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## **CHAPTER HU HUNTER DIVISION**

WHEN A SUBJECT IS NOT ADDRESSED IN THESE RULES, IT MUST BE ADDRESSED BY THE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE AND THAT COMMITTEE'S INTERPRETATION WILL STAND AS THE RULE UNTIL THE NEXT YEAR WHEN AN APPROPRIATE RULE CHANGE WILL BE SUBMITTED.

### **SUBCHAPTER HU-1 DEFINITIONS**

WHEN A SUBJECT IS NOT ADDRESSED IN THESE RULES, IT MUST BE ADDRESSED BY THE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE AND THAT COMMITTEE'S INTERPRETATION WILL STAND AS THE RULE UNTIL THE NEXT YEAR WHEN AN APPROPRIATE RULE CHANGE WILL BE SUBMITTED.

#### **HU100 Horse Welfare**

1. The following acts are prohibited:
  - a. Riding an exhausted horse.
  - b. Lunging a visibly exhausted horse.
  - c. Excessive pressuring of a tired horse.
  - d. Riding or lunging an obviously lame horse.
  - e. Chasing a horse with a whip or other inappropriate use of the whip.
  - f. Appendages and attachments are prohibited, including but not limited to bags and flags.
  - g. Excessive and/or disruptive crackling of the whip.
  - h. Excessive use of a whip on any horse in a stall, aisle, schooling area, competition ring or elsewhere on the competition grounds. The use of a whip must be for a good reason, done at the appropriate time, in the proper place and with appropriate restraint. Excessive whipping will not be tolerated.
  - i. Any striking of the horse's head (on the poll or forward of the poll) shall be deemed excessive.
  - j. Repeated jerking on the reins and sawing on the bit unless applied to an unruly horse that is jeopardizing its own safety or the safety of its rider.
  - k. Improper use of the bit resulting in bleeding, broken skin or broken mucous membrane.
  - l. Excessive use of the spurs or spurring resulting in broken and bleeding skin.
  - m. Rapping the legs of a horse with the butt end of a riding crop or other implement.
  - n. Use of any substance to induce temporary heat causing hyper-sensitization.
  - o. Poling.
  - p. Use of a wire or chain in conjunction with any schooling jumps.
  - q. Use of electronic shock devices in schooling or showing.
  - r. Use of shackles, hock hobbles and similar devices, with the exception of kicking chains while the horse is in the stall or in transport. This does not prohibit the use of rubber or plastic exercising devices.
  - s. Showing a horse with hypersensitive, raw or bleeding sores around the cornets, pasterns, legs or body.
  - t. Use of laser beam devices anywhere on the competition grounds, except in an exhibition or if required in class specifications. (Exception: Lasers used in a therapeutic manner).
  - u. Withholding of feed or water for prolonged periods.
  - v. Letting blood from a horse for other than diagnostic purposes.
  - w. Inhumane treatment of a horse in a stall, aisle, schooling area, competition ring or elsewhere on the competition grounds, by any person.
  - x. Use of any device capable of emitting a flame or spark in and around the schooling/warm-up and competition rings during scheduled competition sessions.
  - y. Use of any attention getting device that emits a spray, mist, or fog while competing in the ring, such as an aerosol can or spray bottle.
2. Competitors found to be in violation of these rules by the Competition Steward or other Federation Official shall be eliminated/disqualified from competing within the upcoming 24-hour period and shall forfeit all entry fees for such competition. In addition, after consultation between Competition Management, the Steward, or

other official involved, and a Senior Judge in the division, additional penalties including disqualification from the balance of the competition may be imposed. All such violations must be recorded in the Steward's Report and, if cruelty or abusive behavior is evident, it will be reviewed by the Federation for such action as may be deemed appropriate to the particular circumstances.

## **HU101 Ponies Shown By Juniors**

Ponies shown by a junior in any rated pony hunter sections (i.e. Children's Hunter Pony, Green Pony Hunter, Regular Pony Hunter), WIHS Pony Equitation, or USEF Pony Medal may be shown by an adult at the same competition. (See also EQ103.6)

## **SUBCHAPTER HU-2 COMPETITION REQUIREMENTS**

### **HU102 Competition Requirements – Rider or Handler**

In order to compete in any Hunter, Hunter Breeding, Pony Hunter Breeding, Junior Hunter, or Pony Hunter classes at licensed competitions as an exhibitor, rider, trainer, or their agent(s), a person must be an Active member of the United States Hunter Jumper Association, Inc., or pay a Show Pass fee to the United States Hunter Jumper Association, Inc. Exception: Local Competitions, competitions restricted to a particular breed, classes restricted to breeds with Federation Recognized National Affiliate status, and exceptions listed in GR901.9.

