or training. Amateurs are permitted to accept remuneration for the following activities:
 - a. Accept remuneration for barn duties on or off competition grounds. Barn duties include but are not limited to grooming, tacking and un-tacking, bathing, clipping, lunging, braiding, and stall and tack cleaning.[...]

3. Other Permitted activities by Amateurs. An Amateur is permitted to do the following:
 - a. Appear in advertisements and/or articles related to acknowledgement of one's own personal or business sponsorship of a competition and/or awards earned by one's owned horses.

 - b. Accept prize money as the owner of a horse in any class. ~~other than equitation or showmanship classes. Accept prize money in Dressage.~~

 - c. Accept a non-monetary token gift of appreciation valued less than ~~\$300~~ \$1,000 annually.

 - d. Serve as an intern for college credit or course requirements at an accredited institution provided one has never held professional status with the Federation or any other equestrian National Federation. In addition, one may accept reimbursement for expenses without profit, as prescribed by the educational institution's program, for the internship. At the request of the Federation, an Amateur shall provide certification from the accredited educational institution under whose auspices a student is pursuing an internship that he is undertaking the internship to meet course or degree requirements.
 - i. In the Hackney, Roadster, American Saddlebred, Saddle Seat Equitation, Morgan, Andalusian/Lusitano, Friesian, Arabian, and National Show Horse Divisions, college students may also accept a stipend (maximum value of the Federal minimum wage rate) and reimbursement of expenses during the internship served under the above paragraph.

 - ii. In the Hackney, Roadster, American Saddlebred, Saddle Seat Equitation divisions: If a college student serving as an intern exhibits a horse trained by the stable at which they are pursuing the internship, the intern shall only exhibit those horses solely owned by: the intern, the intern's family as defined by GR123, the college at which they are a student, or the stable where they are pursuing their internship. The intern shall not exhibit horses owned/leased nor co-owned by the stables' client(s).

 - e. Write books or articles related to horses.

 - f. Accept educational, competition, or training grant(s).

 - j. ~~Entries for non-under saddle classes in amateur sections at hunter, jumper or hunter/jumper competitions, must~~

~~be paid either (i) directly to the competition by the Amateur or by the Amateur's family or (ii) by someone whom the Amateur or the Amateur's family reimburses within 90 days of the last day of the competition for which entries were paid.~~

g. Assist in setting schooling fences without remuneration.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Extraordinary	12/1/2021	11/29/2021	Approved 11/22/2021

Extraordinary Change Reason

The USEF Amateur Task Force was formed by the President in early 2021 to review the existing Amateur Rules (GR1306 & GR1307) to ensure they are meeting the needs of USEF members, the sport, and the organization. The task force was specifically charged with addressing long-standing concerns raised by members and affiliates as expeditiously as possible to make certain that any issues in the existing rules are addressed in a timely manner. Throughout the process, it became evident that some proposals would to be deemed as Extraordinary to meet the responsibility assigned to the task force Member and affiliate feedback has identified that the current rules create a severe hardship for members, affiliates and the Federation as elements of these rules are no longer relevant in today’s environment and create a barrier to the growth, accessibility and sustainability of equestrian sport.

Rule Change Intent

The current competition environment has changed considerably since the latest version of the amateur rule was approved, therefore, the rule warranted analysis to ensure it’s its relevance. Member feedback, accessibility to equestrian sport and sport growth are driving the need to update this rule. Many members and breed affiliates have reached out to communicate a need for flexibility due to an increased need for riding lessons resulting from a growing interest in equestrian sport. In order to meet this increased demand, breed-specific equestrian professionals are requesting for the ability to utilize talent within their barn or community and allow talented amateurs to assist in the teaching of these beginner customers under very specific conditions.

This rule change will allow the primary instructor or barn owner/professional in the American Saddlebred, Arabian, Andalusian/Lusitano, National Show Horse, Hackney, Morgan, Friesian and Paso Fino breeds and the Saddle Seat Equitation and Roadster disciplines to enlist the assistance of amateur equestrians who register with USEF accordingly, to provide beginner instruction to non-competing riders outside of the competition environment. Instruction will be limited to 20 hours per calendar week and must be performed under the direct supervision of a USEF Competing member designated as Professional. All instructing activity must be documented and USEF reserves the right to request proof of such documentation.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
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Breeds/Disciplines

Terri Dolan

tdolan@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments
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BOD: Draft 2 is BOD approved 11/22/21.

Committee Actions

Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Disapproval 11/08/2021

Draft 1: The Council is concerned with preserving the integrity of a true amateur and their status. The Council would also like professional defined.

Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Disapproval 11/09/2021

Draft 1: The IDC supports Dressage and USDF’s comment that it is impractical to have two definitions of Amateur within the same organization. An additional concern is being a "professional" in one breed/discipline and an "amateur" in another. Creates disparity. Creates a teaching opportunity for some, but not for others. Additionally, we suggest the following edit to Section 3.b (Other permitted activities by Amateurs): Unstrike ‘Accept prize money in Dressage’ and change it to read ‘Owner or rider may accept prize money in Dressage’.

Council - Member Services

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/09/2021

GR1306 Professional/Amateur Status

2. Remuneration. Remuneration is defined as compensation or payment in any form such as cash, goods, sponsorships, discounts, or services; reimbursement of any expenses; trade or in-kind exchange of goods or services such as board or training. Amateurs are permitted to accept remuneration for the following activities:

[...]

b. In the American Saddlebred, Saddle Seat Equitation, Morgan, Arabian, Andalusian/Lusitano, National Show Horse, Paso Fino and Western Divisions, an amateur is permitted to accept remuneration for teaching riding lessons under the following conditions:

i. The amateur must register with USEF prior to performing any instruction.

ii. Total lesson time cannot exceed 20 hours per calendar week.

iii. Lessons must be given under the oversight of a USEF Competing Member in good standing who is designated as a Professional.

iv. Lessons cannot be conducted at a competition, including Federation Licensed Competitions and non-licensed competitions.

v. Student must be a beginner who has not competed and is not competing at any level of competition, and lessons must not exceed the basic beginner level.

vi. Teacher must maintain a log of all lessons. Log must include lesson date, lesson time and name of student.

vii. A USEF Competing Member designated as a Professional must review the teacher's log and verify its accuracy.

viii. The teacher and professional are responsible and accountable for compliance with this rule.

ix. USEF may request proof of compliance and refusal to provide such proof constitutes a violation of the rule.

c. Accept remuneration for teaching or training disabled riders for therapeutic purposes.

~~a-d. Accept reimbursement for actual expenses associated with conducting classroom seminars. for a not-for-profit organization, therapeutic riding programs, or programs for charitable organizations approved in advance by the Federation.~~

~~b e. Accept remuneration for serving as a camp counselor when not hired in the exclusive capacity as an riding equestrian instructor.; assist in setting schooling fences without remuneration; give instruction or training to handicapped riders for therapeutic purposes.~~

[...]

g. Accept remuneration for providing service in one's capacity as a: clinic manager or organizer (so long as they are not performing the activities of instructor or trainer), presenter or panelist at a Federation licensed officials' clinic, competition manager, competition secretary, judge, steward, technical delegate, course designer, announcer, TV commentator, veterinarian, groom, farrier, tack shop operator, breeder, or boarder, or horse transporter.

~~i- h. Accept reimbursement for any bona fide expenses directly related to the horse (i.e. farrier/vet bills, entries). Travel, hotel, equipment, and room and board are not considered bona fide expenses **related to the horse**.~~

3. Other Permitted activities by Amateurs. An Amateur is permitted to do the following:

ε-a. Appear in advertisements and/or articles related to acknowledgement of one's own personal or business sponsorship of a competition and/or awards earned by one's owned horses.

~~d. b. Accept prize money as the owner of a horse in any class. other than equitation or showmanship classes. Accept prize money in Dressage.~~

e. ~~c.~~ Accept a non-monetary token gift of appreciation valued less than ~~\$300~~ **\$1,000** annually.

~~f.~~ d. Serve as an intern for college credit or course requirements at an accredited institution provided one has never held professional status with the Federation or any other equestrian National Federation. In addition, one may accept reimbursement for expenses without profit, as prescribed by the educational institution's program, for the internship. At the request of the Federation, an Amateur shall provide certification from the accredited educational institution under whose auspices a student is pursuing an internship that he is undertaking the internship to meet course or degree requirements.

i. In the Hackney, Roadster, American Saddlebred, Saddle Seat Equitation, Morgan, Andalusian/Lusitano, Friesian, Arabian, and National Show Horse Divisions, college students may also accept a stipend (maximum value of the Federal minimum wage rate) and reimbursement of expenses during the internship served under the above paragraph.

ii. In the Hackney, Roadster, American Saddlebred, Saddle Seat Equitation divisions: If a college student serving as an intern exhibits a horse trained by the stable at which they are pursuing the internship, the intern shall only exhibit those horses solely owned by: the intern, the intern's family as defined by GR123, the college at which they are a student, or the stable where they are pursuing their internship. The intern shall not exhibit horses owned/leased nor co-owned by the stables' client(s).

~~g.~~ e. Write books or articles related to horses.

~~k.~~ f. Accept educational, competition, or training grant(s).

~~j.~~ Entries for non-under saddle classes in amateur sections at hunter, jumper or hunter/jumper competitions, must be paid either (i) directly to the competition by the Amateur or by the Amateur's family or (ii) by someone whom the Amateur or the Amateur's family reimburses within 90 days of the last day of the competition for which entries were paid.

~~l.~~ g. Assist in setting schooling fences without remuneration.

4. Professional based on one's own activities. ~~Unless expressly permitted above, a~~ **A** person is a professional if after his 18th birthday he does any of the following:

a. Accepts remuneration AND rides, exercises, drives, shows, trains, assists in training, schools or conducts clinics or seminars, **except as provided in GR1306.2.g.**

b. Accepts remuneration AND gives riding or driving lessons, showmanship lessons, equitation **equestrian** lessons, trains horses, or provides consultation services in riding, driving, showmanship, equitation, or training of horses, **except as provided for in GR1306.2.b.**

c. Accepts remuneration AND acts as an employee in a position such as a groom, farrier, bookkeeper, veterinarian or barn manager AND instructs, rides, drives, shows, trains or schools horses that are owned, boarded or trained by his employer, any member of his employer's family, or a business in which his employer has an ownership interest.

~~d.~~ Accepts remuneration AND uses his name, photograph or other form of personal association as a horseperson in connection with any advertisement or product/service for sale, including but not limited to apparel, equipment or property.

~~e. Accepts prize money unless permitted in paragraph 3d or 3e above.~~

~~f. d.~~ Rides, drives or shows any horse that a cohabitant or family member or a cohabitant or family member's business receives remuneration for boarding, training, riding, driving or showing. A cohabitant or family member of a trainer may not absolve themselves of this rule by entering into a lease or any other agreement for a horse owned by a client of the trainer.

~~g. e.~~ Gives instruction to any person or rides, drives, or shows any horse, for which activity his cohabitant or another person in his family or business in which his cohabitant or a family member controls will receive remuneration for the activity. A cohabitant or family member of a trainer may not absolve themselves of this rule by entering into a lease or any other agreement for a horse owned by a client of the trainer.

~~h. f.~~ Accepts remuneration AND acts as an agent in the sale of a horse or pony or accepts a horse or pony on consignment for the purpose of sale or training that is not owned by him, his cohabitant, or a member of his family, **or** a farm/~~ranch/syndicate/partnership/corporation/business~~ in which he, his cohabitant, or a member of his family controls.

~~i. g.~~ Advertises one's equestrian services such as training or instruction.

~~j. h.~~ Accepts remuneration AND acts as an intern, apprentice, or working student whose responsibilities include, but are not limited to, riding, driving, showmanship, handling, showing, training or assisting in training, giving lessons/coaching and/or schooling horses other than horses actually owned by him.

~~k. Accepts remuneration in excess of rental fee for use of a facility, ring or school horses.~~

~~l. i.~~ Accepts remuneration for **the use of** commercially logoed items while on competition grounds, **as a Sponsored Rider.**

5. Professional based on one's own activity along with another's. A person is also deemed a professional after his 18th birthday, if he accepts remuneration for his spouse, family member, or cohabitant engaging in any activity enumerated in 4 a-l above. For the purposes of this rule, the term cohabitant is defined as any individuals living together in a relationship, as would a married couple, but not legally married.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Extraordinary	12/1/2021	11/29/2021	Approved 11/22/2021

Extraordinary Change Reason

The USEF Amateur Task Force was formed by the President in early 2021 to review the existing Amateur Rules (GR1306 & GR1307) to ensure they are meeting the needs of USEF members, the sport, and the organization. The task force was specifically charged with addressing long-standing concerns raised by members and affiliates as expeditiously as possible to make certain that any issues in the existing rules are addressed in a timely manner. Throughout the process, it became evident that some proposals would need to be deemed as Extraordinary to meet the responsibility assigned to the task force. Member and affiliate feedback has identified that the current rules create a severe hardship for members, affiliates and the Federation as elements of these rules are no longer relevant in today’s environment and create a barrier to the growth, accessibility and sustainability of equestrian sport.

Rule Change Intent

The environment has changed considerably since the latest version of the amateur rule was approved. It must be examined to ensure its relevance in today’s environment. Member feedback, accessibility to equestrian sport and sport growth are driving the need to change this rule. Influencers in social media are individuals who have built a reputation for their knowledge and expertise about a specific topic. They make regular posts about that topic on their preferred social media channels and generate large followings of enthusiastic, engaged people who pay close attention to their views. By utilizing social media correctly, all members create the opportunity to expand the narrative and bridge the gap to those inside and outside of the equestrian industry. This activity ultimately leads to growth in the sport for the benefit of all by inviting those to connect with equestrian sport. Therefore, an amateur may be a social media influencer or brand ambassador.

This proposal seeks to allow these individuals to receive remuneration in exchange for social posting about the brand on social channels, product gifted in exchange for posting about the brand on social channels, and receive/promote discount codes and early access to products for promoting loyalty programs while retaining their amateur designation. However, these individuals are not allowed to participate in the sport as sponsored riders and still retain amateur designation. Additionally, this proposal calls for adding definitions for Social Media Influencers, Social Media Brand Ambassadors, and Sponsored Riders to the definitions in GR Chapter 1 to clearly differentiate between activities allowed and disallowed by amateur participants.

Proponent Details Contact Information

Breeds/Disciplines

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Linked Rules Comments

BOD: Draft 2 is BOD Approved 11/22/21.

Committee Actions

Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/08/2021

Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/09/2021

Council - Member Services

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/09/2021

SUBCHAPTER 13-B AMATEURS AND PROFESSIONALS

For purposes of this Subchapter the following definitions apply:

Social Media Brand Ambassadors are social media users who spread the word about a company/brand or its products by posting about them on social media and promoting them to their unique social audience.

Social Media Influencers are individuals who have built a reputation for their knowledge, content creation, and expertise on a specific topic. They make regular posts about that topic on their preferred social media channels and generate large followings of enthusiastic, engaged people who pay close attention to their content.

Sponsored Rider is an individual who is paid by companies, sponsors, and/or owner/s to compete and perform, leveraging their exposure and performance in competition.

GR1306 Professional/Amateur Status

1. Amateur. Regardless of one's equestrian skills and/or accomplishments, a person is an amateur if after his 18th birthday, as defined in GR101 and GR103, he has not engaged in any of the activities identified in Section 4 below.

- a. For Amateurs in the Dressage Division, see DR119.3.
- b. For Amateurs in Jumper Sections, see JP118.
- c. For Amateurs in Hunter Sections, see HU137-HU138.
- d. For Amateurs in Eventing, see EV Appendix 3-Participation in Horse Trials.
- e. For Amateurs in the Arabian Division, see AR110.6 and AR110.7.

