



2021 USEF Pony Hunter National Championship 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 pony must be actively recorded with the Federation and registered with USHJA at the time of qualification and on or before the first day of the Championship.
 - b. The Owner of record of the pony must be an Active member in good standing of the Federation and USHJA.
 - c. Ponies must have a valid microchip and current USEF measurement card.
- II. Qualifying
 - a. The qualifying period for the USEF Pony Hunter National Championship is July 2, 2020 - July 1, 2021 for Regular Pony Hunters and December 1, 2020 – July 1, 2021 for Green Pony Hunters.
 - b. A Regular Pony Hunter qualifies by winning a Championship or Reserve Championship in a “AA” or “A” rated Regular Pony Hunter section during the qualifying period. The show in which they qualify must have a start date on or before the final day of the qualifying period.
 - c. A Green Pony Hunter qualifies by winning a Championship or Reserve Championship in a “AA” or “A” rated Green Pony Hunter section at a competition during the qualifying period. A Green Pony may also qualify by winning a Championship or Reserve Championship in an “AA” or “A” rated Regular Hunter Pony section at a competition with a start date on or after December 1st. The show in which they qualify must have a start date on or before the final day of the qualifying period.
 - d. A pony that has qualified in the Green section and the Regular section may not compete in both. Green ponies must declare the section in which they will compete when completing their entry blank.
 - e. Regular ponies that are Champions in their respective sections at the previous year’s Pony Finals may return without qualifying.
 - f. 2020 Green Pony Hunter Section
 - o To be eligible for this section, ponies must have been eligible for the Green Pony Hunter section at the time of the 2020 USEF Pony Finals (August 3, 2020) and must not have been granted a 2020 Green Pony Reinstatement or Waiver.
 - o A pony may qualify for the 2020 Green Pony Hunter Section by one of the following qualification methods:
 - I. The pony qualified for the Green Pony Hunter section at the 2020 USEF Pony Finals by winning a Championship or Reserve Championship in a “AA” or “A” rated Green Pony Hunter section at a competition with a start





date of December 1, 2019 to July 1, 2020. A Green Pony may also qualify by winning a Championship or Reserve Championship in an “AA” or “A” rated Regular Hunter Pony section at a competition with a start date of December 1, 2019 to July 1, 2020. The show in which they qualify must have a start date on or before the final day of the qualifying period.

2. The pony is qualified for the 2021 USEF Pony Finals in the Regular Pony Hunter section.
 - o Ponies competing in the 2020 Green Pony Hunter section at the 2021 USEF Pony Finals may not cross enter into the Regular Pony Hunter section at the 2021 USEF Pony Finals

III. Phases

Competition will be conducted in three separate phases: Model, Under Saddle, and Over Fences. In determining each pony’s total score, the Model will count 25%, Under Saddle 25%, and Over Fences 50%. The competition will consist of ~~six~~ nine pony hunter sections: 2020 small green pony, 2020 medium green pony, 2020 large green pony, small green pony, medium green pony, large green pony, small pony, medium pony, and large pony. Coaching from the rail is not permitted in any phase and may result in a zero.

- a. Model. Judged on conformation, way of moving and soundness.
 - i. In the Model, the ponies in each division will be split into groups of 12 or less. Each pony will be judged and given a score based on its performance in its group.
- b. Under Saddle. To be shown at the walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring. Riders may be asked for an extended trot. Ponies to stop easily and stand quietly. Light contact with pony’s mouth is required. Judged on performance and soundness. Manners and suitability of a pony to rider will be emphasized. Extreme speed will be penalized.
 - i. In the Under Saddle, the ponies in each division will be split into groups of 12 or less. Each pony will be judged and given a score based on its performance in its group. At the discretion of the judges, the ponies in any one division may be called back to hack together.
- c. Over Fences. To be shown over a minimum of eight fences at the required height (Note-Large Green ponies to jump at 2’9” and Large Regular ponies to jump 2’9”-3’0” in the competition). Judged on performance and soundness. Manners and suitability of a pony to rider will be emphasized. Extreme speed is penalized.
 - i. Elimination will occur after 2 refusals
 - ii. In the Over Fences phase, ponies will return to the ring in reverse order of the combined scores from the Model and Under Saddle Phases.
- d. The same junior exhibitor is required to show an entry in all phases of the competition but need not be the same one that handled the pony in any phases of a qualifying event.





The same junior exhibitor is only permitted to compete a maximum of six total ponies in the Pony Hunter National Championship:

Rider may compete a maximum of 3 total ponies from the following sections:	Regular Small (maximum of 1)
	Regular Medium (maximum of 1)
	Regular Large (maximum of 1)
and	
Rider may compete a maximum of 3 total ponies from the following sections:	Small Green (maximum of 1)
	Medium Green (maximum of 1)
	Large Green (maximum of 1)
	2020 Small Green (maximum of 1)
	2020 Medium Green (maximum of 1)
	2020 Large Green (maximum of 1)

- e. If a rider is unable to continue to compete, the rider and/or trainer must request permission for a change of rider from the Show Committee prior to the start of the next phase of 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 six judges will officiate. Three judges will judge the model phase simultaneously but independently of each other and each of the three judges will give each pony a model score. Three additional judges will judge the under saddle phase simultaneously but independently of each other, and each of the three judges will give every pony an under saddle score. Prior to the over fences phase, each pony's scores for the Model and Under Saddle phases are totaled and announced. All six judges will judge the over fences phase in three panels of two judges each. Each panel will submit a separate score for each pony. During the over fences phase, the Open Numerical Scoring System is used: after a pony completes the course, each panel's score for the round is immediately shown. The total overall score for each pony is then calculated as soon as it has completed the last phase.
- b. If a pony/rider combination does not complete a phase or is eliminated from a phase, it will receive a score of "0" for the phase. The pony/rider combination may continue to compete in the remaining phases of the competition. A pony with an ending score of "0" for a phase is not eligible for an award in that phase, but it is eligible for an overall award should scores warrant. A pony that does not compete in all phases is not eligible for an overall award but may continue to compete in any remaining phases.





V. HOTY Points:

*No HOTY points will be awarded for the 2020 Green Pony Hunter section.

Model and Under Saddle Phase		Over Fences Phase (all height sections)		Overall Top Twenty (all height sections)	
1st	100	1st	250	Champion	500
2nd	90	2nd	225	Reserve	300
3rd	80	3rd	200	3rd	200
4th	70	4th	175	4th	190
5th	60	5th	150	5th	180
6th	50	6th	125	6th	170
7th	40	7th	100	7th	160
8th	30	8th	75	8th	150
9th	20	9th	50	9th	140
10th	10	10th	25	10th	130
				11th	115
				12th	100
				13th	85
				14th	80
				15th	75
				16th	70
				17th	65
				18th	60
				19th	55
				20th	50