### **HU103 Competition Requirements – Horse & Pony**

1. USHJA Horse Registrations.
  - a. All horses competing in Federation licensed and/or USHJA sanctioned competitions with Hunter, Hunter Breeding, Jumper and Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation classes (except those activities enumerated in GR901.9, items 1-9) not restricted by breed must be properly identified in accordance with GR1101, and must also be registered with USHJA (see GR1101.1). Any change of a horse's name and/or ownership must be recorded with Federation and USHJA in accordance with GR1105 and GR1107. The USEF/USHJA registration number for each horse must be entered on all entry forms for licensed competitions.
  - b. Applications for USHJA Registration can be completed online at [www.ushja.org](http://www.ushja.org) using the USHJA Horse Registration application form. This form is also available from the USHJA office, as a download from the USHJA website or from competition management. Competition management is responsible for notifying exhibitors of this requirement in their prize list.
2. The Hunter Division is open to horses, stallions, mares or geldings. (For rules pertaining to exhibitors who are 18 years of age or older riding ponies, see HU101)

### **HU104 Microchipping**

1. In addition to the provisions of HU103.1, on or after December 1, 2017, all horses competing in classes that require USHJA horse registration must provide a microchip number that verifies their animal's identity in order to compete for points, money won or be eligible for Federation and/or USHJA programs and awards where horses are required to be recorded or registered.
2. A microchip used to verify identity must be a fifteen-digit ISO compliant 11784/11785 chip and be implanted in the nuchal ligament of the animal.
3. This rule will have a transition period from December 1, 2017 to November 30, 2018. During this period, animals that are not in compliance with this rule will not receive points or be eligible for Federation and/or USHJA programs and awards. After this period, all horses that are competing in classes which require

USHJA registration which are not microchipped will be ineligible to compete in Federation licensed competitions. Exceptions: USHJA Outreach and those activities enumerated in GR901.9, items 1-9.

## **SUBCHAPTER HU-3 ATTIRE, TACK AND EQUIPMENT**

### **HU105 Tack**

1. Snaffles, pelhams and full bridles, all with cavesson nose bands, are required.
  - a. Judges may penalize, but may not eliminate, a horse or pony that competes in a snaffle, pelham, or full bridle that is unconventional. Unconventional snaffles, pelhams, or full bridles include, but are not limited to, hunter gags, kimberwickes, etc.
  - b. Judges must eliminate a horse or pony that competes in illegal bits or nosebands. Illegal bits include, but are not limited to, three rings, gags (other than the hunter gag), et cetera... Illegal nosebands include, but are not limited to, drop, flash and figure eight nosebands.
2. Curbs: When using a curb with any leverage bit, it must be constructed of loose links, joints, and/or lie smooth against the jaw of the horse and be free of twists, sharp objects or anything inhumane. A curb may be wrapped or inserted into a cover for the comfort of the horse. A curb may not be used in conjunction with wire, metal, rawhide, metal “keepers”, or any other substance except for attachment of curb to the bit.
3. Horses must return to the ring for conformation or soundness wearing a snaffle, pelham or full bridle with a cavesson noseband.
4. Martingales of any type are prohibited in under saddle, hack and tie-breaking classes. Standing and running martingales used in the conventional manner are allowed for all over fences classes. All other martingales are considered illegal. A judge must eliminate a horse or pony that competes in a martingale other than a standing or running martingale used in the conventional manner.
  - a. Cable or metal tie downs are prohibited for use on horses and ponies.