2. Remuneration. Remuneration is defined as compensation or payment in any form such as cash, goods, sponsorships, discounts, or services; reimbursement of any expenses; trade or in-kind exchange of goods or services such as board or training. Amateurs are permitted to accept remuneration for the following activities:

[...]

- f. Accept remuneration as a Social Media Influencer or Social Media Brand Ambassador.

[...]

4. Professional based on one's own activities. A person is a professional if after his 18th birthday he does any of the following:

[...]

- i. Accepts remuneration for the use of commercially logoed items while on competition grounds, as a Sponsored Rider.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Extraordinary	12/1/2021	11/29/2021	Approved 11/22/2021

Extraordinary Change Reason

The USEF Amateur Task Force was formed by the President in early 2021 to review the existing Amateur Rules (GR1306 & GR1307) to ensure they are meeting the needs of USEF members, the sport, and the organization. The task force was specifically charged with addressing long-standing concerns raised by members and affiliates as expeditiously as possible to make certain that any issues in the existing rules are addressed in a timely manner. Throughout the process, it became evident that some proposals would be deemed as Extraordinary to meet the responsibility assigned to the task force. Member and affiliate feedback has identified that the current rules create a severe hardship for members, affiliates and the Federation as elements of these rules are no longer relevant in today’s environment and create a barrier to the growth, accessibility and sustainability of equestrian sport.

Rule Change Intent

The environment has changed considerably since the latest version of the amateur rule was approved. It must be examined to ensure its relevance in today’s environment. Member feedback, accessibility to equestrian sport and sport growth are driving the need to change this rule.

This change enables anyone from the age of 18-25 who has engaged in professional activities and realizes they do not wish to continue to pursue equestrian sport as a profession a one-time opportunity to apply for amateur status with a 3-month waiting period. Many young adults are trying to determine their career direction and should not be penalized with a longer reinstatement timeframe.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
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Breeds/Disciplines

Terri Dolan

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Linked Rules	Comments
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BOD: Draft 2 is BOD Approved 11/22/21.

Committee Actions

Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/08/2021

Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/09/2021

Draft 1: While the IDC approves this proposed rule change, the Council wishes to convey that they support Dressage and USDF’s reason for disapproval.

Council - Member Services

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/09/2021

GR1306 Professional/Amateur Status

[...]

2. Remuneration. Remuneration is defined as compensation or payment in any form such as cash, goods, sponsorships, discounts, or services; reimbursement of any expenses; trade or in-kind exchange of goods or services such as board or training. Amateurs are permitted to accept remuneration for the following activities:

[...]

6. Violations of Amateur status. ***The holding of an amateur card does not preclude the question of amateur standing being raised.*** After an investigation as to proper status has been initiated, and upon request by the Federation and to the satisfaction of the Federation, an Amateur shall ***must*** submit verifiable proof of Amateur status. ~~including but not limited to a bill of sale for any horse(s) the Amateur is competing in classes restricted to Amateur Owners. If the Federation deems such proof insufficient, then the Federation may initiate proceedings under the Federation Bylaws.~~ ***Failure to submit requested documentation to the Federation may be deemed a violation of this rule. Any responsible person(s) found to have violated these rules, may be subject to the penalties as set forth in GR703.***

a. Any individual found to have knowingly assisted in the violation of the Amateur rule may also be subject to proceedings in accordance with the Federation Bylaws. See GR1307.

7. Questions about whether you are an Amateur or Professional. For specific inquiries, email amateuringquiry@usef.org.

GR1307 Amateur Status

1. Only ~~active~~ ***Senior Active Members of the*** Federation members may obtain amateur status. Every person who has reached his/her 18th birthday and competes in classes for amateurs under Federation rules must possess current amateur status issued by the Federation. ~~(Exception: This is not required for Opportunity classes except for the Dressage Division. If Opportunity classes are offered at Dressage Competitions or Regular/Local Competitions with "Open" Dressage classes and are restricted to amateurs, riders are required to have amateur status with the Federation). This status must be available for inspection or the competitor must have lodged with the competition secretary, at least one hour prior to such class, an application for such status provided by the Federation. Amateur status will be issued only on receipt of the application properly signed, ***or on receipt of an online status declaration***, and is revocable at any time for cause. Foreign riders requesting Federation Amateur status, must be a Junior, Senior or Life Competing Member of the Federation (Exception: Equestrian Canada members in possession of current EC membership may sign for Federation Amateur status on a show by show basis at no cost).~~ Any person who has not reached his/her 18th birthday is an amateur and does not require amateur status. ***Exceptions:***

- a. This is not required for Opportunity classes except for the Dressage Division. If Opportunity classes are offered at Dressage Competitions or Regular/Local Competitions with "Open" Dressage classes and are restricted to amateurs, riders are required to have amateur status with the Federation.
- b. Equestrian Canada members in possession of current EC membership may sign for Federation Amateur status on a show by show basis at no cost.

2. ***Foreign riders requesting Federation Amateur status, must be a Senior or Life Competing Member of the Federation.***

3. ***There is no fee for amateur status.*** An amateur continues to be such until he/she has received a change in status from the Federation. Any amateur who wishes to be re-classified on the grounds that he/she has engaged ***in*** or is planning on engaging in activities which would prevent him/her from continuing to remain an amateur must notify the Federation in writing.

~~3. There is no fee for amateur status for Senior Active or Life Members. A member will be deemed to continue his amateur status unless the member notifies the Federation in writing of a change.~~

~~4. If a person violates or does not comply with the above, he/she will not be eligible to compete in amateur classes and will not be entitled to an award in such classes and will be deemed guilty of a violation within the meaning of Chapter 7 in the event he/she does compete.~~

~~5. In the event a person is found to be a professional as a result of a complaint made in connection with a competition, all awards won by such person in amateur classes at such competition and subsequent competitions shall be forfeited and returned to the competition and the person shall be subject to further disciplinary action. The holding of an amateur card does not preclude the question of amateur standing being raised.~~

~~6. The trainer may be subject to disciplinary action if an exhibitor shows as an amateur and it is determined that the trainer had knowledge of the exhibitor's professional activities.~~

~~a. Any changes of status from professional to amateur, or vice versa, will be published on the Federation's web site.~~

~~7. An exhibitor who engages a person to ride, drive or show in halter in any amateur class and then remunerates such person beyond the extent to which such amateur is entitled as provided above in GR1306 will be subject to disciplinary action under Chapter 7.~~

~~8. Any person who under these rules is a professional and knowingly and falsely represents himself/herself to be an amateur by declaring or maintaining current amateur status issued by the Federation, and any person who violates any of the provisions of this rule, will be subject to disciplinary action under Chapter 7.~~

~~9. 4. A professional continues to be such until he/she has received amateur status by a vote of the Hearing Committee. Any professional who wishes to be reclassified as an amateur on the grounds that he/she has not engaged in the activities which made him/her a professional within the last twelve months must **complete the reclassification process outlined below**. notify the Federation in writing.~~

~~a. Such person shall submit to the Hearing Committee an amateur reclassification request which is supported by:~~

~~i. A notarized letter signed by him/her **briefly** outlining **his previous** the horse related **professional** activities **and** (using specific dates) **which made said person a professional** and outlining the **his current** activities performed within the twelve months period (or longer) since professional activities have ceased,~~

~~ii. Two or more notarized letters from any Senior Active **Competing** Federation members stating the relationship with the applicant, **and** outlining the applicants activities for the **one year previous twelve-month** period, **preceding such written notification** advising and testifying that the applicant has not engaged in any activities which would make him/her a professional as outlined in GR1306 during that period,~~

~~iii. A processing fee, and~~

~~iv.. Sign and declare amateur status on a current Federation membership application; **or through an online status declaration**. The burden of proof of proving amateur status is on the applicant. The Hearing Committee may call for and/or consider any and all further evidence and facts which it deems pertinent. The decision of the Hearing Committee on the reclassification request shall be final.~~

~~**v. EXCEPTION: Any amateur 25 and under, who has engaged in professional activities (as defined herein) may reapply for their amateur status utilizing a 3-month waiting period. The 3-month option is only available for a one-time use. Any subsequent application for amateur status would require a twelve-month waiting period.**~~

~~b. Any changes of status from professional to amateur, or vice versa, will be published on the Federation's website.~~

~~10. Please contact the Federation office for information regarding international/professional licenses.~~

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Extraordinary	12/1/2021	8/23/2021	Approved 11/22/2021

Extraordinary Change Reason

With the absence of lameness from the penalty/disqualification listings for these two Ranch classes, the only way to eliminate a horse for lameness is through a veterinarian which at most Arabian shows is on-call and not present on the competition grounds. By adding lameness to each of the two listed Ranch classes as a penalty/disqualification, whichever is the most severe for the class type, we will be giving judges the ability to aid a horse who is lame.

Rule Change Intent

In Ranch Horse Riding and Ranch Horse Rail Pleasure, lameness is not listed as a penalty/disqualification as it is in other Ranch classes. By adding lameness to each of the two listed Ranch classes as a penalty/disqualification, whichever is the most severe for the class type, we will be giving judges the ability to aid a horse who is lame. This was an oversight which needs to be corrected for the welfare of the horses competing.

Proponent Details

Arabian

Contact Information

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Linked Rules

Comments

Committee Actions

Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/08/2021

SUBCHAPTER AR-26 WORKING WESTERN SECTION

AR221 Ranch Horse Riding

15. Ranch Horse Penalties - A contestant shall be penalized each time the following occur:

- a. One (1) point penalties
 1. Too slow/per gait
 2. Over-bridled
 3. Out of frame
 4. Break of gait at walk or jog for 2 strides or less
- b. Three (3) point penalties
 1. Break of gait at walk or jog for more than 2 strides
 2. Break of gait at lope
 3. Wrong lead or out of lead
 4. Draped reins
- c. Five (5) point penalties
 1. Blatant disobedience (kick, bite, buck, rear, etc.)
- d. Ten (10) point penalties
 1. Eliminates or adds maneuver
 2. Incomplete maneuver
 3. Off pattern
- e. Zero (0) score
 1. Willfull abuse
 2. Major disobedience or schooling
 3. Illegal use of fingers or hands on reins

4. Lameness

AR223 Ranch Horse Rail Pleasure

8. Penalties. An exhibitor shall be penalized for:
- a. Too slow a gait
 - b. Over-bridled
 - c. Out of frame
 - d. Break of gait
 - e. Wrong lead, out of lead, or cross-cantering
 - f. Draped reins
 - g. Trotting more than two strides when taking lead

h. Blatant disobedience (kick, bite, buck, rear, etc.)

i. Schooling

j. Spurring in front of cinch

k. Use of either hand to instill fear/ praise

9. A horse shall be disqualified for lameness

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Extraordinary	12/1/2021	8/13/2021	Approved 11/22/2021

Extraordinary Change Reason

This is a safety issue for young riders participating in Dressage Seat Equitation classes.

Rule Change Intent

Remove "riding without stirrups" from the list of additional movements and exercises that may be requested. This is a safety issue, as it impacts young children, some new to dressage and showing. Additionally, some equitation riders compete on borrowed horses in Dressage Seat Equitation classes.

Proponent Details Contact Information

Dressage

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Linked Rules Comments

Committee Actions

Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/09/2021

DR 133 – Dressage Seat Equitation

5. Additional tests from which judges may choose movements and exercises, as required at Training and First Level, to be ridden in small groups or independently:

- a. Transitions
- b. Leg yield
- c. Changes of lead through trot
- d. Serpentine at the trot
- e. Shallow loop serpentine with counter canter
- f. Trot lengthening and/or canter lengthening
- g. ~~Riding without stirrups~~

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Extraordinary	12/1/2021	7/27/2021	Approved 11/22/2021

Extraordinary Change Reason

Safety

Rule Change Intent

To help mitigate risk in show jumping warm up, the ELOC has submitted this extraordinary rule change proposal. Placing poles are allowed under FEI rules, but FEI competitions have trained licensed stewards to supervise the show jumping warm-up and the use of placement poles. Very few, if any, national competitions have warm-up stewards who are capable of monitoring the correct use of placement poles. It is being presented as an EO to expedite the implementation of this safety measure

Proponent Details	Contact Information
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USEA

Amber Braun

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Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions

Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/09/2021

EV108 Exercising and Warming Up

d. The only practice fences that competitors may jump are those flagged fences provided by the Organizer. No part of the fences may ever be held by anyone while a horse is jumping. These fences may not be raised more than 10 cm (4 inches) above the maximum height permitted for the competition in progress (or about to begin), nor may the spread exceed the maximum permitted. Ground lines may be placed directly under, or up to 1.00 meter (3'3") in front of, the obstacle. They may not be placed even slightly on the landing side. **Placement poles are not allowed at National Horse Trials.** The upper ends of crossed poles must always be supported by cups. If a horizontal pole is placed above crossed poles, it must be higher than the upper ends of the crossed poles. These practice fences must be jumped in the correct direction. The practice fences shall only be jumped at times laid down by the Organizing Committee. Violation of any of the above provisions relating to practice fences is forbidden, under penalty of disqualification, at the discretion of the Ground Jury.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Extraordinary	12/1/2021	9/22/2021	Approved 11/22/2021

Extraordinary Change Reason

Safety

Rule Change Intent

To make it very clear that to incur a compulsory retirement (CR) penalty, permission to continue is not an option.

Proponent Details Contact Information

USEA

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Linked Rules Comments

Committee Actions

Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/09/2021

EV153.4 – FAULTS

4. Faults are penalized in penalty points, elimination, **or compulsory retirement** as set out in this section (EV153).

20 or more (jump) penalties at Training, Modified, Preliminary, Intermediate, or Advanced.

Compulsory retirement (**CR**) at end of round if or show jumping phase occurs prior to cross-country

For safety reasons a competitor who receives a CR at Training level or above, will not be given permission to ride the cross-country course.

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Extraordinary	12/1/2022	11/29/2021	Approved 11/22/2021

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

BOD: Draft 2 is BOD approved 11/22/21.

Committee Actions

Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Disapproval 11/08/2021

Draft 1: The Council would be in favor of this rule change if the 80% payout language were removed. The Council would like the opportunity to further examine if the percentage warrants a necessity within the rule as currently presented.

Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/09/2021

Council - Member Services

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/09/2021

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. The Federation may waive or amend the three-day restriction if circumstances warrant.**
2. At least three (3) **Regional** rated Hunter sections must be offered. (Exception: competitions exclusively offering **Hunter and/or Jumping Seat Equitation or Hunter Breeding classes**). ~~Divided sections count as a single section.~~
3. 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. **The Federation may waive or amend the restriction on the number of Regional rated competitions held in a calendar week if circumstances warrant. 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. 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 rated hunter sections in which prize money was paid, and**
 - 2. 40% of the pool to the reserve champions of the 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 or Hunter Breeding 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. **The Federation may waive or amend the restriction on the number of Regional rated competitions held in a calendar week if circumstances warrant Effective 12/1/22**

3. 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. 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 rated hunter sections in which prize money was paid, and**
 - 2. 40% of the pool to the reserve champions of the 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 80% of the total money offered in rated hunter sections or classes must be paid out.
Premier ("AA") competitions	\$75,000 and over must be paid out in rated hunter sections and classes.

-
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 1st, 22% for second, 15% for 3rd, 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.***

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Extraordinary	12/1/2022	11/29/2021	Approved 11/22/2021

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 clarify how hunter sections may be combined and/or divided and how prize money offering and distribution is affected accordingly under the USEF Board-approved Hunter/Jumper competition and award channel restructure initiated by the approved rule change to GR307 (Tracking #209-20). These proposed changes seek to offer competition organizers added flexibility to better meet the needs of exhibitors and support the competition structure changes were that 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
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Competitions Task Force

Leslie Mangan

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Linked Rules	Comments
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BOD: Draft 2 is BOD 11/22/21. It's uploaded on 11/29/21.

