



2023 USEF Pony Medal Final Specifications

The Federation may provide the applicable Recognized Affiliate, Council, and discipline or breed committee with the Qualifying Criteria and Official Specifications for review and recommendation.

I. Membership Requirements to Qualify

- a. The rider of the pony must be an Active member in good standing of the Federation and USHJA at the time of qualification and on or before the first day of the Championship.
- b. The pony must be registered with USHJA at the time of qualification and on or before the first day of the Championship.
- c. The pony must have a valid microchip and current measurement card on file with USEF at the time of qualification and on or before the first day of the Championship.

II. Qualifying

- a. To qualify, a rider must earn a total of 30 points during the qualifying period of July 2, 2022– July 1, 2023. In all cases, points are earned based on the start date of the competition.
- b. Points may be earned at Premier, National, and Regional rated Hunter competitions.
- c. For classes with six or more entries 1st place = 30 pts.; 2nd place = 15 pts.; 3rd place = 10 pts.
- d. For classes with three to five entries 1st place = 15 pts.; 2nd place = 8 pts.; 3rd place = 5 pts.
- e. A rider that has qualified for the Finals can continue to compete in qualifying classes. The winner of the Finals may no longer ride in the Finals or in qualifying classes.
- f. Riders cannot enter both the USEF Hunter Seat Medal Finals and the USEF Pony Medal Finals in the same year.

III. Rounds

Competition will be conducted in two separate rounds with further testing at the judges' discretion. Coaching from the rail is not permitted in any phase and may result in a zero.

- a. First Round Over Fences
 - i. In this round all exhibitors will compete for the judges.
- b. Second Round Over Fences
 - i. In this round no more than 30 of the top competitors will return to compete before the judges.
- c. Further Testing.





- i. Riders that are called back for further testing may be tested on any USEF Tests 1-22.
- d. The junior exhibitor is required to show the same pony in all rounds of the competition, but it need not be the same mount the rider exhibited during the qualifying event(s).
- e. No junior over 12 years of age may compete on a small pony. No junior over 14 years of age may compete on a medium pony. If a pony is unable to continue to compete, the rider and/or trainer must request permission for a change of pony from the Show Committee prior to the start of the competition. The decision of the Show Committee is final, binding and not subject to further appeal of any kind.

IV. Judging

- a. A total of two judges will officiate. Suitability of a pony to rider to be emphasized. Two cumulative refusals will result in elimination.
- b. Riders to be judged on their overall position as outlined in EQ105, ridden track, effective control over the pony, and the rider's overall performance. Please refer to EQ108 for examples of faults.