### **HU106 Equipment**

1. Light pads and bar shoes are permissible, however, bar shoes indicate a weakness and in Conformation classes a judge may penalize accordingly. All artificial appliances, including but not limited to nasal strips, nose nets, belly bands, boots, wraps and bandages are prohibited. In the case of inclement weather competition management may permit the use of bell boots.
2. Electronic Communication Devices
  - a. No mounted exhibitor may wear or carry an electronic communication device (i.e., cellular telephone, pager, walkie talkie, iPod, etc.) while in the competition ring. The penalty for wearing or carrying a forbidden device if observed by the judge may be elimination from the class during which the device was worn or carried.
  - b. Electronic communication devices used for purposes of coaching, etc., between competitors and individuals outside the ring shall be prohibited in all classes.
  - c. Exhibitors who have a chronic condition may apply for a Presidential Modification exempting them from the provisions of this rule in accordance with GR154. Riders may not use these devices in over fences classes.
  - d. An exhibitor who has a chronic condition and has previously been granted at least one annual Presidential Modification related to the condition, may submit an application for approval of a special three-year Presidential Modification related to the same condition. The application must be accompanied by sufficient supporting documentation that the condition is unlikely to improve during the three-year period.
3. Any rider competing and or riding anywhere on the competition grounds with their stirrup, stirrup leather, or foot tied and/or secured in any manner, will automatically be eliminated from the entire competition. The steward will note the trainer name(s) on the steward's report and further disciplinary actions may be taken by the Federation.

4. Whips. Competitors are prohibited from carrying a whip that is longer than 30" (75cm) while jumping or schooling over fences. A rider may not carry more than one whip. Whips that are weighted at the end are prohibited. (Exception: Ladies Side Saddle and appointments classes. See HU151.)
5. No exhibitor may carry a whip longer than 30" while competing.
6. Spurs must be made of smooth metal or plastic. Rowel spurs with serrated edges are not permitted. Hammer spurs are allowed. Metal or plastic "impulse" spurs with round hard plastic or metal knobs and "Dummy" spurs are allowed. The contact surface with the horse and all edges must be smooth and rounded. Athletes when mounted may wear only one spur on each boot.

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## **HU107 Attire**

1. Protective headgear. All riders must wear protective headgear. See GR801.1. While competing in a jumping class, if a rider's chin strap becomes unfastened, the rider may stop, refasten the chin strap and continue their round without penalty or elimination. A judge may, but is not required, to stop a rider and ask them to refasten a chin strap which has become unfastened, again without penalty to the rider.
2. Conventional attire following the tradition of fox hunting is encouraged and preferred. It is further recommended that the rider's attire does not distract from the performance of the horse and rider. Judges shall not eliminate a rider for unconventional attire except for safety (see GR801). Shirts must have a choker, similar collar or tie. Breeches may be buff, canary, tan, rust or white.
3. Formal Attire. Riders are required to wear scarlet or dark coats; white shirts with white stock; white, buff or canary breeches. Members of the Armed Services or the Police may wear the Service Dress Uniform.
4. Inappropriate attire. When management permits Hunter or Hunter Seat Equitation riders to ride without jackets, riders must wear traditional, short, or long-sleeved riding shirts with chokers or ties. Polo shirts and full chaps are not permitted except in unjudged warm-up classes. Management or Judge may eliminate an exhibitor who is inappropriately attired.

## **HU108 Hunt Colors**

1. In classes restricted to members, subscribers or staff of a Hunt recognized by the Masters of Foxhounds Association, all riders who wear colors must carry a letter dated within the current year signifying that they are eligible. This letter must include the name of the Hunt and the color of the collar and must be signed by the Master or Honorary Secretary of that Hunt. The show committee must appoint a competent person to check these letters before riders compete in classes. If a rider holds a current letter but does not have it in their immediate possession or is entitled to receive one, the show committee may accept a signed statement to that effect which must be submitted to the Federation.
2. In classes restricted to junior exhibitors, rules concerning hunt colors will be strictly enforced. Unless a junior wears scarlet, brown boot tops are prohibited.

## **SUBCHAPTER HU-4 COURSES**

### **HU109 General**

1. All obstacles, except those noted below, must be set at required height. The required height may have a variance of no more than 2" over or under. Exceptions:
  - a. Walk fences may not exceed 2' in height and spread.
  - b. Trot fences may not exceed 3' in height and spread for horses and 2' in height for ponies in classes restricted to ponies.
  - c. Brush obstacles, hedges, split-rail fences, simulated rock or stone walls, ditches, banks and other specialty jumps designed to simulate natural obstacles found in the hunt field.