Committee Actions

Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/08/2021

Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/09/2021

Council - Member Services

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/09/2021

SUBCHAPTER HU-1 DEFINITIONS

HU100 Horse Welfare

1. The following acts are prohibited:
 - a. Riding an exhausted horse.
 - b. Excessive pressuring of a tired horse.
 - c. Riding or lunging an obviously lame horse.
 - d. Excessive use of a whip on any horse in a stall, aisle, schooling area, competition ring or elsewhere on the competition grounds. The use of a whip must be for a good reason, done at the appropriate time, in the proper place and with appropriate restraint. Excessive whipping will not be tolerated.
 - e. Any striking of the horse's head (on the poll or forward of the poll) shall be deemed excessive.
 - f. Repeated jerking on the reins and sawing on the bit unless applied to an unruly horse that is jeopardizing his own safety or the safety of his rider.
 - g. Improper use of the bit resulting in bleeding, broken skin or broken mucous membrane.
 - h. Excessive use of the spurs or spurring resulting in broken and bleeding skin.
 - i. Rapping the legs of a horse with the butt end of a riding crop or other implement.
 - j. Use of any substance to induce temporary heat causing hyper-sensitization.
 - k. Poling.
 - l. Use of a wire or chain in conjunction with any schooling jumps.
 - m. Use of electronic shock devices in schooling or showing.
 - n. Use of shackles, hock hobbles and similar devices, with the exception of kicking chains while the horse is in the stall or in transport. This does not prohibit the use of rubber or plastic exercising devices.
 - o. Showing a horse with hypersensitive, raw or bleeding sores around the cornets, pasterns, legs or body.
 - p. Use of laser beam devices anywhere on the competition grounds, except in an exhibition or if required in class specifications. (Exception: Lasers used in a therapeutic manner).
 - q. Withholding of feed or water for prolonged periods.
 - r. Letting blood from a horse for other than diagnostic purposes.
 - s. Inhumane treatment of a horse in a stall, aisle, schooling area, competition ring or elsewhere on the competition grounds, by any person.
 - t. Use of any device capable of emitting a flame or spark in and around the schooling/warm-up and competition rings during scheduled competition sessions.
 - u. Use of any attention getting device that emits a spray, mist, or fog while competing in the ring, such as an aerosol can or spray bottle.

2. ~~Regular and local competitions.~~ Competitors found to be in violation of these rules by the Competition Steward or other Federation Official shall be eliminated/disqualified from competing within the upcoming 24-hour period and shall forfeit all entry fees for such competition. In addition, after consultation between Competition Management, the Steward, or other official involved, and a Senior Judge in the division, additional penalties including disqualification from the balance of the competition may be imposed. All such violations must be recorded in the Steward's Report and, if cruelty or abusive behavior is evident, it will be reviewed by the Federation for such action as may be deemed appropriate to the particular circumstances.

[...]

HU111 Height of Obstacles

When a range of fence heights is allowed in a class or section, the minimum height must be used unless a higher

height is specified in the prize list. In all cases, the spread of jump may not exceed height and must be measured including flowers, brush and ground lines.

1. Green Hunter Sections:
 - a. Green Hunter 3'0"
 - b. Green Hunter 3'3"
 - c. Green Hunter 3'6"
 - d. Green Hunter 3'9"(Exception: Fences may be a maximum of 3" lower in Zones 11 and 12)
2. Young Hunter Sections:
 - a. Young Hunter 5 and under – 2'9"
 - b. Young Hunter 6 and under – 3'0"
 - c. Young Hunter 7 and under – 3'3"
3. High Performance Hunter: 4' minimum in **Premier** rated sections at Premier rated competitions; 3'9" minimum in **National** rated sections at National rated competitions, and in **Regional rated** sections at **Regional rated competitions**. Obstacles may not exceed 4'6". (Exception: Fences may be a maximum of 3" lower in Zones 11 and 12) *BOD 8/30/21 Effective 12/1/22*
4. Performance Hunter 3'3"
5. Performance Hunter 3'6"
6. Green Conformation Hunter 3'6"
7. High Performance Conformation Hunter: 3'9"
8. Amateur Owner Hunter Sections:
 - a. Obstacles at National and Premier rated competitions must be 3'6"
 - b. Obstacles at competitions in Zones 11 and 12 may be 3'3" or 3'6"
 - c. If a 3'3" Amateur Owner Hunter Section is offered, obstacles are to be 3'3"
 - d. If a competition offers both 3'3" and 3'6" Amateur Owner Hunter sections, regardless of the competition's rating, the obstacles must be set at 3'3" and 3'6" respectively
9. Adult Amateur Hunter Sections: See individual USHJA Zone specifications. For those USHJA Zones that do not provide specifications, obstacles will be 2'9" to 3'3". ~~No minimum height required at Local Competitions.~~
10. Local Competitions: ~~No minimum in any section.~~
11. Non-rated sections: Heights determined by competition management unless otherwise specified
12. Ladies Side Saddle Sections: 3'
13. Junior Hunter Sections:
 - a. Obstacles must be 3'6" in all classes. (Exception: Fences may be 3" lower in Zones 11 and 12 and in the Junior Hunter 3'3" section.)
 - b. No minimum height required at Local Competitions
14. Children's Hunter Sections: Obstacles will be 2' for small ponies and medium ponies; 2'6" for large ponies and 2'9" to 3'3" for horses. No minimum height required at Local Competitions.
15. Green Pony Hunter: 2'3" for small, 2'6" for medium and 2'9" for large
16. Regular Pony Hunter: 2'3" for small, 2'6" for medium and 2'9" - 3'0" for large
17. Three-Year-Old Hunter: Not to exceed 2'9"
18. Small Hunter Sections: 3'
19. Thoroughbred Hunter: 3'0"

[...]

HU143 Junior Hunter 3'3" and 3'6"

1. Riders must not have reached their 18th birthday (See GR128).
2. All horses showing in the Junior Hunter Section at Regular Competitions must have a Federation measurement card.
 - a. A large Junior Hunter is over 16 hands.
 - b. A small Junior Hunter is 16.0 hands and under.
3. Junior Hunter. In all classes manners will be emphasized and extreme speed will be penalized.
4. Conformation is not to exceed 25% in any class except a Model class. In Junior Working Hunter sections no more than 50% of the classes may be judged on conformation.

5. Show championships:
 - a. Separate Championships must be offered when all classes are divided but cannot be offered unless they are divided.
 - b. The Champion and Reserve titles are awarded to the top two of the four horses which have acquired the most points performing over a regulation course in the Junior Hunter section. In addition to these points only these horses will receive half points for ribbons won in Model classes and full points for ribbons won in Under Saddle classes if otherwise qualified. The prize list must specify which classes will count.
6. Restrictions for all Junior Hunter sections:
 - a. Stallions are prohibited from all Junior Hunter classes.
 - b. Ponies may not be entered in Junior Hunter classes if Pony Hunter classes are offered at the same competition.
 - c. Horses cannot be entered in more than one age section of the same class.
 - d. If two or more sections are offered, horses cannot be entered in more than one section.
 - e. Number of horses ridden
 1. In **Premier or National** rated Junior Hunter sections divided by age of rider only, no exhibitor may ride more than two (2) large and two (2) small Junior Hunters in any section.
 2. In **Premier or National** rated Junior Hunter sections offered by the height of horse, an exhibitor may not ride more than two (2) horses in any section. If sections offered by height of horse are combined, an exhibitor may not ride more than two (2) large and two (2) Small Junior Hunters in the combined section.
 3. In **Premier or National** rated Junior Hunter sections divided by height of horse and age of rider an exhibitor may not ride more than two (2) horses in each section.
 4. In **Regional** rated and ~~Local~~ Junior Hunter sections, no exhibitor may ride more than three (3) horses in a class.
7. Junior Hunter 3'3" restrictions:
 - a. Riders may not cross-enter into any class at 3'6" or higher in the Hunter division, higher than 3'9" in the Equitation division or higher than 1.25m in the Jumper division at the same competition.
 - b. Horses entered in the Junior Hunter 3'3" section may not cross-enter into the Junior Hunter 3'6" section at the same competition.
8. If the Junior Hunter section is split by height of animal, the horse may be shown over fences by different riders as long as they are from the same age group.
9. Any junior rider may show a Junior Hunter under saddle.
10. **Junior Hunters are required to jog be evaluated for soundness using one of the methods in HU118.3. Effective 12/1/22**

[...]

HU146 Low Children's Hunter Pony Sections

1. **Competitions must offer Low Children's Hunter Pony sections in accordance with the specifications of the applicable USHJA Zone. The specifications as shown below will apply unless addressed by specific zone specifications (available at www.ushja.org).**
 - a. **To be ridden by exhibitors who have not reached their 18th birthday as of December 1 of the current competition year.**
 - b. **Stallions are prohibited from all Low Children's Pony Hunter classes.**

HU147 USHJA Hunter Sections

1. **USHJA Hunter 2'0". Fences 2'0", oxers are optional, combinations are not permitted. To be shown over a course of at least eight (8) fences.**
2. **USHJA Hunter 2'3". Fences 2'3", oxers are optional, combinations are not permitted. To be shown over a course of at least eight (8) fences.**
3. **USHJA Hunter 2'6". Fences 2'6", combinations are permitted. To be shown over a course of at least eight (8) fences.**
4. **USHJA Hunter 2'9". Fences 2'9", combinations are permitted. To be shown over a course of at least eight (8) fences.**
5. **USHJA Hunter 3'0". Fences 3', combinations are permitted. To be shown over a course of at least eight (8) fences.**

SUBCHAPTER HU-12 COMBINING AND DIVIDING OF SECTIONS OR CLASSES

HU157 General

1. **Unless stated otherwise in Federation rules, a competition may offer sections as combined or divided. However, if originally offered as combined, but later divided, each subsequent divided section must offer the minimum amount of prize money offered in the original combined section (see HU158).**
2. Sections must be divided or combined based on the number of entries in the first over fences class and may not be combined or divided after the first class. Exception: Performance/High Performance Working Hunter, see HU162.1b.
3. No section may be divided if there are less than 30 entries with the exception of those sections required to split sections based on the number of entries for a particular fence height, horse size, or rider age section i.e.:
 - a. Exception:
 1. Green Hunter (HU162.2)
 2. Young Hunter (HU162.3)
 3. Junior Hunter (HU162.5)
 4. Amateur Owner Hunter (HU162.6)
 5. **Regional** rated Pony Hunter sections (HU162.8) *BOD 8/30/21 Effective 12/01/22*
 6. Children's and Adult Amateur Hunter sections refer to HU162.9; HU162.10 and sections governed by USHJA Zone Specifications.
4. Any section with 50 or more entries at the beginning of the first class must be divided. If there are 50 or more entries remaining in a section after it has been divided, the section must be redivided by every other number. Once a section has been redivided it may not be divided further.

HU158 Prize money

~~Prize money must be doubled~~—Whenever a section is divided, **the prize money offered in each divided section must be the same as offered in the original section. Additionally, the prize money offered per class and per placing in each of the divided sections must be no less than the amounts offered in the original undivided section.**

HU159 Methods of Dividing

1. California Split (see HU458~~160~~ below for definition)
2. Random Split (see HU459~~161~~ below for definition)
3. Floating Split (see HU460~~162~~ below for definition)
4. Junior/Amateur (see HU464~~163~~ below for definition)
5. Size of Horse
6. Age of Rider

HU160 Definition of a California Split:

1. The California Split is used to divide large classes. The judge keeps track of twice the number of placings required for either ribbons or the jog order. At the completion of the jog, the judge creates two separate orders using alternating numbers in the following manner: the highest score is first in Section A, the second highest score is first in Section B, the third highest score is second in Section A, the fourth highest score is second in Section B and so on until all placings are awarded or the jog order is complete. The result is two sections of the same class being pinned separately. Competition Management may choose to split classes using the California Split after the class has started.

Example:

Horse's Placing	Prize Awarded
1st	1st

2nd	1st
3rd	2nd
4th	2nd
5th	3rd
6th	3rd
7th	4th
8th	4th
9th	5th
10th	5th
11th	6th
12th	6th
13th	7th
14th	7th
15th	8th
16th	8th

2. Jog. The judge will call one jog order of up to twenty (20) horses. Once the horses have jogged for soundness and the jog has been made official, the A and B sections will be pinned using the California Split.
3. Under Saddle. A Section with twelve (12) or less must be judged as one class using the California Split. Sections that are judged under the California Split must have results for Section A and B. A random split will be used for under saddle classes of more than twelve (12).
4. In reckoning Championship points, the top eight horses that receive the most points in the Over Fences classes are awarded points for the Under Saddle and/or Model class(es). The Championship is awarded as follows: Horse with most points—Champion Number 1. Horse with second highest points— Champion Number 2. Horse with third highest points—Reserve Champion Number 1. Horse with fourth highest points—Reserve Champion Number 2.

HU161 Definition of a Random Split

A random split allows management to draw horses for a section either by hand or a computer-generated draw. The number of horses in each section must be equal with a variable of one.

HU162 Definition of Floating Split

A Floating Split allows management to adjust sections offered split by age in the prize list either up or down in one year increments until the minimum number of entries required for each new section has been reached. As long as the minimum requirements for splitting sections are met, management may split the sections using the age split they deem most appropriate for their competition. Rider age must be given on the entry blank.

HU163 Definition of Split by Junior Amateur

If there are 30 or more entries in a section that is open to all competitors, Competition Management may choose to divide the section and offer one of the divided sections as restricted to Juniors and Amateurs (See GR128 and GR1306-GR1307 for definition of Junior and Amateur).

HU164 Combining and Dividing Specific Sections

1. Performance Hunter, High Performance Hunter and any sections where individual classes may be entered.
 - a. Combining
 1. At all licensed competitions, if there are fewer than six entries in either the Performance Hunter 3'3" or Performance Hunter 3'6" they must be combined, but they cannot be combined with any other Hunter sections, except High Performance Hunter. If there are six or more entries in each Performance Hunter section, they must be held separately. If the Performance Hunter 3' 6" and the Performance Hunter 3'3" sections have fewer than three entries after they have been combined they may be further combined with the High Performance Hunter section.

