



## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Potential Competitors- Dover Saddlery/USEF Hunter Seat Medal Final

**Date:** August 20, 2025

**From:** Ashley Hudson, Hunter Equitation Program Manager

**Copy:** Karen Homer-Brown, Emily McSweeney, Jen Day

**Re:** Beginning of the 2026 Qualifying Period for the Dover Saddlery/USEF Hunter Seat Medal Final

*This preliminary information is being provided to assist you with your competition planning and is 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 or Executive Committee.*

*\*Full specifications and state point chart for the 2026 Dover Saddlery/USEF Hunter Seat Medal Final ("Medal Final") are forthcoming and will be available upon approval [here](#).*

**Date and Location:** The anticipated date for the 2026 Medal Final is October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026 - Pennsylvania National Horse Show- Harrisburg, PA

**Qualifying Period:** The qualifying period for the 2026 USEF Hunter Seat Medal Final is September 1, 2025-August 31, 2026. Points from qualifying classes will count based on the start date of the competition.

**Eligibility Requirements:** Trainers and riders must be USEF and USHJA Competing Members in good standing to earn qualifying points and at the time of the Medal 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 rider to accumulate points. Horses competing in USEF Hunter Seat Medal qualifying classes and Medal Final must provide a microchip number that verifies the animal's identity in order for the rider to accumulate points. The microchip must be compliant with EQ103.

**Qualifying Classes:** Points towards the Medal 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:**

- 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.
- Increment Chart:

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



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

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 Ashley Hudson at [ahudson@usef.org](mailto:ahudson@usef.org).