- d. The first fence of any hunter course.
2. Except in case of inclement weather, broken equipment or similar emergency a course must not be altered except by written permission of all exhibitors. If one or more original obstacles are rendered unusable during a class and no duplicate exists, management may substitute obstacles which approximate as nearly as possible the originals.
3. In classes where Federation course requirements have not been met and the violation has not been observed and corrected prior to the third competitor's performance, the class must be completed without altering the course and the results will stand for the purposes of the Championship.
  - a. With the exception of a course set at an improper height, competitors who have gone over the course with the violation have the option of re-jumping the course.
  - b. Classes conducted over improper courses are ineligible for Federation Horse of the Year Award points.
4. Horses must be shown over a minimum of eight obstacles the required height in all rated sections.
5. In all rated Hunter sections, at least two different courses are required. At least one change of direction (change of lead) is required in every course. All rated sections at National and Premier rated shows, except for Green Hunter Pony, Green Hunter 3'0" and 3'3", and Young Hunter sections, must offer an over fence class as a Handy Hunter. This Handy Hunter class may not be the first class of a section nor can it be the designated first round of a classic when using one round of a section as the first round of a classic.
6. No course may have exhibitors trotting or cantering through the in-gate or out-gate; any exhibitor choosing to trot or canter through the in-gate or out-gate will be eliminated.
7. In over fences classes, riders shall not be required to hand gallop the first fence of a line consisting of a measured distance.
8. A track is established once a horse has landed from a fence or completes a required test and follows the horse until the consecutive fence is jumped or the next test is executed. Upon completion of each consecutive fence or performance of the next test, the track is erased. Crossing a track between obstacles and/or required tests shall constitute a disobedience and will be penalized by the judge(s). Exceptions:
  - a. A course diagram that requires a rider to cross their track.
  - b. Snake or multiple panel jumps that are jumped consecutively.
9. For the purposes of eligibility and cross entry corresponding heights are:

Height (metric equivalent height)	Corresponding JP/EQ metric class fence heights used for Hunter and Equitation cross entry and eligibility
2'3" (.69 meters)	.70 meters
2'6" (.76 meters)	.75 meters
2'9" (.84 meters)	.85 meters
3'0" (.91 meters)	.90 meters
3'3" (1.00 meters)	1.00 meters
3'6" (1.07 meters)	1.10 meters
3'9" (1.14 meters)	1.15 meters
4'0" (1.22 meters)	1.20 meters
4'3" (1.30 meters)	1.30 meters
4'6" (1.37 meters)	1.40 meters

## HU110 Course Diagrams

1. Course diagrams must be posted at least one half-hour before scheduled time of class unless they have been illustrated in the prize list. The plan or diagram of the course must show the obstacles which must be taken in the order indicated by numbers but apart from this the rider is not bound to follow a compulsory track. An arrow is used on the diagram to indicate the direction in which each obstacle is to be taken. When distances



between related fences in all classes, rated or unrated, are 100' or less, the distance must be included on the posted course diagram.

2. If the area of the courtesy circle is to be restricted by a mandatory line, the line must be indicated on the diagram and a corresponding barrier must be erected on the course. As this becomes part of the judging specifications, this policy must be clearly stated in the prize list (see GR901.10) and announced at least one hour prior to the class.
3. All posted courses at Federation-licensed competitions must include the numbers of fences to be jumped (i.e. Fences 1-8).

## **HU111 Height of Obstacles**

When a range of fence heights is allowed in a class or section, the minimum height must be used unless a higher height is specified in the prize list. In all cases, the spread of jump may not exceed height and must be measured including flowers, brush and ground lines.