2. If there are fewer than three entries in the High Performance Hunter section it must first be combined with the Performance Hunter 3'6" section or the Green Hunter 3'9" section (or with Green Hunter 3'6"/3'9" if offered combined). If the High Performance Hunter section is combined with the Performance Hunter 3'6" section it may then further be combined with the Performance Hunter 3'3" section, but may not be combined with the Green Hunter section(s).
 3. When the High Performance Hunter section is combined with the Performance Hunter section the following applies:
 - a. When combining High Performance Hunter with Performance Hunters, the combined sections must offer the same number of classes offered by the Performance Hunter section(s) with which it is combined.
 - b. When combining High Performance Hunter with another section, if different amounts of prize money or entry fees were offered in the original sections, the combined sections will use the lower amount for both prize money and entry fees.
 4. When the High Performance Hunter section is combined with the Green Hunter section the following applies:
 - a. If, after combining, there are still fewer than three entries in the combined section, it must be further combined with the Green Hunter 3'6" section
 - b. If combined Green Hunter sections have fewer than three entries, they must be combined with High Performance Working Hunter.
 - c. A horse that is eligible for more than one section must be declared and compete in only one. Horses will jump the respective height for the entered section.
 - d. When combining High Performance Working Hunter with another section, if different amounts of prize money or entry fees were offered in the original sections, the combined sections will use the lower amount for both prize money and entry fees.
 - e. When combining a section of High Performance Hunter with either a section of Green Hunter 3'6", Green Hunter 3'9", or both, the combined sections must offer the same number of classes offered by the Green Hunter section(s) with which it is combined. In addition, a section entry fee will be required and individual classes may no longer be entered for the combined section.
 - f. The High Performance Hunter section may be combined with a combined Green Hunter 3'6"/3'9" section but may not be combined with any Green Hunter 3'3" or 3'0 sections.
 - b. Dividing:
 1. In Performance Hunter, High Performance Hunter and any other sections where individual classes may be entered, the sections may only be divided after thirty (30) horses have competed in the first over fences class. Subsequent classes may be divided once twelve (12) horses have competed in each class. For Championships, see HU150.
2. Green Hunter
- a. Combining:
 1. Green Hunter section(s) may not be combined with any other hunter section(s). (Exception; The High Performance Hunter section may be combined with the Green Hunter 3'6" and 3'9" sections, see HU162.1)
 2. Regardless of competition rating, each Green Hunter section that is offered separately must be held separately when there is a minimum of three entries.
 3. If there are fewer than three entries in a Green Hunter section, that section must be combined with a contiguous fence height section of the Green Hunter.
 4. If, after combining, there are still fewer than three (3) entries in the combined section, it must be further combined with the next contiguous fence height section of the Green Hunter.
 5. In the case where there are no entries in the fence height section that bridges the gap between the two non-contiguous fence height sections those two non-contiguous fence height sections may be combined.
 6. If **Premier or National** rated Green Hunter 3'0" and/or 3'3" sections are combined with **Premier or National** rated Green Hunter 3'6" and/or Green Hunter 3'9" sections a Handy Hunter class is not required. The combined sections must meet class number requirements for **Premier or National** rated Green Hunter 3'6" and Green Hunter 3'9" and use the lower amount for both prize money and entry fees.
 7. When the High Performance Hunter section is combined with the Green Hunter section the following applies:
 - a. If, after combining, there are still fewer than three entries in the combined section, it must be further combined with the Green Hunter 3'6" section

- b. If combined Green Hunter sections have fewer than three entries, they must be combined with High Performance Working Hunter.
 - c. A horse that is eligible for more than one section must be declared and compete in only one. Horses will jump the respective height for the entered section.
 - d. When combining High Performance Working Hunter with another section, if different amounts of prize money or entry fees were offered in the original sections, the combined sections will use the lower amount for both prize money and entry fees.
 - e. When combining a section of High Performance Hunter with either a section of Green Hunter 3'6", Green Hunter 3'9", or both, the combined sections must offer the same number of classes offered by the Green Hunter section(s) with which it is combined. In addition, a section entry fee will be required and individual classes may no longer be entered for the combined section.
 - f. The High Performance Hunter section may be combined with a combined Green Hunter 3'6"/3'9" section but may not be combined with any Green Hunter 3'3" or 3'0" sections.
- b. Dividing:
- 1. Regardless of competition rating, any Green Hunter section that is offered combined must be split by fence height, and sections held separately when there is a minimum of three entries in any one fence height section provided at least three (3) entries remain in each of the other two sections, which would also be held separately, or as one other combined section. Contiguous fence height sections should be combined before combining non-contiguous fence height sections.
3. Young Hunter
- a. Combining:
- 1. Young Hunter section(s) may not be combined with any other Hunter section.
 - 2. At Competition Management's discretion, and with at least three (3) Young Hunters entered in any section, the Young Hunter Section(s) may run concurrently with the corresponding Green Hunter height section or Combined Green Hunter Section. Horses that are entered in both the Young Hunter and Green Hunter section(s) will be eligible for awards in both sections. Horses that are not entered in both sections will only be eligible for awards in the section in which they are entered. If there are fewer than three (3) entries in any of the Young Hunter section(s) they must be combined for awards per HU162.3. A separate entry fee for the Young Hunter Section will apply. The Green Hunter section requirements by rating listed in HU162.2 will still apply.
 - 3. Regardless of competition rating, each Young Hunter section that is offered separately must be held separately when there is a minimum of three entries. If there are fewer than three (3) entries in a Young Hunter section that section must be combined with a contiguous fence height section of the Young Hunter. If, after combining, there are still fewer than three (3) entries in the combined section, it must be further combined with the next contiguous fence height section of the Young Hunter. In the case where there are no entries in the fence height section that bridges the gap between the two non-contiguous fence height sections those two non-contiguous fence height sections may be combined.
- b. Dividing:
- 1. Regardless of competition rating, any Young Hunter section that is offered as a combined section must be split by fence height, and sections held separately when there is a minimum of three entries in any one fence height section provided at least three (3) entries remain in each of the other two sections, which would also be held separately, or one other combined section. Contiguous fence height sections should be combined before combining non-contiguous fence height sections.
4. Green Conformation Hunter 3'6" and High Performance Conformation Hunter
- a. Combining:
- 1. The Green Conformation Hunter 3'6" may only be combined with the High Performance Conformation Hunter. The High Performance Conformation Hunter may only be combined with the Green Conformation Hunter 3'6".
 - 2. When offered as two sections, if there are fewer than four (4) horses in either the Green Conformation 3'6" or the High Performance Conformation section they must be combined.
 - 3. When combining Green Conformation Hunter with High Performance Conformation Hunter, if different amounts of prize money or entry fees were offered in the original sections, the combined section will use the lower amount for both prize money and entry fees.
- b. Dividing: If there are four (4) or more horses in each Conformation section they must be held separately.
5. Junior Hunter

- a. Combining:
 1. The Junior Hunter 3'6", Junior Hunter 3'3", Amateur Owner Hunter 3'6", and Amateur Owner Hunter 3'3" sections may only be combined with other Junior Hunter or Amateur Owner Hunter sections. See below for conditions.
 2. At Premier, National, **or** Regional rated competitions if there are fewer than three (3) entries in the Amateur Owner 3'3", the Amateur Owner 3'6", the Junior Hunter 3'3" or the Junior Hunter 3'6" sections, Competition Management may choose to combine the sections. The Competition Management may choose to combine the sections as necessary, based on the sections with the lightest entries. If sections are combined, the horses must jump the respective height of the original section entered. In addition, while the sections can be combined if entries warrant, in order for Horse of the Year points to count they must be offered separately in the prize list **for Premier rated competitions (see HJ122)**.
 3. It is recommended that when competitions anticipate 50 horses or more this section be divided by age of rider or height of horse when prize list is prepared.
 - b. Dividing:
 1. When divided, sections must be split using one of the methods from HU157 Methods of Dividing.
 2. If there are 50 or more entries in the section at the beginning of the first class it must be divided and the prize money must be doubled. A section with less than 30 entries cannot be divided.
 3. If there are 50 or more entries remaining in a section after it has been divided, the section must be redivided and the prize money must be doubled. Once a section has been redivided it may be divided further if management so desires.
 4. If the Junior Hunter sections are divided by height of animal, they must be divided into Large and Small. **Premier** rated Junior Hunter 3'6" sections at Premier rated competitions must be offered as four sections (large/younger, large/older, small/ younger, small/older).
 5. If there are six (6) or more entries in each divided section, the divided sections must be held separately. If there are fewer than six (6) entries in any sections divided by age and/or height of animal, those sections must be combined with other sections. If there is a minimum of twelve (12) entries once any sections have been combined, the newly combined section must be redivided. Management may determine a cut off time for entering before redividing any section(s).
6. Amateur Owner Hunter
- a. Combining:
 1. The Amateur Owner Hunter 3'6", Amateur Owner Hunter 3'3", Junior Hunter 3'6", and Junior Hunter 3'3" sections may only be combined with other Amateur Owner Hunter or Junior Hunter sections. See below for conditions.
 2. At Premier, National, **or** Regional rated competitions if there are fewer than three (3) entries in the Amateur Owner 3'3", the Amateur Owner 3'6", the Junior Hunter 3'3" or the Junior Hunter 3'6" sections, competition management may choose to combine the sections. The competition management may choose to combine the sections as necessary, based on the sections with the lightest entries. If sections are combined, the horses must jump the respective height of the original section entered. In addition, while the sections can be combined if entries warrant, in order for Horse of the Year points to count they must be offered separately in the prize list **for Premier rated competitions (see HJ121)**.
 3. At Premier, National, **or** Regional rated competitions if there are fewer than three (3) entries in the Amateur Owner 3'3", the Amateur Owner 3'6", the Junior Hunter 3'3" or the Junior Hunter 3'6" sections, these sections may be combined. The competition management may choose to combine the classes as necessary, based on the sections with the lightest entries. If sections are combined, the horses must jump the respective height of the original section entered.
 - b. Dividing:
 1. Amateur Owner 3'6" When a section is divided, one section must be offered for amateurs 18-35 and one section for amateurs over 35 years of age. If there are six or more entries in each divided section, the divided sections must be held separately. If there are fewer than six entries in either divided section, they must be combined. If there are a minimum of 12 entries once the sections are combined, the newly combined section must be redivided using either a Floating or California Split. (See HU160 & HU158 for definition of a Floating and California Split.) Management may determine a cutoff time for entering before redividing any section(s). When using a floating split the age groups must be posted at the competition office. Rider age must be given on the entry blank. When divided as to age of rider no horse may compete in more than one section. These sections may be further divided by age of rider or by every other number.

2. Amateur Owner 3'3" When a section is divided, one section must be offered for amateurs 18-35 and one section for amateurs over 35 years of age. If there are six or more entries in each divided section, the divided sections must be held separately. If there are fewer than six entries in either divided section, they must be combined. If there are a minimum of 12 entries once the sections are combined, the newly combined section must be re-divided using either a Floating or California Split. (See HU160 & HU158 for definition of a Floating and California Split.) When using a floating split the age groups must be posted at the competition office. Rider age must be given on entry blank. When divided as to age of rider no horse may compete in more than one section. These sections may be further divided by age of rider or by every other number.
7. Pony Hunter
 - a. Combining:
 1. The Regular Pony Hunter Section may not be combined with any other sections.
 2. Height sections may be combined if there are three (3) or fewer entries in any height section. Combined height sections should be either small/medium or medium/large but if possible not small/large.
 - b. Dividing:
 1. Classes for Pony Hunters may be divided by height of pony as outlined in HU140.
 2. If there are 50 or more entries in the division at the beginning of the first class, it must be divided by height of pony and prize money must be doubled.
 3. If there are 50 entries remaining in a section after the section has been divided by height of pony, the section must be re-divided by every other number and the prize money must be doubled.
 4. Once a section has been re-divided it may not be divided further.
 5. If a pony under saddle class has over 30 entries, the class must be split and held in at least two sections with one set of awards.
 6. If there are four (4) or more entries in each height section of an **Premier or National** rated Regular Pony Hunter section, the height sections must be held separately.
 7. If there are a minimum of 10 small/medium ponies combined and 10 large ponies in any **Regional** rated Regular or Green height Section, the height section must be divided (small/medium and large); ~~prize money need not be doubled.~~ If there is a total of thirty (30) ponies, prize money must be doubled.
 8. Green Pony Hunter
 - a. Combining:
 1. The Green Pony Hunter Section may not be combined with any other sections.
 2. Green Pony Hunter Sections at National and Premier rated competitions may be combined if there are less than four (4) entries in any height section.
 - b. Dividing:
 1. National and Premier rated competitions must split (small, medium and large) if there are four (4) or more entries in any height section.
 2. If there are a minimum of 10 small/medium ponies combined and 10 large ponies in any **Regional** rated Regular or Green height section, the height section must be divided (small/medium and large); ~~prize money need not be doubled.~~ If there is a total of thirty (30) ponies, prize money must be doubled.
 9. Adult Amateur Hunter
 - a. Competitions must offer Adult Amateur Hunter sections in accordance with the specifications of each USHJA Zone.
 - b. Notice of the use of a floating split and the age groups must be posted at the competition office. When divided as to age of rider no horse may compete in more than one section. Age must be given on entry blank. These sections may be further divided by age of rider or by every other number. If there are fewer than six entries in any divided section, the sections must be combined. If there are six or more entries in each divided section, the divided sections must be held separately.
 - c. If there are fewer than six (6) entries in any divided section, the sections must be combined. If there are six (6) or more entries in each divided section the divided sections must be held separately.
 10. Children's Hunter
 - a. Children's Hunter sections must be split in accordance with applicable Zone Specifications
 - b. If there are fewer than six entries in any divided section, the sections must be combined. If there are six or more entries in each divided section, the divided sections must be held separately.

[...]

HU172 Hunter Classics

1. Any Premier, National, or Regional rated competition may offer a Hunter Classic.
2. Hunter Classics may be offered for any rated sections offered and held at the same competition. An Open Hunter Classic is a classic that is open to entries from multiple Hunter sections of the same rating. It is permitted for Open Hunter Classics to encompass several fence heights to correspond with the respective Hunter sections being offered. It is not permitted for an Open Hunter Classic to encompass multiple ratings. The prize list must state the specific Hunter sections that are invited to compete in the Open Hunter Classic. If a horse competes in more than one Hunter section qualifying for the Open Hunter Classic, the exhibitor must declare their point section to the Competition Secretary on a declaration form at the time of entry into the Classic. All other provisions of HU170 apply to Open Hunter Classics.
 - a. Six (6) entries are required to conduct a Hunter Classic.
 - b. If there are fewer than six (6) entries in any one Hunter Classic, it may combine with other sections of the same rating, regardless of the combining or dividing rules of the section. Exception: The Adult Amateur Hunter Classic, Low Adult Amateur Hunter Classic, Children's Pony Hunter Classic and Children's Hunter Classic, and Low Children's Hunter Horse Classic, **and Low Children's Hunter Pony Classic** may be held with the number of entries indicated in the Zone specifications. If Hunter Classics are combined and a horse is shown in more than one section qualifying for the Hunter Classic, the exhibitor must declare their point section to the Competition Secretary on a declaration form at the time of entry into the Classic.
 - c. Hunter Classics cannot be divided in any manner and held by section if there are fewer than six (6) entries in each divided section. Exception: **Premier or National** rated sections must have twelve (12) entries to divide.
3. All Hunter Classics must be conducted as a two round class. A handy hunter round may not be used as part of a Hunter Classic. A Hunter Classic may be conducted as a separate two round class or a designated Hunter class of the specified Hunter section may be counted as the first round of the Hunter Classic. However, the second round may not be another designated class in the Hunter section, but must be held as a separate round. If a designated class is used as a first round, each round shall count 50%.
4. At National and Premier competitions, in sections with a **National or Premier** rating, Hunter Classics conducted using either a designated Hunter class as the first round or a separate two round class must offer at least \$1000 in prize money, **except Pony Hunter Classics, Children's Hunter Classic, Adult Amateur Hunter Classic, and Low Adult Amateur Hunter Classic must offer a minimum of \$500 in prize money.** and sections with a **Regional** rating must offer at least \$500 in prize money. (Exception: Pony Hunter Classics in sections with a **Premier, National or Regional** rating must offer at least \$500 in prize money; Children's Hunter Pony, **and Low Children's Hunter Horse, and Low Children's Hunter Pony are** is not required to offer prize money). At Regional competitions, in sections with a **Regional** rating, Hunter Classics conducted using either a designated Hunter class as the first round or a separate two round class must offer at least \$250 in prize money (Exception: Children's Hunter Pony and Low Children's Hunter Horse are not required to offer prize money and if a Children's Hunter Horse and Children's Hunter Pony Classics are combined, the competition is not required to offer prize money in the combined Classic). At Premier, National, or Regional competitions, when a Hunter Classic is conducted as a separate two round class, the minimum prize money offered **is** as stated above.
5. The entry fee may not exceed 10% of the prize money offered in the Hunter Classic.
6. To be eligible, horses must have entered, shown and completed the course in at least two classes in the Hunter section. All horses being considered for an award must be serviceably sound and may be jogged if so stated in the prize list.
7. A minimum of the top 12 entries, if available, or 50% of the entries in the first round, whichever is greater, will return for the second round. If a horse or pony is eliminated in the first round of competition, they may not return for the second round. If a horse/rider combination does not return for the second round or is eliminated during the second round of a classic, a score of zero will be combined with the first round score and the horse/rider combination will be placed accordingly. If possible, twelve places are to be awarded.
8. The Hunter Classic does not count toward the minimum number of classes required for the section's rating.
9. Bonus points will be awarded toward Horse of the Year Awards in the horse's respective section and are based on the number of horses that compete in the classic. In a Hunter Classic using a designated class of the Hunter section as the first round, the number of horses that compete in the classic is determined by the number of horses who have entered and competed in the first round of the classic, not the designated class used as the first round. In a Hunter Classic held as a separate two round class, the number of horses that compete in the classic is determined by the number of horses who compete in the first round of the classic. The bonus points are as follows:

