



MEMORANDUM

To: Potential Competitors - Adequan/USEF Junior Hunter National Championships (East & West) **Date:** June 1, 2025
From: Jennifer Day, Hunter Program Manager **Copy:** Karen Homer Brown, Emily McSweeney, Ashley Hudson
Re: Beginning of the 2026 Qualifying Period for the Adequan/USEF Junior Hunter National Championships

This preliminary information is being provided to assist you with your competition planning and may be subject to change. Please remember that this information is based upon the recommendations of the National Hunter Committee and is subject to approval by the USEF Board of Directors, Executive Committee, or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors.

**Full specifications for the 2026 Adequan/USEF Junior Hunter National Championships are forthcoming and will be available upon approval [here](#).*

Dates and Locations: The USEF Junior Hunter National Championships may be split into two Championships, one on the eastern side of the U.S. and one on the western side of the U.S. Qualified horses may compete in either Championship but the horse's owners must declare which championship the horse will be competing in, as the horse is only allowed to compete in one championship per year.

The anticipated dates and locations for the 2026 Adequan/USEF Junior Hunter National Championships are as follows:

- East Coast Championships: June 17-21, 2026
- West Coast Championships: July 23-26, 2026

Eligibility Requirements: Trainers, riders, and owners must be USEF and USHJA Members in good standing to earn qualifying scores and at the time of the Championship. Horses must have an active USEF and USHJA recording to earn qualifying scores and at the time of the Championship. A current USEF measurement card is required for horses that compete in the Small Junior Hunter sections at qualifying competitions and at the championship.

Qualifying:

- Junior Hunter 3'3"
 - Horses qualify by winning a Champion or Reserve Champion in a Premier (AA), National (A), or Regional (B) rated Junior Hunter 3'3" section at a competition with a start date from June 1, 2025 - May 31, 2026.
 - Horses may also qualify when ranked in the top 10 on the USHJA Zone Horse of the Year Channel I or Channel II ranking list for any of the Junior Hunter 3'3" sections based on results from competitions with a start date from December 1, 2025 - May 31, 2026.
- Junior Hunter 3'6"
 - Horses qualify by winning a Champion or Reserve Champion in a Premier (AA), National (A), or Regional (B) rated Junior Hunter 3'6" section at a competition with a start date from June 1, 2025 - May 31, 2026.
 - Horses may also qualify when ranked in the top 10 on the USHJA Zone Horse of the Year Channel I or Channel II ranking list for any of the Junior Hunter 3'6" sections based on results from competitions with a start date from December 1, 2025 - May 31, 2026.
- Horses that are Champions or Reserve Champions in their respective fence height sections at the previous year's Championship may return to compete in that same fence height section without qualifying.



The above Qualifying Requirements are subject to change following review from the USEF National Hunter Committee and USEF Board or Directors or USEF Executive Committee. These Qualifying Requirements are based on the USEF rules as presently known and understood. Any change in the Qualifying Requirements caused by a change in USEF rules will be distributed to the effected athletes immediately. The Qualifying Requirements are based on the latest information available to USEF. However, the Qualifying Requirements are always subject to unforeseen, intervening circumstances, and realistically may not have accounted for every possible contingency. Changes in Qualifying Requirements are subject to approval by USEF.

Questions: If you have any questions regarding the above, please do not hesitate to contact the USEF Hunter Department at hunterdept@usef.org.