1. Green Hunter Sections:
  - a. Green Hunter 3'0"
  - b. Green Hunter 3'3"
  - c. Green Hunter 3'6"
  - d. Green Hunter 3'9"(Exception: Fences may be a maximum of 3" lower in Zones 11 and 12)
2. Young Hunter Sections:
  - a. Young Hunter 5 and under – 2'9"
  - b. Young Hunter 6 and under – 3'0"
  - c. Young Hunter 7 and under – 3'3"
3. High Performance Hunter: 4' minimum in Premier rated sections at Premier rated competitions; 3'9" minimum in National rated sections at National rated competitions, and in Regional rated sections at Regional rated competitions. Obstacles may not exceed 4'6". (Exception: Fences may be a maximum of 3" lower in Zones 11 and 12)
4. Performance Hunter 3'3"
5. Performance Hunter 3'6"
6. Green Conformation Hunter 3'6"
7. High Performance Conformation Hunter: 3'9"
8. Amateur Owner Hunter Sections:
  - a. Obstacles at National and Premier rated competitions must be 3'6"
  - b. Obstacles at competitions in Zones 11 and 12 may be 3'3" or 3'6"
  - c. If a 3'3" Amateur Owner Hunter Section is offered, obstacles are to be 3'3"
  - d. If a competition offers both 3'3" and 3'6" Amateur Owner Hunter sections, regardless of the competition's rating, the obstacles must be set at 3'3" and 3'6" respectively
9. Adult Amateur Hunter Sections: See individual USHJA Zone specifications. For those USHJA Zones that do not provide specifications, obstacles will be 2'9" to 3'3".
10. Non-rated sections: Heights determined by competition management unless otherwise specified
11. Ladies Side Saddle Sections: 3'13. Junior Hunter Sections:
  - a. Obstacles must be 3'6" in all classes. (Exception: Fences may be 3" lower in Zones 11 and 12 and in the Junior Hunter 3'3" section.)
12. Children's Hunter Sections: Obstacles will be 2' for small ponies and medium ponies; 2'6" for large ponies and 2'9" to 3'3" for horses. No minimum height required at Local Competitions.
13. Green Pony Hunter: 2'3" for small, 2'6" for medium and 2'9" for large
14. Regular Pony Hunter: 2'3" for small, 2'6" for medium and 2'9" - 3'0" for large
15. Three-Year-Old Hunter: Not to exceed 2'9"
16. Small Hunter Sections: 3'
17. Thoroughbred Hunter: 3'0"

## HU112 Type

1. Obstacles must simulate those found in the hunting field such as natural post and rail, brush, stone wall, white board fence or gate, chicken coop, aiken, hedge, oxer, etc.
2. Chicken coops hinged at the top and free at the bottom; triple bars and hogs back; striped rails; targets; any spread over 4' and square oxers are prohibited.
3. Every course must have at least four different type obstacles. (Exception: see HU174.10). The jumpable portion of all obstacles must be a minimum width of eight feet wide.
4. A minimum 2" difference is required for the back element of an obstacle. A ground line is required for all obstacles except in Handy Hunter classes.
5. Jump Cups.
  - a. The top element of all obstacles except the back rails of oxers must be securely placed with cups at least 1 1/2 inches deep and 3 inches wide so that a slight rub will not cause a knockdown and must be equally secure for different heights in the same class.
  - b. At all Federation approved competitions, FEI approved safety cups must be used for the back rail of all oxers.
  - c. Logs, caps on walls and gates with a separate plank style top element that can be knocked down are permitted.
6. In Handy classes obstacles must simulate those found in trappy hunting country. The course must have at least two changes of direction, at least one in and out, as well as three of the following: hand gallop a jump, bending line, rollback turn, halt, fence at the end of the ring or open a gate while mounted or trot over one obstacle (exception: in and outs are optional for Pony Handy courses). Judges must place emphasis on promptness and tight turns with precedence being given in that order. Handiness is defined as time and ground saving movement without adversely affecting performance or style. Brilliance of pace is defined as a faster pace than ordinary, without sacrificing performance or style. Hand Gallop is defined as a significant increase in pace without sacrificing performance or style.

## HU113 In and Outs

1. An in and out is considered as two obstacles in the required number of obstacles. It must never be used at the start of a course.
2. An in and out is two jumps set for one or two strides. The distance may be adjusted during a class requiring different fence heights. Exception: The distance must be adjusted in Pony Hunter classes, see HU114.

## HU114 Pony Hunter

In the event that any or all of the Pony Hunter sections (Small, Medium, Large) are combined, the course designer may add or remove fill as necessary to meet the requirements of HU114.1 (spread of a jump). Every effort should be made to make the jump look as similar as possible at each height. Any removed fill should not be left next to the jump, and should be placed within an island or decoration, or removed completely from the ring.

1. Heights and Spreads.
  - a. Fences may be a maximum of 3" lower in Zones 11 and 12.
  - b. If a competition offers a team or pairs class or a Pony Hunter classic in which ponies of mixed heights are permitted, the prize list must state the height of the fences and stipulate all judging requirements.
2. Distances.
  - a. If the distance between related fences is less than 100' (including in and outs), the distance must be adjusted for each height section.
  - b. In Regional rated sections, there must not be any other fences in the same line as an in and out.
3. Exception: In and outs are optional for Pony Handy Hunter classes.
4. For all Hunter classes restricted to ponies, the first obstacle of all courses must be a vertical. For Pony Hunter Handy courses, leading over one obstacle as well as opening a gate are prohibited.