- a. In a Hunter Classic using a designated class as the first round, the bonus points for Zone HOTY are determined by adding one point for each entry that competes in the first round of a classic to the applicable increment in GR1131.5 and multiplying the result by 1.25.
 - b. In a Hunter Classic held as a separate two round class, the bonus points for Zone HOTY are determined by adding one point for each entry that competes in the first round of a classic to the applicable increment in GR1131.5 and multiplying the result by 1.5.
 - c. In a Hunter Classic using a designated class as the first round, the bonus points for National HOTY are determined by adding one point for each entry that competes in the classic to the applicable increment in GR1131.5 and multiplying the result by 1.75.
 - d. In a Hunter Classic held as a separate two round class, the bonus points for National HOTY are determined by adding one point for each entry that competes in the classic to the applicable increment in GR1131.5 and multiplying the result by 2.
10. The first round of all Hunter Classics must consist of eight (8) to ten (10) obstacles in accordance with HU109. In the second round of all Hunter Classics the course must consist of a minimum of ten (10) obstacles of at least six different types.
 11. An open numerical judging system must be used. If there are multiple judging panels, one judging panel must be appointed as the tie breaker.
 12. Attire: riders are required to comply with HU107.
 13. There is no limit to the number of horses a rider may compete on in a Hunter Classic. Exception: Competitors in a Regular or Green Hunter Pony Classic may only ride two ponies per height section.
 14. The same horse/rider combination must compete in both rounds of a Hunter Classic.
 15. A horse may not compete in more than one classic per section but may compete in an open classic, a USHJA National Hunter Derby, a USHJA International Hunter Derby Welcome Stake or a USHJA International Hunter Derby at the same competition. A horse is limited to competing in a maximum of two classics or derbies or combination of classics and derbies per competition. The USHJA International Hunter Derby Welcome Stake is considered a "Derby" for the purposes of this rule. (Exception: Leagues approved by the Federation in accordance with HJ124).
 16. The same pony may not compete in the USHJA Pony Hunter Derby and the USHJA National Hunter Derby at the same competition.
 17. If more than 30 horses are entered in a Junior Hunter Classic, the classic must be split in accordance with HU161.5b. *BOD 08/30/21 Effective 12/1/22*

[...]

SUBCHAPTER HJ-5 SCHEDULING REQUIREMENTS FOR SPECIFIC SECTIONS

[...]

HJ118 Green Hunter Sections

1. Premier and National competitions offering Green Hunter must offer 3'6" and 3'9" sections separately. They may also offer Green Hunter 3'0" and Green Hunter 3'3". If all four sections are offered, they must be offered separately.
2. **Regional and National competitions may offer any or all of the Green Hunter sections either separately or combined** competitions offering Green Hunter must offer all four sections separately.
 - a. ~~Green Hunter 3'0"~~
 - b. ~~Green Hunter 3'3"~~
 - c. ~~Green Hunter 3'6"~~
 - d. ~~Green Hunter 3'9"~~

HJ119 Young Hunter Sections

1. Management may offer any or all of the Young Hunter sections either separately or combined.
2. Management may choose to offer any Young Hunter section concurrently with the Green Hunter section. See HU162.3 for conditions. *BOD 6/22/20 Effective 12/1/20*

HJ120 Conformation Hunter Sections

At Premier competitions, the Conformation sections must be offered separately. At National or Regional competitions, the Conformation sections may be offered as combined.

HJ121 Amateur Owner Hunter Sections

1. Sections of Amateur Owner Hunter 3'6" held at National or Premier rated competitions must offer at least two (2) divided sections and may be divided as stipulated in HU162.6.b.1. **Regional and National competitions may offer any or all of the Amateur Owner Hunter 3'6" sections either separately or combined.**
2. Sections of Amateur Owner Hunter 3'3" held at National or Premier rated competitions must offer at least two divided sections and may be divided as stipulated in HU162.6.b.2. **Regional and National competitions may offer any or all of the Amateur Owner Hunter 3'3" sections either separately or combined.**
3. In addition while the sections can be combined if entries warrant, in order for Horse of the Year points to count they must be offered separately in the prize list.

HJ122 Junior Hunter Sections

1. ~~Premier or National~~ Rated 3'6" Junior Hunter Sections. ~~At least two sections must be offered in the prize list (large/small or older/younger).~~ **Regional and National competitions may offer any or all of the Junior Hunter 3'6" sections either separately or combined.** See GR312.6 for number of required classes and prize money. At Premier rated competitions, four 3'6" Junior Hunter sections must be offered in the prize list (large younger, large older, small younger, small older).
2. ~~Premier or National~~ Rated 3'3" Junior Hunter Sections. Junior Hunter 3'3" may not be offered unless Junior Hunter 3'6" is also offered. (Exception: USHJA Zone Championship competitions) See GR312.6 for number of required classes and prize money. If offered at a **Premier competition**, at least two sections are required to be listed in the prize list. **Regional and National competitions may offer any or all of the Junior Hunter 3'3" sections either separately or combined.**
3. Management may elect to offer four (4) classes in Premier or National rated sections. If four (4) classes are offered at a multiple day competition, no more than two (2) classes may be held on one day and no more than 50% of the prize money may be offered on one day.
4. Regional rated Sections. See GR312.6. No prize money is required.
5. Except for Medal classes, Junior Hunter over fences classes and Equitation classes over fences may be combined and held concurrently if separate judges officiate. Flat classes cannot be combined.
6. If a Model class is offered, it must be in addition to the minimum number of classes required for a section rating.
BOD 8/30/21 Effective 12/1/22

HJ123 Pony Hunter Sections

1. At a National or Premier rated competition, the Regular Pony Hunter section must be offered as three height sections (small, medium, and large) and the prize money must be tripled. **Regional and National competitions may offer any or all of the Regular Pony Hunter height sections either separately or combined.**
2. Competitions may offer the Green Pony Hunter Section as three separate sections (small, medium and large) **or combined**; however Premier or National rated Green Pony Hunter Section must be offered as a minimum of two sections (small/medium and large).
3. Competitions cannot offer more than the required amount of classes for a National or Regional † section rating. If a Model class is offered it must be in addition to the minimum number of classes required for a section rating and must be held as the first class in any section.
4. Premier or National Rated Sections.
 - a. Premier or National rated Regular and Green Pony Hunter sections may be held on one or more days. Rated Regular and Green pony Hunter sections at Premier rated competitions must be held over two or more days. If

held in one day, four (4) performance classes must be offered. If held over two or more days, four (4) or five (5) performance classes must be offered.

- b. A minimum of \$400 prize money must be offered in any Regular Pony Hunter section. A minimum of \$250 prize money must be offered in any Green Pony Hunter section.
 - c. **Premier or National** rated Green Pony Hunter section may only be offered in conjunction with an "A" **Premier or National** rated Regular Pony Hunter section.
 - d. National and Premier rated competitions must and all other rated competitions may, run an over fence class as a Handy Hunter. Exception: Green Hunter Pony sections may not offer Handy Hunter classes. Obstacles in this round should simulate those found in hunt country. The course must have two changes of direction and at least one combination. Ponies may be required to trot over one lowered fence on the course. Emphasis should be placed on turns and promptness. This class may not be used as a conformation class or offered as the first class of the section. Exception Green Hunter Pony Section may not have a Handy Hunter class.
5. **Regional** Rated Sections.
- a. Three (3) or four (4) classes must be offered in any **Regional** rated Regular or Green Pony Hunter section.
 - ~~b.~~ **No prize money is required for Regional rated sections.**
6. Pony Conformation Classes.
- In **Premier or National** rated sections, one over fence class must be judged 25% conformation; in **Regional** rated sections, one over fence class may include conformation at management's discretion. The conformation class must be clearly stipulated in the prize list. A Model class may be offered in addition to the conformation class. If a model class is held, it is recommended that all conformation classes offered in the section will be held on the same day as the model class. *BOD 8/30/21 Effective 12/1/22*

HJ124 USHJA Hunter Sections

- 1. Management may offer up to four sections per fence height per competition:**
 - a. Open**
 - b. Junior**
 - c. Amateur**
 - d. Horses/ponies in their first year of competition over fences at USEF licensed competitions**
- 2. If only one section is offered for a particular fence height, this section must be either open to all exhibitors or restricted to juniors and amateurs.**

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
FEI Rule Change	12/1/2021	10/19/2021	Approved 11/22/2021

Rule Change Intent

Align USEF rules with FEI Vaulting Rules 9th Edition, effective 1 January 2015, updates effective 1 January 2021 as follows:

Remove general impressions scores from the horse score;

Change co-efficient to 25%

Add language to see FEI guidelines

Change value of horse score across all events to 25%

Change 2*Bronze to 1* Bronze

Change the chart for the schedule of judges (percentages, positions, labels);

Define the term, Technique

Proponent Details Contact Information

Vaulting

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Linked Rules Comments

Committee Actions
Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/09/2021

CHAPTER VA VAULTING DIVISION

SUBCHAPTER VA-1 GENERAL

- VA101 Introduction
- VA102 Categories of Events
- VA103 Competitors
- VA104 Horses
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SUBCHAPTER VA-2 TEAM EVENT

- VA114 Team Event Requirements
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Compulsories
- VA117 Freestyle

SUBCHAPTER VA-3 INDIVIDUAL EVENT

- VA118 3* Individual, 2* Young Vaulters/Gold, 2*Silver, **and 1 2***Bronze, and Individual Events
- Requirements VA119 Compulsories
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SUBCHAPTER VA-4 PAS DE DEUX EVENT

- VA122 Pas de Deux Event Requirements
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CHAPTER VA VAULTING DIVISION

SUBCHAPTER VA-1 GENERAL

VA101 Introduction

1. Vaulting is the art of gymnastics/dance on the moving horse. The competition is judged on the smooth and correct execution of the Compulsory exercises, the Technical Test, and Freestyle programs by the vaulters in sympathy and harmony with the horse working on the lunge line.
2. For a description of the Compulsory exercises and an explanation of the Technical Test and the Degree of

VA102 Categories of Events

1. Team Event (3*A, 2*B, & 1*C)
2. Individual Event (3* Individual, 2* Young Vaultler/Gold, 2*Silver & 2 ~~4~~*Bronze) BOD 1/17/21 Effective 1/1/21
3. Pas de Deux (2*Pas de Deux, 3*Open Pas de Deux)

VA103 Competitors

1. A vaulter may enter the same event only once at any competition.
2. Age limits are as follows:
4. No age limits: 3*A Team, 2*B Team, 1*C Team, 3*Individual, 2* Young Vaultler/Gold, 2*Silver, 2*Bronze, 3*Open Pas de Deux and 2*Pas de Deux. BOD 1/17/21 Effective 1/1/21
 - a. Regarding age limits for Pathways Observation Events and CVI's, see current FEI Vaulting Rules (Article 702 – Eligibility).
3. Amateurs and professionals may compete in all events.
4. A team may have up to two foreign vaulters as members and be eligible for awards provided that each of the foreign competitors has complied with the Federation membership requirements set forth in GR828.4 and GR1308 .2-4. Foreign competitors and lungers who desire to compete in non-breed restricted National Competitions in the FEI recognized disciplines in the United States must have proof, in English, of membership in good standing from their National Federation or must be members in good standing of USEF. Competition management must request proof, in English, of current membership in good standing from the Foreign Competitor's respective National Federation or proof of current USEF membership.
5. At National Championships, foreign individual vaulters and foreign teams are allowed to compete but are ineligible for National Championship titles. They may compete for scores and may be awarded ribbons with placings. If the number of entries is significant, management may offer separate prizes for foreign competitors.
6. No entries will be accepted after the closing date of entries. (No post entries).

VA104 Horses

1. Vaulting horses must be at least six years old, of any breed or suitable size.
2. Stallions are prohibited.

VA105 Horse Use

1. Horses may be used for a maximum of 32 units per day.
 - a. Team Events:
 1. Team Compulsories = 8 units
 2. Team Freestyle = 8 units
 - b. Individual Events:
 1. 1 Compulsories = 1 unit
 2. 1 Freestyle = 1 unit
 3. 1 Technical Test = 1 unit
 - c. Pas de Deux Events:
 1. 1 Freestyle = 2 units
2. In 3*Individual, 2* Young Vaultler/Gold, 2*Silver, 2 ~~1~~*Bronze, 3*A Team, 2*B Team, 1*C Team, and 3*Open Pas de Deux and 2*Pas de Deux, horses and lungers may be changed between sections of the event. BOD 1/17/21 Effective 1/1/21
3. After the maximum number of vaulters allowed, additional vaulters will be disqualified.
4. Competitors may start on their own horse or another horse that is lent to them.
5. Horses may be substituted until one (1) hour before the start of the competition, or until a time specified by the management.
6. Before beginning the performance, the horse must be trotted on the circle until the Judge at A rings the bell.

VA106 Elimination of Horses

1. The Chief Judge (Judge at A) has the authority at any time during the competition to eliminate a horse which is uneven and/or unlevel, in bad condition, or which shows signs of discomfort or fatigue.
2. There may be no objection against this decision.
3. The Chief Judge must give a reason for the elimination of a horse.

VA107 Equipment

1. Required:
 - a. Bridle with smooth snaffle bit, with no more than 2 joints. Rubber bit guards are permitted. A lungeing cavesson is allowed, with or without a bit.
 - b. Two side reins with or without rubber rings.
 - c. Vaulting surcingle (preferably with wither and girth padding). No more than two grips. No more than one cossack strap/loop on each side below the grip. No hand or footholds may be attached to the surcingle wither/girth padding. The surcingle may have one loop between the grips.
 - d. One back pad, with or without a cover, maximum 3 cm thick, including the cover. No hand or footholds may be attached to the pad. The pad may not extend more than 30 cm in front of the surcingle nor past the point of the croup. One gel pad is allowed, in addition to the back pad.
 - e. Lunge line. Lunge line must be held in the lunger's hand and may not be wrapped, tied or attached to the lunger in any other way.
 - f. Lunge whip.
2. Optional:
 - a. Bandages, protection boots.
 - b. Ear plugs or earmuffs.
 - c. Breast collar or breast plate.
3. No auxiliary equipment is allowed.
 - a. Standing reins or auxiliary reins are not permitted.
 - b. The use of any equipment other than described above will entail elimination.

VA108 Substitution

1. Team Event:
 - a. One substitute is allowed in 3*A, 2*B, and 1*C Team Events. In order for a substitute to vault, he must enter the ring with the team as its 7th member at the start of the Compulsories.
 - b. The substitute must perform the compulsory exercises along with the six (6) team members. (See VA116).
 - c. The substitute vaults in the seventh position.
 - d. Using a substitute other than stated is illegal and results in elimination.
2. Individual Event, Pas de Deux Event:
 - a. No substitution is allowed in Individual or Pas de Deux Events.
3. Lungers:
 - a. Substitution is permitted between sections for 3*A Team, 2*B Team, 1*C Team, 3*Individual, **2* Young Vaulters Gold, Gold, 2*Silver, 2-1*Bronze, 3*Open Pas de Deux and 2*Pas de Deux.**
4. Horses:
 - a. Substitution is permitted between sections for 3*A Team, 2*B Team, 1*C Team, 3*Individual, **2* Young Vaulters Gold, Gold, 2*Silver, 2-1*Bronze, 3*Open Pas de Deux and 2*Pas de Deux.**
5. Equipment:
 - a. Substitution is permitted between sections in all events.

