



MEMORANDUM

To: Prospective Competitors - Adequan/USEF Junior Hunter National Championships (East & West)
From: Jennifer Day, Hunter Program Senior Manager
Date: April 1, 2026
Re: 2027 Qualifying Period for the Adequan/USEF Junior Hunter National Championships

This preliminary information is being provided to assist prospective competitors with competition planning. This information is preliminary and is subject to change. Any changes will be distributed to prospective competitors as soon as practicable. This preliminary information is 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 and complete specifications for the 2027 Adequan/USEF Junior Hunter National Championships are forthcoming no later than September 29, 2026 and will be available following approval [here](#).**

Dates and Locations: The USEF Junior Hunter National Championships will be split into two Championships, one on the eastern side of the U.S. and one on the western side of the U.S. Qualified horses may compete in either Championship, but the horse's owners must declare which championship the horse will be competing in, as the horse is only allowed to compete in one championship per year.

The anticipated dates and locations for the 2027 Adequan/USEF Junior Hunter National Championships are as follows:

- East Coast Championships: June 23-27, 2027, at Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington, KY
- West Coast Championships: July 29-August 1, 2027, at Del Mar Horse Park in Del Mar, CA

Eligibility Requirements: Trainers, riders, and owners must be USEF and USHJA Members in good standing to earn qualifying scores and at the time of the Championship. Horses must have an active USEF and USHJA recording to earn qualifying scores and at the time of the Championship. A current USEF measurement card is required for horses that compete in the Small Junior Hunter sections at qualifying competitions and at the championship.

Qualifying:

- Junior Hunter 3'3"
 - Horses qualify by winning a Champion or Reserve Champion in a Premier (AA), National (A), or Regional (B) rated Junior Hunter 3'3" section at a competition with a start date from May 1, 2026-April 30, 2027.
 - Horses may also qualify when ranked in the top 10 on the USHJA Zone Horse of the Year Channel I or Channel II ranking list for any of the Junior Hunter 3'3" sections based on results from competitions with a start date from December 1, 2026-April 30, 2027.
- Junior Hunter 3'6"
 - Horses qualify by winning a Champion or Reserve Champion in a Premier (AA), National (A), or Regional (B) rated Junior Hunter 3'6" section at a competition with a start date from May 1, 2026-April 30, 2027.



- Horses may also qualify when ranked in the top 10 on the USHJA Zone Horse of the Year Channel I or Channel II ranking list for any of the Junior Hunter 3'6" sections based on results from competitions with a start date from December 1, 2026-April 30, 2027.
- Horses that are Champions or Reserve Champions in their respective fence height sections at the previous year's Championship may return to compete in that same fence height section without qualifying.

The above Qualifying Requirements are subject to change. Any change in the Qualifying Requirements caused by a change in USEF rules will be promptly communicated to affected members.

Questions: If you have any questions regarding the above, please do not hesitate to contact the USEF Hunter Department at hunterdept@usef.org.