## **SUBCHAPTER HU5 – OFFICIALS**

### **HU115 Veterinarian**

In reference to GR1211.5.a., every competition must have a qualified veterinarian present throughout the competition if the previous year's competition's entry number was 200 horses or greater.

### **HU116 Judges**

1. In National rated sections, a minimum of one Registered judge must officiate. Exception: Judges of either Registered or Recorded status may officiate the following sections alone or independently: Children's Hunter, Children's Pony Hunter, Adult Amateur Hunter, Low Children's Hunter Horse or Pony, Low Adult Amateur Hunter, Small Hunter, Thoroughbred Hunter, Ladies Side Saddle, Hunter and Pony Hunter Breeding, and any USHJA Hunter section.
2. In Premier rated sections, the following applies:
  - a. A minimum of two Registered judges must officiate. They may officiate independently or together. If judging independently, no more than 60% of the classes in the section may be officiated by the same judge. (Exception: High Performance Working Hunter, Performance Hunter 3'6, Performance Hunter 3'3" and Pony Hunter sections held on one day).
  - b. Judges of either Registered or Recorded status may officiate the following sections alone or independently: Children's Hunter, Children's Pony Hunter, Adult Amateur Hunter, Low Children's Hunter Horse or Pony, Low Adult Amateur Hunter, Small Hunter, Thoroughbred Hunter, Ladies Side Saddle, Hunter and Pony Hunter Breeding, and any USHJA Hunter section.
3. All judges who are assigned to a Conformation section must judge the Model class.
4. In the Hunter sections and classes, an exhibitor, trainer, and/or rider may meet with the judge(s), if agreed to by the judge(s) and must be accompanied by the Steward. The exhibitor, trainer, and/or rider may ask questions about their performance only, and only after completion of competition in that arena for the day. All meetings must be documented in the Steward's report, including the requestor's full name and Federation ID number.

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### **HU117 Course Designers**

1. The licensed Hunter Course Designer, or their designated representative, must be on the grounds during the classes they have built. The Hunter Course Designer or their designated representative must be present at the ring(s) during all Hunter classes for which they have responsibility and be available to report to the judge at any time. The course designer, or their designated representative, must ensure that the courses are properly set for the competition. (Exception: breed restricted competitions and open competitions with 50% or more breed restricted classes.)
2. A Regional, 'r', or 'R' Hunter Course Designer is required to officiate for all Hunter classes at Federation licensed Regional competitions.
3. A 'r' or 'R' Hunter Course Designer is required to officiate for all Hunter classes at a Federation licensed National or Premier competitions.
4. An 'R' Hunter Course Designer is required to officiate for any Hunter classes offering \$5,000 or more in prize money.

## **SUBCHAPTER HU-6 JUDGING**

### **HU118 General**

1. All classes must be judged on performance and soundness and when indicated, conformation, suitability or manners.
  - a. When a horse makes two faults at one obstacle only the major fault will be counted. (Exception: refusals count in addition.)
  - b. When an obstacle is composed of several elements in the same vertical plane, a fault at the top element is the only one penalized
  - c. At an in and out, the faults committed at each obstacle are considered separately. In case of a refusal or runout at the 2nd obstacle of an in and out, the competitor may re-jump both obstacles of the in and out. Judges must penalize unsafe jumping and bad form over fences, whether touched or untouched.
  - d. Teams, pairs and unicorns (abreast and tandem) should be judged as a single unit, scoring only major faults at each obstacle. (Exception: in cases where two or more horses have knockdowns or refusals, they are scored cumulatively.) In tandem formation, faults for horses not keeping proper hunting distance apart and in abreast formation, faults for horses not keeping abreast will be calculated at the rate of 1/2 fault for each 1/2 horse's length and are cumulative at each obstacle, as well as at each end of the ring; or on an outside course, at each obstacle and between each obstacle. No additional penalty for finishing out of original order.
  - e. In classics and when a class is held on an outside course, brilliance should be emphasized.
2. Circling once upon entering the ring and once upon leaving is permissible.
3. In all classes over obstacles, all horses being considered for an award must jog for soundness using either Option A or Option B below. (Exception: sections or classes with specifications that do not require horses to jog, and unrated classes). Management must state in the competition prize list which method of jogging will be used. Horses/ponies that are unsound will be eliminated and ineligible for an award in that class. The judge's decision regarding soundness is final.

Option A: Horses/ponies are required to trot a circle on a loose rein at the end of each over fences performance. Horses/ponies may be asked to return to the ring and trot another circle at the judge's discretion.