VA109 Facilities

1. The Vaulting arena must be at least 22 meters (73 feet) in diameter with suitable footing. If the competition is held indoors, the height must be at least 5 meters (16.6 feet).
2. The diameter of the lunging circle must be between 13 and 15 meters (42.5-50 feet). The center of the circle must be clearly marked.
3. If the entire vaulting arena is not suitable vaulting surface, then the suitable vaulting surface must extend from 2

meters (6.6 feet) from the center point of the circle to at least 11 meters (36 feet) from the center point of the circle.

4. The Judge's booth(s) should be at least 12 meters (40 feet) from the center of the vaulting arena, elevated at least one-half meter (1.5 feet) above the competition arena.
Steps and protection from the elements must be provided.
5. Spectators must be located at a reasonable distance from the vaulting circle and Judge's booth.
6. A suitable warm-up arena must be provided. An additional area for horse warm-up only must also be provided.
7. A ring steward must be present at each competition arena at all times during the competition.
8. A countdown clock and one stop watch must be provided at the Chief Judge's (Judge A) stand in each arena, or an official timer must be appointed, who shall sit next to the Chief Judge in each arena. If an official timer is needed, two stop watches must be provided; one to be used to time the performance and the other for timing entry, falls, time-outs, etc.
9. A bell must be provided for the Chief Judge in each arena.
10. A Freestyle checker is required for team event. The official clerk or timer may act as Freestyle checker.

VA110 Format

1. Competitors shall salute the Chief Judge upon entering and before exiting the arena.
2. In all events, sections of the event(s) must be scheduled with a break between sections.
3. Order of go for ~~Team~~ **all** Events must be determined by draw for each section and round. Management may draw for all entrants.
 - a. Time of draw must be at least 1 hour before the start of the competition.
 - b. Time and place of draw to be announced in the prize list.
 - c. **If more than one competitor is sharing a horse, the coach must specify the order of Vaulters.**
- ~~4. Order of go for Individual Events must be determined by draw, by team, for each section of the event. Management may draw for all clubs. The coach must specify the order of vaulters.~~
 - ~~a. Time of draw must be at least 1 hour before the start of the competition.~~
 - ~~b. Time and place of draw shall be announced at least 24 hours in advance.~~
4. Each 3*A, 2*B, and 1*C Team vaulter must wear a number from 1 through 7. Vaulters must vault in that order for the compulsories section. Numbers must be easily visible to the Judges.
5. Individual vaulters must wear a number, which has been assigned to them. Number may be worn on the right **outside** arm, or right **outside** leg and must be easily visible to the Judges. (Suggested dimensions and contrasts: Number band 2" - 2.5" (5-6.5cm) and numbers 1.5" - 2" high (4-5 cm); dark numbers on light band or light numbers on dark band.)
6. Music is recommended during all performances. Music with words and lyrics is allowed.
 - a. Music must be provided by the competitor in accordance with the specifications in the prize list.
 - b. Management must state in the prize list which system(s) will be available.
7. The dress of the vaulters must be suitable for equestrian sport. (See current FEI Rules for Vaulting)
8. Soft soled shoes are required.
- ~~9. All Events include a Horse/General Impression score. Horse/GI is calculated as follows: Horse (90%) - gaits, quality of the canter, submission, behavior, way of going, circle size, lunging and presentation. General Impression (10%) - entry, exit, salute, comportment and turnout of vaulter(s) and lungers.~~
9. **Judging of the Horse Score begins with the entrance into the arena and ends when the Vaulter touches The ground after the final dismount.**
 - a. **Quality of gait and thoroughness**
 1. **Rhythm**
 2. **Relaxation**
 3. **Connection**
 4. **Impulsion**
 5. **Straightness**
 6. **Collection**
 - b. **Vaultability of Horse**
 1. **Willingness and obedience**
 2. **Balance in tempo**
 3. **Balance in circling**
 - c. **Lunging**
 1. **Easy and effortless communication between lungers and horse**
 2. **Entry, salute and trot round**

d. For more information regarding Horse score, please refer to FEI Guidelines for Judges.

VA111 Timing

1. The time allowed for each event begins the moment the first vaulter touches the surcingle, the pad, or the horse and ends with the time limit (the bell). Only exercises (static or dynamic, including dismounts) already in progress when the bell rings will be included in the evaluation for degree of difficulty, performance, and Artistic. All following exercises and dismounts starting after the bell will be considered in the performance score (deductions only), but not in degree of difficulty nor Artistic scores. For timing requirements of specific events (Team, Individual, Pas de Deux), please refer to the chapter for that event.
2. A bell is used by the Chief Judge to signal the competitors on the following occasions:
 - a. To give the signal to enter the arena. Within one minute after the bell, the vaulter(s) must salute the Chief Judge.
 - b. To give the signal to start the Compulsory test and the Freestyle. Within thirty seconds after the bell, the vaulter(s) must start the performance.
 - c. To signal the end of time.
 - d. To signal the competitor(s) to stop in case of unforeseen circumstances. The clock will be stopped and judging will cease.
 - e. To signal that time is stopped after a fall when the vaulter has lost contact with the horse or surcingle in individual Freestyle.
 - f. To signal that time is stopped after a fall where the vaulter(s) is unable to continue immediately or return to the line in team Freestyle.
 - g. To signal the competitor(s) to continue after an interruption. The clock is started and judging begins when the vaulter touches the surcingle, the pad, or the horse. The test must be continued within thirty (30) seconds after the signal to resume.
 - h. To signal time out in all events.
3. Time-out in all events:
 - a. In case of an injury or illness, the event and the clock will be stopped. The judge will indicate when the event and the clock will resume.
 - b. In the event of a horse casting a shoe or the breakage of equipment, the clock will be stopped for a maximum of seven (7) minutes.
 - c. The lunger may request one time out (to interrupt a performance to adjust equipment) per entrance into the arena. The clock will be stopped for a maximum of one (1) minute for this incident. The lunger may also adjust the equipment, if necessary, in between vaulters during Individual Freestyle, while the judge is scoring the previous freestyle.
 - d. In the event that the freestyle music is not correct or malfunctions, the lunger may request a time out. The clock will be stopped for a maximum of one (1) minute.
 - e. In the case of unforeseen circumstances, the bell will be sounded to indicate to the team, pas de deux, or individual to stop. The clock will be stopped and judging will cease. A bell will sound to indicate that the team, pas de deux, or individual is to recommence their performance. The clock will resume when the vaulter(s) touch the surcingle, the pad, or the horse.
4. See section on Scoring for penalties and deductions.

VA112 Unauthorized Assistance

1. No one other than the lunger may give any directive to the horse.
2. No one is permitted to approach the horse without the intention of mounting. "Approach", in this instance, means leaving the lunger and moving out the lunge line towards the horse and/or leaving the outside of the circle and moving toward and with the horse as it canters on the circle.
3. Spotting vaulters is not permitted.
4. In 3*A, 2*B, and 1*C Team Events, no one other than a lunger, a team of six (6) vaulters and one (1) substitute may be in the arena.
5. In Individual Event, no one other than a lunger and individual(s) who are scheduled to compete at that specific time may be in the arena.
 - a. Only one vaulter may be in the vaulting circle at a time.
 - b. Other competitors shall line-up outside the vaulting circle.

- c. The next competitor may enter the vaulting circle when the previous vaulter begins the vault-off. An earlier entry entails elimination of the incoming vaulter.
- 6. In the Pas de Deux Event, no one other than a lunger and the competitors who are scheduled to compete at that specific time may be in the arena.
- 7. See section on Scoring for penalties and deductions.

VA113 Officials

- 1. Ground Jury. The invited judges comprise the ground jury and must be selected from the current roster of Federation Licensed Vaulting Judges.
 - a.—At least two judges are required for each event, except 2*Bronze Individual Event, where only one judge is required.
 - b.—The distribution of judges per class will be as follows:

Number of Judges	Compulsories (All Events)	Freestyle (All Levels/ Events)	Technical (3* Individual, 2*Young Vaulter/Gold)
1 Judge	Scores all aspects	Scores all aspects	Scores all aspects
2 judges	Both judges do evaluate horse and compulsories	Judge 1: DOD (15%)+Performance (40%) (or "Technique") Judge 2: Artistic (25%) + Horse (20%) Judge A: Horse (25%) and Artistic (25%) Judge B: Technique 50%	Judge 1: Exercises (50%) Performance (10%) Judge 2: Artistic + Horse (15%) Judge A: Horse (25%) a Artistic (25%) Judge B: Technique (50%)
3 judges (refer to 6 judge distribution in FEI guidelines - use Judge 1, 2, 3)	Judge A1 : Horse (25%) Judge B2 : Exercises (37.5%) Judge C3 : Exercises (37.5%)	Judge 1: Horse (20%) Judge 2: DOD (15%) + Performance (40%) (or "Technique") Judge 3: Artistic (25%) Except 1* C Team: Judge 1: Content (x25%) Judge 2: Performance (x55%) Judge 3: Horse (20%) Judge A: Horse (25%) Judge B: Technique (50%) Judge C: Artistic (25%)	Judge 1: Horse (15%) Judge 2: Exercises (50%) Performance (10%) Judge 3: Artistic (25%) Judge A: Horse (25%) Judge B: Technique (50) Judge C: Artistic (25%)
4 judges (refer to 4 judge distribution in FEI Guidelines)	Judge A1 : Horse (25%) Judge B2 : Exercises (25%) Judge C3 : Exercises (25%) Judge D4 : Exercises (25%)	Judge 1: Horse (20%) Judge 2: (DOD (15%) + Performance (40%))/2 (or "Technique") Judge 3: Artistic (25%) Judge 4: (DOD(15%) + Performance (40%))/2 (or	Judge 1: Horse (15%) Judge 2: (Exercises (50% + Performance (10%))/2 Judge 3: Artistic (25%) Judge 2: (Exercises (50% + Performance (10%))/2 Judge A: Horse (25%) Judge B: Technique (25) Judge C: Artistic (25%) Judge D: Technique (25)

		"Technique") Except 1* C Team: Judge 1: Content (x25%) Judge 2: Performance (x55%)/2 Judge 3: Horse (x20%) Judge 4: Performance (x55%)/2 Judge A: Horse (25%) Judge B: Technique (25%) Judge C: Artistic (25%) Judge D: Technique (25%)
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- c. ***If more than one judge, the President of the Ground Jury determines the distribution of judges based on the distribution of judges chart (VA113.1.b)***
- d. The President of the Ground Jury will be appointed by the Organizing Committee from the officiating judges, except at Championships where the President of the Ground Jury must also be approved by the Federation Vaulting Sport Committee.
2. There must be a licensed steward or technical delegate at all competitions.
3. At National Championships there will be a vet check. The vet accompanied by one member of the ground jury, preferably the President, will inspect the horses.

SUBCHAPTER VA-2 TEAM EVENT

VA114 Team Event Requirements

3*A, 2*B, and 1*C Team events consist of one round of Compulsories and Freestyle performed in separate sections. A team of at least six (6) vaulters must start each section of the event.

1. The Compulsory section is performed at canter, to the left.
2. The Freestyle section is performed at canter to the left.

VA115 Eligibility and Division

Teams may be divided into 3*A Team, 2*B Team and 1*C Team. Teams are comprised of six (6) vaulters, a substitute, and a lunger and a horse. For purposes of 3*A, 2*B and 1*C Team Event, vaulters shall carry the following classification.

1. Class A:
 - a. A vaulter who holds an AVA Gold medal
 - b. A vaulter who competes at or who has ever competed at 3*Individual and/or Gold level at either an AVA Recognized Competition or a USEF Licensed Competition
2. Class B:
 - a. A vaulter who holds an AVA 2*Silver medal
 - b. A vaulter who competes at or who has ever competed at Individual 2*Silver level at either an AVA Recognized Competition or a USEF Licensed Competition
3. Class C:
 - a. A vaulter who holds an AVA-21*Bronze medal
 - b. A vaulter who is unrated (holds no AVA canter medal)
4. No Class A vaulter may compete on a 1*C Team, nor be the substitute.
5. No more than two Class A vaulters may compete on a 2*B Team, including the substitute.
6. No more than two Class B vaulters may compete on a 1*C Team, including the substitute.
7. A vaulter's team classification (A, B or C) is as of the closing date of entries of the competition entered.

VA116 Compulsories

1. Compulsory Test for 3*A Team is performed to the left.
 - a. Each vaulter, including the 3*A Team substitute, if there is one, must perform all compulsory exercises as follows:
 1. Vault on
 2. Flag
 3. Mill
 4. Scissors Forward
 5. Scissors Backward
 6. Stand
 7. First Part of Flank (back to seat astride)
 8. Swing off to the outside from seat astride
2. Compulsory Test for 2*B Team is performed to the left.
 - a. Each vaulter, including the 2*B Team substitute, if there is one, must perform all compulsory exercises as follows:
 1. Vault On
 2. Basic Seat
 3. Flag
 4. Mill
 5. Scissors Forward
 6. Scissors Backward
 7. Stand
 8. Flank 1st Part, push off to the inside.
3. Compulsory Test for 1*C Teams may be performed to the left or to the right.
 - a. Each vaulter, including the substitute, must perform all compulsory exercises as follows:
 1. Vault On
 2. Basic Seat
 3. Flag
 4. Stand
 5. Swing Forward, legs closed
 6. Half Mill
 7. Swing Backward, legs open, followed by dismount to inside.
4. Time allowed: For a 3*A or 2*B Team that does not include a substitute, the maximum time for the performance of the Compulsory Test is six (6) minutes. If a substitute enters the arena with the 3*A or 2*B team, he must perform the Compulsory Test and the maximum time allowed for the performance is seven (7) minutes. If a 1*C Team does not include a substitute, the maximum time for the performance of the Compulsory Test is five (5) minutes. If a substitute enters the arena with a 1*C team, he must perform the Compulsory Test and the maximum time allowed for the performance is six (6) minutes. Compulsory exercises begun after the time limit will receive a score of zero (0). The Chief Judge will ring a bell signifying the end of time allowed.
5. Time for the Compulsories is taken from the moment the first vaulter touches the grips, until the last vaulter to perform touches the ground in the dismount, or the end of the time limit.
6. Each vaulter must vault in order, according to his back number.
7. Each static compulsory exercise must be held for 4 full canter strides.
8. Time wasted will incur point deductions.
9. All compulsory exercises for all team members must be scored in one section before that team's Freestyle may begin.
10. Judged on:
 - a. Performance—Mechanics, essence, form, scope, security, balance, continuity and harmony with the horse.
 - b. Horse/~~General Impression~~ (See VA110.10)
11. For 3*A, 2*B, and 1*C Teams the Compulsory scores for the six (6) vaulters scores who perform in the Freestyle will be averaged to produce the team's compulsory score. The scores for the seventh member of the team who does not vault in the Freestyle will be dropped. Before the beginning of the Freestyle performance each team must specify to management which six (6) vaulters will perform in the Freestyle.
12. See section on Scoring for penalties and deductions.
13. Compulsory exercises are described in the current FEI Guidelines for Judges. BOD 11/23/20 Effective 12/1/20

