Rule	Tracking	Draft	Proposal Type	Effective Date	Proponent	Status
EQ 111.8	039-25	1	Standard	9/1/2026	David Distler	Approved (6/16/2026)

EQ111.8 Tracking #039-25 Draft #1 Approved

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	9/1/2026	8/29/2025	Approved 6/16/2026

Rule Change Intent

This is a request made to WIHS by the USHJA Equitation Committee. They recommend that the courses for the hunter phase of these classes be run over a “handy hunter” typecourse. This change has been approved through a Presidential Modification taking effect beginning September 1, 2025, the start of the qualifying periodfor 2026. The change would not take place at the Washington Equitation Finals until 2026. This rule change will align the rules with the approved language from the Presidential Modification.

Proponent Details

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Contact Information

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Linked Rules

Comments

Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 05/27/2026

National Hunter Committee

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 11/18/2025

USHJA

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 12/11/2025

Member Comments

EQ111 Requirements for Specific Classes

When creating tests, judges must consider the level of ability of the riders in the class.

[...]

8. WASHINGTON INTERNATIONAL HORSE SHOW EQUITATION
For full specifications and qualification information please see www.wihs.org.

a. Riders need not be members of the WIHS Equitation to compete in any qualifying classes, but only current members will accrue points towards year-end finals.
b. QUALIFYING PERIOD. Qualifying period: shows starting on or after September 1st through shows starting on or before August 31st.
c. Awarding of Points
   1st - 6th place points are tabulated by multiplying the # of riders in the qualifier class by 10, 6, 4, 2, 1, ½ points respectively. Three riders must complete the course in order for points for that phase to count. In order for overall points to count in a two-phase qualifier, three riders must complete the course in at least one of the two phases and at least three riders must compete in the second phase. (See HU119 for definition of competed)
   When there is a two-phase junior equitation qualifier, only the overall results of a two-phase junior equitation qualifier will be tabulated for the standings. A multiplying factor of 2 will be applied to these classes only.
d. CLASS SPECIFICATIONS. WIHS Equitation and WIHS Pony Equitation:
   1. The WIHS Equitation Classes are open to junior members of USEF or Equine Canada.
   2. Three riders must complete the course for the class to be included in the National Ranking.
   3. The same horse must be used in all phases of the event. No Exceptions.
   4. Only one rider per horse, unless the judge requests a change.
   5. Classes to be judged in accordance with the current USEF standards for equitation.
   6. Riders may only compete in one WIHS Equitation class at a show.
   7. If there are 50 or more entries at the start of either phase, that phase must be divided as under HU158 ("California Split"). If one phase is split and there are fewer than 50 entries in the second phase, splitting the second phase is optional. Only phases with more than 50 entries must be split. If either phase is double pinned, then the overall results must also be double pinned. Points will be awarded based on the number of riders in the largest phase after any split, however for calculation purposes the maximum differential between the two phases will be no more than ten riders of the lesser section.
e. WIHS Pony Equitation: To be shown over a course of not less than 8 jumps. No junior rider over 12 years of age may compete on a small pony. No junior rider over 14 years of age may compete on a medium pony. Fence heights: 2'3" for ponies not exceeding 12.2 hands; 2'6" for ponies over 12.2 hands and not exceeding 13.2 hands; and 2'9"- 3' for ponies over 13.2 hands and not exceeding 14.2 hands. The suggested distance for the in and out is 20' for small ponies, 22' for medium ponies and 24' for large ponies. The distance must be altered for each height division. WIHS Pony Equitation classes may include any of the following: bending line, narrow jump (5'6"-8'), rollback turn, fence at the end of the ring, long approach to a single jump. It is recommended that the course be consistent with EQ109.11. A numerical score will be given. WIHS Pony Equitation class may run concurrently with the small, medium and large pony division.
f. WIHS Equitation: See EQ106.5b for tack and saddlery restrictions. Boots and conservative colored bandages are permitted in both phases.
   1. Hunter Phase - To be shown over a minimum of 8 jumps at 3'6". ~~It is recommended that the~~ ***The*** course ***must*** be a ***"handy hunter" type course (see HU112.6).*** ~~straight forward hunter course consisting of natural jumps. It must include a combination, hunter lines, and a long approach to a single jump.~~ A numerical score will be given. Refer to EQ111.10c for minimum number of riders required for points to count.
   2. Jumper Phase - The course should be of the type used in a High Junior Jumper competition. To be shown over a minimum of 10 jumps at 1.10 m (3'7"). A minimum of either two double combinations or one triple combination are required. There must be at least two changes of direction after the first fence. In addition, at least two of the following are required and more

are recommended: vertical - no ground lines; Liverpool; narrow jump - minimum width 5'6"; one or more of the following - triple bar, swedish oxer, fan jump. Refer to EQ110.10.c for minimum number of riders required for points to count.
A Time Allowed will be used based on a speed of 360 yards per minute. The judge will give a numerical score for each competitor's round. The announcer will announce the judge's numerical score and then deduct time faults as follows: one point for each commenced second over the Time Allowed. Rules regarding Time to Start (JP137.3 and .4) and Starting and Stopping (JP137.1) will apply.
A FINAL SCORE BELOW ZERO MAY NOT BE GIVEN.

3. Two Phase Event - Hunter & Jumper - Each phase to be conducted under their own specifications and pinned separately, as well as an overall placing.
    a. Both Hunter & Jumper Phases to be scored under the numerical system. Scores from each phase will be added together to determine the overall winner. In the event of a tie for any placing, the tie will remain.
    b. Scores from the first phase will determine the order of go in the second phase. The highest scores will return last; riders may volunteer to move up in the order.
    c. One or more judges may be used in any combination.
    d. National Ranking points will be awarded based on the OVERALL placing only.

g. See www.wihs.org for procedures for the WIHS Equitation Finals.
h. Qualifying procedures and Finals procedures cannot be changed without the approval of the Washington International Horse Show Assn., LTD.