



MEMORANDUM

To: Potential Competitors- USEF/Valencia Saddlery Hunter Seat Medal Final **Date:** September 10th, 2026
From: Ashleigh Russo, Hunter Equitation Program Manager **Copy:** Emily McSweeney
Re: Beginning of the 2027 Qualifying Period for the USEF Hunter Seat Medal Final

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 the final qualifying requirements are 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 and the state point chart for the 2027 USEF/Valencia Saddlery Hunter Seat Medal Final (the "Final") are forthcoming and will be available upon approval [here](#).*

Date and Location: The anticipated date for the Final is as follows:

- October 17th, 2027 - Pennsylvania National Horse Show- Harrisburg, PA

Qualifying Period: The qualifying period for the Final is September 1, 2026-August 31, 2027. Points from qualifying classes will count based on the start date of the competition.

Eligibility Requirements: Trainers and exhibitors must be USEF and USHJA Members in good standing to earn qualifying points and at the time of the Final. Horses competing in USEF Hunter Seat Medal qualifying classes must be properly identified through its USEF HID and recorded microchip number and must obtain a Registration Number from USHJA in order for the exhibitor to accumulate points. Horses competing in USEF Hunter Seat Medal qualifying classes and Final must provide a microchip number that verifies the horse's identity in order for the exhibitor to accumulate points. The microchip must be compliant with EQ103.

Qualifying Classes: Points towards the Final can be accumulated by competing in qualifying USEF Hunter Seat Medal classes held at USEF licensed competitions. A list of these competitions is available on the USEF website [here](#).

Ranking List Score Calculation:

- a. Exhibitors must qualify by the minimum number of points required by their state. The number of points required for each state will be posted on the USEF website no later than 30 days following the completion of the previous year's qualifying period.



b. Increment Chart:

Placings	Number of Exhibitors who Complete the Course			
	3-5 Exhibitors	6-15 Exhibitors	16-30 Exhibitors	31+ Exhibitors
1 st	5	10	20	40
2 nd	4	8	16	32
3 rd	3	6	12	24
4 th		4	8	16
5 th			4	8
6 th			2	4
7 th				2
8 th				1

- c. Exhibitors may compete in a total of fourteen (14) USEF Hunter Seat Medal Qualifying classes in a single qualifying period. Any exhibitor who continues to compete after they have competed in fourteen (14) qualifying classes will no longer be eligible to compete in the USEF Hunter Seat Medal Final. (Exception: If a exhibitor is not yet qualified for the USEF Hunter Seat Medal Final after fourteen (14) classes, that exhibitor may **continue to** compete until qualified. That exhibitor must stop competing in USEF Hunter Seat Medal Qualifying classes as soon as he or she is qualified for the USEF Hunter Seat Medal Final or he/she will no longer be eligible to compete in the USEF Hunter Seat Medal Final.) It is the exhibitor's responsibility to calculate and know their points in addition to the number of classes in which they have competed in.

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 contact Ashleigh Russo at (859)-225-6993 or arusso@usef.org.