VA117 Freestyle

1. A free style routine of four (4) minutes maximum is performed by the team of six (6) vaulters who have been specified by the team. Only six (6) vaulters are allowed to enter the arena for Team Freestyle. Freestyle time begins when the first vaulter touches the surcingle, the pad, or the horse, and ends when the bell rings to indicate the end of time allowed, or when the last vaulter touches the ground.
 2. Over weighting and/or overloading the horse will be penalized under Artistic.
 3. Six (6) members of the team must perform in the Freestyle or the team will be penalized under General Impression and Artistic.
 4. No more than three (3) vaulters may be on the horse at any time, or in any exercise whether actually on the horse or not.
 5. There must be at least two (2) vaulters in contact with the horse during any triple exercise.
 6. Each static Freestyle exercise must be held for three (3) full canter strides in order to be counted in Degree of Difficulty. A static exercise is one in which contact, support, or holding points do not change. The count for each exercise commences when the final position is attained.
 7. ~~In 2*B and 1*C Teams a maximum of six (6) static triples are allowed. (See section on Scoring for penalties and deductions).~~
 8. ~~Only the twenty-five (25) exercises with the highest Degree of Difficulty (DOD) will be counted in the degree of difficulty for 3*A Teams. For 3* A, DOD D exercises count 0.4 points, DOD M exercises count 0.3 points, DOD E exercises count 0.1 points.~~
 9. ~~Only the twenty (20) exercises with the highest Degree of Difficulty will be counted in the degree of difficulty for 2* Teams. DOD Value is as follows: For 2*B Teams—DOD D exercises count 0.5 points, DOD M exercises count 0.3 points, DOD E exercises count 0.1 points.~~
 10. ~~There is no DOD score for 1* C Team. The performance of all freestyle exercises will be evaluated for 1* C Team. For 1* C Teams, there is no DOD score: only Performance.~~
 11. ~~In 3*A Team and 2*B Team judged on:
 - a. ~~Degree of Difficulty (x15%)—Height off horse, complication of the movements, demands of suppleness, stretch and timing, number and security of holding points, changes in direction (forward, backward, across), changes in relation to the horse (on neck, on croup, inside, outside).~~
 - b. ~~Artistic (x25%)—Use of space, pace, variety, development, artistic merit, and consideration for the horse.~~
 - c. ~~Performance (x40%)—Mechanics, essence, form, scope, security, balance, continuity and harmony with the horse.~~
 - d. ~~Horse/General Impression (x20%)— (See VA110.10)~~~~
 12. ~~Falls:
 - a. ~~Vaulter(s) may continue after a fall. The unsuccessful exercise may be repeated.~~
 - b. ~~The clock may be stopped. It will be started when the first vaulter touches the grips.~~~~
 13. ~~In 1*C Team, Judge on:
 - a. ~~Artistic (x25%)— Use of space, pace, variety, development, artistic merit, and consideration of horse.~~
 - b. ~~Performance (x55%)—Mechanics, essence, form, scope, security, balance, continuity and harmony with the horse.~~
 - c. ~~Horse/General Impression (x20%)— See VA110.10~~~~
 14. ~~For 3*A, 2*B and 1*C~~
 15. ~~See section on Scoring for penalties and deductions. BOD 11/23/20 Effective 12/1/20~~
- 7.—Team Freestyle is judged on**
- a. **Horse Score (25%)**
 - b. **Technique Score (25%)**
 - c. **Artistic Score (25%)**
- 8.—Technique Score**
- a. **3*A Team**
 1. **Divided into Performance (70%) and DOD (30%).**
 2. **Only the twenty-five (25) exercises with the highest Degree of Difficulty (DOD) will be counted. DOD D exercises count 0.5 points, DOD M exercises count 0.3 points. DOD Exercises count 0.1 points.**
 - b. **2*B Team**
 1. **Divided into Performance (70%) and DOD (30%).**
 2. **Only the twenty-five (25) exercises with the highest Degree of Difficulty (DOD) will be counted. DOD D exercises count 0.5 points, DOD M exercises count 0.3 points, DOD exercises count 0.1 points.**
 - c. **1*C Team**

1. *Represents only the Performance of the Freestyle exercises.*
- d. **Performance**
 1. *Mechanics, essence, form, scope, security, balance, continuity and harmony with the horse.*
 2. *The average of deductions for every exercise and transition is deducted from the maximum score of 10.0.*
 3. *Deductions for falls are deducted from the Performance Score at the end (not averaged).*
- e. **Degree of Difficulty (DOD).**
 1. *DOD is judged on height off horse, complication of movements, demands of suppleness, stretch and timing, number and security of holding points, changes in direction (forward, backward, across), changes in relation to the horse (on neck, on croup, inside, outside).*
 2. *See FEI Code of Points for more information.*
9. **Artistic**
 - a. *Use of space, pace, variety, development, artistic, merit, and consideration for the horse.*
 - b. *In 2*B and 1*C Teams a maximum of six (6) static triples are allowed. See section on Scoring (VA126.3.a2) for penalties and deductions.*
10. **Falls**
 - a. *Vaulter(s) may continue after a fall. The unsuccessful exercise may be repeated.*
 - b. *The clock may be stopped. It will be started when the first vaulter touches the grips.*
11. *See section on Scoring for penalties and deductions.*

SUBCHAPTER VA-3 INDIVIDUAL EVENT

VA118 3*Individual, 2* Young Vaulter/Gold, 2*Silver, and 21*Bronze, and Individual Event Requirements

3* Individual and 2* Young Vaulter/Gold Events take place in one round, consisting of Compulsories, Technical Test, and Freestyle performed in separate sections. The 2* Silver and 21* Bronze Individual Events take place in one round, each round consisting of Compulsories and Freestyle and Compulsories to the Right performed in separate sections. BOD 1/17/21 Effective 1/1/21

1. Competition must be offered at 3*Individual, 2* Young Vaulter/Gold, 2*Silver and 21*Bronze levels.
 - a. Women's and Men's divisions must be offered at each level.
 - b. Vaulters who hold AVA Gold Medals may not compete in the 2*Silver or 21*Bronze Division. Vaulters who hold AVA 2*Silver Medals may not compete in the 21*Bronze Division.
2. In 3*Individual and 2* Young Vaulter/Gold Events, the competition is at the canter to the left for Compulsory, Technical Test, and Freestyle sections. BOD 1/17/21 Effective 1/1/21
3. In 2*Silver and 21*Bronze Events, the competition is at the canter to the left for the Compulsory and Freestyle section and to the right for the second Compulsories section.
4. In the event there are more than 30 competitors in the 21*Bronze and/or 2*Silver Event, Competition Management, at its discretion, may limit the number of competitors who compete in the Compulsories to the Right section. In this instance, the top 15 highest scoring women and the top 15 highest scoring men in 21* Bronze event and the top 15 highest scoring women and the top 15 highest scoring men in the 2*Silver event will advance to compete in the Compulsories to the right section.

VA119 Compulsories

1. For 3*Individual Event, all exercises are performed without interruption. Vaulter must perform all Compulsory exercises as follows:
 - a. Vault On
 - b. Flag
 - c. Mill
 - d. Scissors Forward
 - e. Scissors Backward
 - f. Stand
 - g. Flank 1st Part
 - h. Flank 2nd Part
2. For Individual 2* Young Vaulter/Gold, **and** 2*Silver, ~~and 2*Bronze Events~~, all exercises are performed without interruption. Vaulter must perform all Compulsory exercises as follows:
 - a. Vault On

- b. Basic Seat
 - c. Flag
 - d. Mill
 - e. Scissors Forward
 - f. Scissors Backward
 - g. Stand
 - h. Flank 1st Part, push off to the inside.
3. **For Individual 1* Bronze Event, all exercises are performed without interruption. Vaulters must perform all Compulsory exercises as follows:**
- a. **Vault on**
 - b. **Basic Seat**
 - c. **Flag**
 - d. **Stand**
 - e. **Swing Forward (legs closed)**
 - f. **Half Mill**
 - g. **Swing Backward (legs open), followed by dismount to inside**
4. All vaulters performing on the same horse must follow one another immediately without waiting for the bell.
5. Falls—The vaulter may continue after a fall. He must remount within one (1) minute in order to continue with the next exercise. The unsuccessful exercise receives a zero (0) and may not be repeated.
6. No time limit.
7. Judged on:
- a. Performance—Mechanics, essence, form, scope, security, balance, continuity and harmony with the horse.
 - b. Horse/*GI* —(See VA110.10)
8. See section on Scoring for penalties and deductions.
9. Compulsory exercises are described in the current FEI Vaulting Guidelines for Judges. BOD 11/23/20 Effective 12/1/20

VA120 Freestyle

1. Freestyle is a one (1) minute (maximum) routine of static and dynamic exercises.
- a. Static exercises must be held for three (3) full canter strides in order to be counted in Degree of Difficulty.
 - b. Vaulters must stay in contact with the horse, ground jumps and leaps above the horse are allowed.
 - c. At 3* Individual, 2* Young Vaulter/Gold, **and** 2*Silver, ~~and 2*Bronze levels~~, only the ten most difficult exercises with a Degree of Difficulty R, D, or M will be counted in the degree of difficulty score. The maximum score for DOD is 10. BOD 1/17/21 Effective 1/1/21
 - d. At ~~21*~~2*Bronze level, all exercises with a Degree of Difficulty D, M or E will be counted in the Degree of Difficulty. The maximum score for DOD is 9.0.
 - e. Repetitions of exercises and compulsory exercises will not be counted.
2. Judged on:
- a. **Horse (25%) – see VA110.10**
 - b. **Technique (50%)**
 - c. **Artistic (25%)**
3. **Technique Score is divided into Performance (70%) and DOD (30%)**
- a. **Performance**
 - 1. **Mechanics, essence, form, scope, security, balance, continuity and harmony with the horse.**
 - 2. **The average of deductions for every exercise and transition is deducted from the maximum score 10.0.**
 - 3. **Deductions for falls are deducted from the Performance Score at the end (not averaged).**
 - b. **Degree of Difficulty (DOD)**
 - 1. **DOD is judged on height off horse, complication of the movements, demands of suppleness, stretch and timing, number, and security of holding points, changes in direction (forward, backward, across), changes in relation to the horse (on neck, on croup, inside, outside).**
 - 2. **See FEI Code of Points for additional information.**
4. **Artistic**
- a. **Use of space, pace, variety, development, artistic merit, and consideration for the horse.**
5. Falls:
- a. Vaulters may continue after a fall. He must remount within one (1) minute in order to continue. The

unsuccessful exercise may be repeated.

- b. The clock may be stopped for a maximum of one (1) minute for each fall. It will be restarted when the vaulter touches the grips.
6. See section on Scoring for final score, penalties and deductions.
7. See the current FEI Code of Points for additional information on DOD evaluation. BOD 11/23/20 Effective 12/1/20

VA121 Technical Test

1. The Technical Test (3* Individual) is a one (1) minute (maximum) routine consisting of five (5) Technical exercises and additional Freestyle exercises chosen by the vaulter.
2. The Technical Test (2* Young Vaulter/Gold) is a one (1) minute routine consisting of any three (3) of the five (5) Technical exercises and additional Freestyle exercises chosen by the vaulter. The Technical exercises may be shown in any order. Only the first three Technical exercises shown will be scored. Any other Technical exercises shown after the first three will be scored as additional freestyle exercises. BOD 1/17/21 Effective 1/1/21
 - a. The Technical exercises are from the following categories of motor skills:
 1. Balance (coordination)
 2. Timing/Rhythm (coordination)
 3. Strength (condition)
 4. Jump Force (condition) May be shown as a mount or a ground jump.
 5. Suppleness
 - b. The exercises included in each category are described in the current FEI Guidelines for Judges.
 - c. One exercise from each category is designated by the FEI Vaulting Committee in the year before the World Championship, to be used during the two-year period following that World Championship. These five Technical Exercises will be announced on the FEI Website.
3. **3* Individual Technical Test** Judged on:
 - a. The maximum score is 10.0. Decimals are allowed.
 - b. The **3*** Technical Test receives 8 scores:

Five separate performance scores for the designated Technical exercises (5 scores) **in addition to a 6th score for the Performance of additional exercises.** These exercises are

 1. added together and divided by ~~five (5)~~ **six (6)**. This number is (x50%)
 2. Artistic (x25%)
 3. Horse score/General Impression (x125%)
 4. These three scores are totaled for the final Technical Test Score.
 - c. For deductions and scoring of the Technical Test, see the current FEI Rules for Vaulting Events and the current FEI Guidelines for Judges.

SUBCHAPTER VA-4 PAS DE DEUX EVENT

VA122 Pas de Deux Event Requirements

Pas de Deux is composed of two vaulters. Consists of one (1) or two (2) rounds of Freestyle performed at canter to the left.

VA123 Freestyle

1. 3*Open Pas de Deux consists of two (2) minute freestyle routine with no requirements or restrictions.
2. 2*Pas de Deux Freestyle is a 90 second routine with no requirements or restrictions.
3. Both vaulters must stay in contact with the horse, surcingle or each other, except for leaps above the horse. Ground jumps are recommended.
4. Static exercises must be held for three (3) canter strides.
5. In 3*Open Pas de Deux, only the thirteen (13) exercises with the highest Degree of Difficulty (DOD) will be scored in DOD. Value is as follows:

D	-	exercises count 0.8 points
M	-	exercises count 0.4 points
-	-	exercises count 0.0 points
6. In 2*Pas de Deux, only the ten (10) exercises with the highest Degree of Difficulty (DOD) will be scored.

Value is as follows:

- D - exercises count 1.0 points
- M - exercises count 0.5 points
- E - exercises count 0.0 points

7. Judged on:

- a. ~~Degree of Difficulty (x15%): Height off the horse, complication of the movements, demands of suppleness, stretch and timing, number and security of holding points, changes in direction (forward, backward, across) and changes in relation to the horse (on neck, on croup, inside, outside).~~
- b. ~~Artistic (x25%): Use of space and direction in relation to the horse, variety of exercises, artistic merit and consideration for the horse.~~
- c. ~~Performance (x40%)— Evaluation of each exercise and the performance in its entirety shall include: Mechanics, essence, form, scope, security, balance, continuity and harmony with the horse.~~
- d. ~~Horse/General Impression (x20%) (See VA 127.7)~~

a.—Horse (25%) – see VA110.10

b.—Technique (50%)

c.—Artistic (25%)

8. **Technique Score is divided into Performance (70%) and DOD (30%)**

a. Degree of Difficulty (DOD)

- 1. DOD is judged on height off horse, complication of the movements, demands of suppleness, stretch and timing, number and security of holding points, changes in direction (forward, backward, across), changes in relation to the horse (on neck, on croup, inside, outside).**
- 2. See FEI Code of Points for additional information.**

b. Performance

- 1. Mechanics, essence, form, scope, security, balance, continuity and harmony with the horse.**
- 2. The average of deductions for every exercise and transition is deducted from the maximum score of 10.0.**
- 3. Deductions for falls are deducted from the Performance Score at the end (not averaged).**

9. **Artistic**

a. Use of space, pace, variety, development, artistic merit, and consideration for the horse.

10. **See section on Scoring for final score, penalties and deductions. Penalties are as for Individual Event.**

11. Falls:

- a. Vaulters may continue after a fall. They must remount within one (1) minute in order to continue. The unsuccessful exercise may be repeated.
- b. The clock will be stopped for a maximum of one (1) minute for each fall. It will be restarted when the first vaulter touches the grips.

SUBCHAPTER VA-5 SCORING

VA124 Judging Code. (Listed in alphabetical order by term).

AL	Alignment
A/L	Arm & Leg
AB	Arched Back
A	Arms
B	Balance
C	Collapse
CD	Come Down
DL	Down Leg
E	Elevation
X	Extension
O	Fall
OD	Fall After Dismount
FT	Feet
F	Form
FK	Frog Kick

FH	Front High
FL	Flight
G	Ground Jump
HZ	Hands
HM	Harmony
H	Head
HH	Hit Horse
INT	Interruption
K	Kneel
KZ	Knees
L	Legs
LA	Legs Apart
LD	Late Dismount
LF	Legs Forward
LH	Land Heavily
MX	Mechanics
M	Mount
NC	Not Clear of Horse
NH	Not Held
NT	No Turn
OC	Off Center
OH	Off Horse
PD	Pad
PK	Pike
PL	Poor Landing
P	Posture
PB	Push Back
PT	Partial Turn
Q	Quick
R	Repeat
SC	Scope
SK	Security
SH	Shoulders
SL	Slow
SS	Side Seat
ST	Stiff
SX	Stretch
T	Timing
TG	Touched Ground
TI	Turned In
TW	Time Wasted
TZ	Toes
TH	Touched Horse
TR	Transition
UE	Uneven Elevation
UR	Uneven Rhythm

UW	Uneven Width
WD	Width
W	Wrap

Comments for Horse

BH	Behavior
CS	Circle Size
GT	Gait
LW	Lunger Walking
SB	Submission
TM	Tempo

VA125 Points and Values

10	Excellent	5	Marginal
9	Very Good	4	Insufficient
8	Good	3	Fairly Poor
7	Fairly Good	2	Poor
6	Satisfactory	1	Very Poor
0	Not performed or as a result of deductions.		

1. Results are calculated to the 3rd decimal.
2. Tie breakers:
 - a. Team and Individual Event.
 1. Compulsory: Score for Basic Seat, then Flag, etc. The Mount and Horse Score are not used. In 3*A Team 3*Individual Events, the Basic Seat is not shown, therefore, the tie breaker begins with Flag.
 2. Freestyle: Score for Artistic, then ~~Performance~~ **Technique**.
 3. Technical Test: Score for Artistic, then ~~Performance~~ **Technique**.
 4. Overall: Compulsory Score
 - b. Pas de Deux Event.
 1. Freestyle: Score for Artistic, then ~~Performance~~ **Technique**.
 2. Overall: Score for Artistic, then ~~Performance~~ **Technique**.

VA126 Penalties and Deductions

- a. Compulsories—Team and Individual Events:
 - a. Up to one (1) point deducted for:
 1. Each landing other than on both feet only.
 - b. One (1) point deducted for:
 1. Each stride less than 4 (Basic Seat, Flag, Stand).
 2. Each passing of the leg out of a 4-count rhythm in the Mill and the Half Mill.
 3. Interfering with lunge line or side reins.
 4. Touching neck in Flag without loss of form.
 5. No kneel (both knees) before Flag or Stand.
 6. Arm and leg are not raised simultaneously in Flag.
 7. Legs closed at highest point of swing in Swing Backward
 8. Legs are apart during any part of the flight phase in Swing Forward
 9. Legs not closed throughout flight in dismounts, 2nd Part of Flank or Swing Off to Outside. BOD
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 - c. Up to two (2) points deducted for:

1. Time wasted: between taking grips and vaulting on, before commencing an exercise, and between parts of an exercise.
 2. Landing heavily on horse's back.
 3. Buttocks leaving horse during Mill or Half Mill..
- d. Two (2) points deducted for:
1. Exercise fails, but vaulter stays on and repeats successfully.
 2. Retaking grips in Basic Seat, Flag or Stand.
 3. Touching horse with hand behind surcingle in Mill or Half Mill.
 4. In Senior Events, when Basic Seat is shown. Flag receives the deduction.
 5. In Team Events, a compulsory exercise shown out of order in which the vaulter stays on and repeats the correct exercise before dismounting.
 6. Repeating mount (first attempt unsuccessful; second attempt successful).
- e. Score of zero (0) for:
1. Coming off horse during a compulsory exercise.
 2. Retaking grips twice.
 3. Repeating a compulsory exercise twice.
 4. After Swing Backward, performing dismount in wrong direction (to outside). Swing Backward receives the zero.
 5. Turning the wrong way in the Scissors Forward and/or Scissors Backward (not turning toward the lunge).
 6. A compulsory, no part of which is performed at the required gait.
 7. Each compulsory exercise not performed.
 8. In Individual Events, a compulsory exercise shown out of order. When two compulsories are transposed, the first exercise shown out of order receives the zero (0).
 9. Repeating mount (attempting to mount twice but not successful); third attempt is successful, but receives a zero.
 10. In Individual Events, after third unsuccessful attempt to mount, the vaulter is excused from the ring.
 11. In Team Events after the third unsuccessful attempt to mount, the vaulter shall return to the line . He shall receive no scores.
 12. In Team Events, exercises begun after the time limit.
- b. Freestyle and Technical Test, Performance score—Team, Pas de Deux and Individual Events:
- a. Falls: See FEI Guidelines, Section 4.5.1 and Section 5.4.3 (Technical Test) Deduction for Falls.
 - b. One (1) point deducted for:
 1. In 3*Individual and 2* Young Vaulter/Gold Technical Tests, each stride held less than three (3) in the required static exercises. BOD 1/17/21 Effective 1/1/21
 - c. Up to two (2) points deducted for:
 1. Falls (See VA127.2a above)
- c. Freestyle and Technical Test, Artistic score—Team, Pas de Deux and Individual Events:
- a. One (1) point deducted for:
 1. In all Events, any exercise (including the dismount) commenced after the time limit. (See VA111.1)
 2. In 2*B and 1*C Team Events, for performing more than six (6) static triple exercise.
 - b. Up to two (2) points deducted for:
 1. In team competition, over weighting and/or overloading the horse.
 - c. Two (2) points deducted for:
 1. Each vaulter not performing at least one exercise in addition to the vault on in Team Freestyle.
- d. Not scored in Freestyle and Technical Test — Team, Pas de Deux and Individual Events:
- a. Each static exercise held for less than three (3) canter strides.
 - b. Compulsory exercises.
 - c. An exercise no part of which is performed at canter.
 - d. Repetition of any exercise.
 - e. A triple exercise in which two (2) vaulters are not in contact with the horse.
- e. Technical Test, Technical Exercises, Artistic score, Performance score - 3*Individual Event and 2* Young Vaulter/Gold. BOD 1/17/21 Effective 1/1/21
- a. See current FEI Rules for Vaulting.
 - b. See current FEI Guidelines for Judges.
6. Horse:
- a. Deductions at the discretion of the judge for:
 1. Lack of balance, not straight on the circle, impure gaits, uneven and/or unlevel, poor condition,

over loading, signs of discomfort, circle size, lunging and presentation.

2. **See FEI Guidelines for Judges for additional information.**

General Impression:

- a. ~~Up to one (1) point deducted for:~~
- b. ~~Audible instruction to vaulters.~~
- c. ~~One (1) point deducted for:~~
- d. ~~In Team Event, each team member not wearing a back number.~~
- e. ~~Up to two (2) points deducted for:~~
- f. ~~Lunging on a circle significantly deviant from 13 to 15 meters.~~
- g. ~~Up to four (4) points deducted for:~~
- h. ~~Assistance on to the horse from the ground in Freestyle.~~
- i. ~~Vaulter, lunger or horse inappropriately turned out.~~
- j. ~~Side reins forcing a horse's head behind the vertical.~~
- k. ~~In Team Event, all 6 vaulters on a team do not perform in the Freestyle.~~
- l. ~~Manes not plaited or roached.~~

7. Elimination—Team, Pas de Deux and Individual Events:

- a. In 3*A, 2*B, and 1*C Team Event, entering ring with more than a lunger, team of 6 and 1 substitute for compulsories.
- b. In Team Event, entering the ring with more than a lunger and 6 vaulters for Freestyle.
- c. In 3*A, 2*B, and 1*C Team Event, if substitute enters the ring but does not perform the compulsories.
- d. In Team Event, entering the ring with less than a lunger and six vaulters for the Compulsory or Freestyle sections.
- e. In Team Event, approaching the horse without the intention of mounting (See VA112.2).
- f. Assistance on to or off the horse from the ground in the Freestyle (boosting/spotting) (See VA112.2 & 3)
- g. In Individual event, if vaulter enters circle before previous vaulter begins vault off, entering vaulter will be eliminated. Horse that is uneven and/or unlevel, in poor condition, or which shows signs of discomfort or fatigue.
- h. Abuse of the horse.
- i. An unforeseen circumstance.
- j. More than three (3) vaulters on the horse at any one time or in any exercise whether actually on the horse or not.
- k. After the maximum number of vaulters allowed to use the horse in any day, all additional vaulters will be disqualified.
- l. Use of non-allowable equipment.
- m. Team or vaulter not saluting within one (1) minute of the Judge's signal to enter.
- n. Team or vaulter not commencing the performance within thirty (30) seconds of the judge's signal to begin.
- o. Unauthorized assistance not specified elsewhere.
- p. Use of dress other than defined.
- q. In the event the team/individual is eliminated, the judge should state his reason on the score sheet.

8. Team Event Scoring:

- a. Compulsory Section
 - 1. The Scores of the six (6) vaulters for each compulsory exercise are added and divided by 6 (averaged). (In 3*A Team, 2*B Team, and 1*C Team, these are the scores for the six (6) vaulters who perform in the Freestyle. The scores for the seventh vaulter are dropped.)
 - 2. For 3*A Team and 2*B Team the eight (8) averaged scores for the compulsory exercises are **(x75%) and** added to the Horse/GI-Score **(x 25%)** and ~~divided by nine (9)~~. This is the team's score for the Compulsory section.
 - 3. For 1*C Team, the seven (7) averaged scores for the Compulsory exercises are **(x75%) and** added to the Horse/GI-Score **(x25%)** and ~~divided by eight (8)~~. This is the Team's score for the Compulsory section.
- b. Freestyle Section

3*A Team and 2* B Team

- 1. ~~DOD (x15%)~~ **Horse (x25%)**
- 2. ~~Artistic (x25%)~~ **Technique (x50%)**

- 3. ~~Performance (x40%)~~
- 3. ~~Horse/General Impression (x20%)~~ **Artistic (x25%)**
- 4. The four (4) ~~three (3)~~ Freestyle scores are added together. This is the team's score for the Freestyle section.

1* C Team

- 1. Content **Horse** (x25%)
- 2. Performance **Technique** (x50%)
- 3. ~~Horse~~ **Artistic** (x20%)
- 4. The three (3) Freestyle scores are added together. This is the team's score for the Freestyle section

c. Final Score

The team's Compulsory score and Freestyle score are added and divided by two (2). This is the team's final score for the Event.

9. **3* Individual and 2* Young Vaulters/Gold Individual Event Scoring:**

a. Compulsory Section (Score 1)

- 1. ~~The eight (8) Compulsory scores~~ **added and divided by eight (8) (averaged)** and the Horse/GI Score are added.
- 2. ~~Total is divided by nine (9).~~ **The eight (8) averaged scores for Compulsory exercises are (x75%) are added to the Horse Score (x25%).**
- 3. **This is the score for the Compulsory Section.**

b. ~~Freestyle~~ **Technical Test** Section (Score 2)

- 1. Degree of Difficulty (x15%)
- 2. Artistic (x25%)
- 3. Performance (x40%)
- 4. Horse/GI (x20%)
- 5. The four (4) scores are added together.

c. Freestyle Section (Score 3)

- 1. ~~Degree of Difficulty (x15%)~~ **Horse Score (x25%)**
- 2. ~~Artistic (x25%)~~ **Technique (x50%)**
- 3. ~~Performance (x40%)~~ **Artistic (x25%)**
- 4. ~~Horse/GI (x20%)~~ **The three (3) scores are added together. This is the score for the Freestyle section.**
- 5. The four scores are added together.

d. Final Score

- 1. Score 1, Score 2 and Score 3 are added together. The total is divided by 3 to produce the final score for the event. BOD 1/17/21 Effective 1/1/21

10. ~~3* Individual Event Scoring~~

a. ~~Compulsory Section (Score 1)~~

- 1. ~~The eight (8) Compulsory scores and the Horse/GI score are added.~~
- 2. ~~The total is divided by 9~~

b. ~~Technical Test Section (Score 2)~~

- 1. ~~The five (5) performance scores for the designated technical exercises are added together and divided by five. This number is (x50%)~~
- 2. ~~Artistic (x25%)~~
- 3. ~~Performance (x10%)~~
- 4. ~~Horse/GI (x15%)~~
- 5. ~~The four (4) scores are added together.~~

c. ~~Freestyle Section (Score 3)~~

- 1. ~~Degree of Difficulty (x15%)~~
- 2. ~~Artistic (x25%)~~
- 3. ~~Performance (x40%)~~
- 4. ~~Horse/GI (x20%)~~
- 5. ~~The four (4) scores are added together~~

d. ~~Final Score~~

- 1. ~~Score 1, Score 2, and Score 3 are added together. The total is divided by 3 to produce the final score for the event.~~

10. **2* Silver Event Scoring:**

- a. Compulsory Section (Score 1)
 - i. The eight (8) Compulsory scores **added and divided by eight (8) (averaged)**
 - ii. **The eight (8) averaged scores for Compulsory exercises are (x75%) are added to the Horse Score (x25%).**
 - iii. ~~Total is divided by nine (9).~~ **This is the score for the Compulsory Section**
- b. Freestyle Section (Score 2)
 - i. ~~Degree of Difficulty (x15%)~~ **Horse Score (X25%)**
 - ii. ~~Artistic (x25%)~~ **Technique (x50%)**
 - iii. ~~Performance (x40%)~~ **Artistic (x25%)**
 - iv. ~~Horse/GI (x20%)~~ **The three (3) scores are added together. This is the score for the Freestyle section.**
 - v. ~~The four scores are added together.~~
- c. Compulsory to Right Section (Score 3 – 2*Bronze and 2*Silver Event)
 - i. ~~The eight (8) Compulsory scores added and divided by eight (8) (averaged) and the Horse/GI Score are added.~~
 - ii. ~~Total is divided by nine (9).~~ **The eight (8) averaged scores for Compulsory exercises are (x75%) are added to the Horse Score (x25%)**
 - iii. **This is the score for the Compulsory Section to the Right.**
- d. Final score
 - i. ~~For 2*Silver and 2*Bronze Event, Score 1, Score 2, and Score 3 are added and divided by 3 to produce the final score for the event.~~ **Score 1, Score 2 and Score 3 are added together. The total is divided by 3 to produce the final score for the event.**

11. 1* Bronze Event Scoring

- a. Compulsory Section (Score 1)
 - i. **The seven (7) Compulsory scores added and divided by seven (7) (averaged)**
 - ii. **The seven (7) averaged scores for Compulsory exercises are (x75%) are added to the Horse Score (x25%)**
 - iii. **This is the score for the Compulsory section**
- b. Freestyle Section (Score 2)
 - i. **Horse Score (x25%)**
 - ii. **Technique (x50%)**
 - iii. **Artistic (x25%)**
 - iv. **The three (3) scores are added together. This is the score for the Freestyle section.**
- c. Compulsory Section to the Right (Score 3)
 - i. **The seven (7) Compulsory scores added and divided by seven (7) (averaged)**
 - ii. **The seven (7) averaged scores for Compulsory exercises are (x75%) are added to the Horse Score (x25%)**
 - iii. **This is the score for the Compulsory Section to the Right**
- d. Final Score
 - i. **Score 1, Score 2 and Score 3 are added together. The total is divided by 3 to produce the final score for the event.**

12. Pas de Deux Event Scoring:

- a. Freestyle I
 - i. ~~Degree of Difficulty (x15%)~~ **Horse Score (x25%)**
 - ii. ~~Artistic (x25%)~~ **Technique (x50%)**
 - iii. ~~Performance (x40%)~~ **Artistic (x25%)**
 - iv. **Horse/General Impression (x20%)**
 - v. ~~The four (4) Freestyle~~ **three (3) scores are added together. Totalled This is the score for the Freestyle section.**
- b. Freestyle II (Score 2):
 - i. ~~Degree of Difficulty (x15%)~~ **Horse Score (x25%)**

- ii.— ~~Artistic (x25%)~~ **Technique (x50%)**
 - iii.— ~~Performance (x40%)~~ **Artistic (x25%)**
 - iv.— ~~Horse/General Impression (x20%)~~ **The three (3) scores are added together. This is the score for the Freestyle Section.**
 - v.— ~~The four (4) Freestyle scores are totaled.~~
- c. Final Score
- i.— ~~Scores for Freestyle I and Freestyle II are added and divided by 2, to produce the final score for the event if two rounds are offered. BOD 1/17/21 Effective 1/1/21~~ **The scores for Freestyle I and Freestyle II are added and divided by 2 to produce the final score for the event if two rounds are offered.**