Option B: Horses/ponies will be jogged together with the rider unmounted in the judge's order of preference. Two additional entries in addition to the number of ribbons must jog if there are sufficient entries. Horses/ponies may be asked to re-jog at the judge's discretion. A horse/pony may not leave the ring until the job has been declared official by the judge, or it will be eliminated. A horse that is unruly, one that breaks away from the handler or one whose actions threaten to endanger the rider, handler, other exhibitors or their entries will be eliminated. (Exception: Hunter Breeding and Pony Breeding). A horse may not be eliminated for receiving outside assistance in the jog. In classes restricted to ponies a junior must jog the pony for soundness.

4. In classes over obstacles, competitors cannot be requested to show at a walk, trot and canter or to re-jump the course unless eliminations are held. If eliminations are held, the finals are judged as an independent class.
5. After all competitors have had an opportunity to compete over a course in the High Performance Hunter and Performance Hunter section, competitors with faults which would eliminate the competitor from the ribbons, may be excused by the judge at management's discretion, provided four (4) more competitors than the number of ribbons awarded have completed the course. In Green Hunter classes riders are encouraged to withdraw after a major fault.
6. In cases of broken equipment or loss of shoe while competing, the rider or handler may choose to continue without penalty. If they decide to stop to address the situation that rider/handler will be eliminated. In the case of the jump(s) falling over due to weather or act of God, the rider must remain in the ring until receiving instructions from the judge(s) or be eliminated. In this instance, the decision of the judge(s) is final.

7. In the event of elimination, the horse must exit the ring immediately.
8. Obstacle Not Properly Set. If a competitor jumps an obstacle that has not been reset, or has been reset improperly, due to it being downed by a previous competitor, the weather, or some other factor, the competitor receives no penalty. However, if the competitor knocks down the obstacle they will be penalized accordingly.
9. Results Record. Competitors in an over fences class shall have the following reasons recorded as applicable on the official show results as follows:
  - a. Did Not Compete (DNC) indicates that the competitor failed to enter the arena for the class. Riders can also scratch from classes, including in the rated sections. The competitor will not receive a refund but each horse's respective record will show that the horse did not compete in the scratched classes.
  - b. Did Not Place (DNP): All other competitors that competed but did not place in the ribbons or earn a different recording will be recorded as Did Not Place.
  - c. Judges are encouraged to mark their cards with (RT) for competitors who entered the arena but voluntarily retired before completing the course; (EL) for competitors that were eliminated; and (OC) for competitors that did not adhere to the course as documented and were subsequently eliminated.

## **HU119 Definition of Competed**

A horse has competed in an over fences class when the horse's entry number and a score for at least the first jump are recorded on the judges card. A horse failing to complete the entire course is not eligible to receive points, awards, or prize money. A horse has competed in an under saddle class when the horse has entered the ring. When three or fewer horses compete in an under saddle class, all horses' numbers must be listed on the judges card regardless of whether they receive an award.

## **HU120 Definition of Completed**

A horse has completed an over fences class when the horse completes the posted course and a score is recorded on the judge's card. A horse failing to complete the entire course is not eligible to receive points, awards, or prize money, nor will it be counted in the number of entries necessary to fill a class or section. A horse has completed an under saddle class when the horse has executed all the gaits required and remains in the ring until the class has lined up.

## **HU121 Soundness**

All horses must be serviceably sound. All horses being considered for an award must jog for soundness (Exception: Under Saddle classes, sections or classes with specifications that do not require horses to jog, in unrated classes). See HU118 for methods of jogging for soundness. Horses/ponies that are unsound will be ineligible for an award in that class. The judge's decision regarding soundness is final. See HU118 for methods of jogging for soundness. Horses/ponies that are unsound will be eliminated and ineligible for an award in that class. The judge's decision regarding soundness is final.

## **HU122 Conformation**

Quality, substance and soundness. Judges must penalize but not necessarily eliminate horses with structural faults, defects and blemishes (such as pin firing) in areas which might impair their activity and durability. Horses must be stripped for conformation judging in any class. (Exception: Under Saddle classes.)

## **HU123 Performance**

1. An even hunting pace, manners, jumping style together with faults and way of moving over the course. Manners to be emphasized in Ladies and Amateur classes; brilliance in Corinthian and Formal Hunting Attire classes.

2. When the class is held in a ring, the performance starts as the competitor enters and ends when they leave. When the class is held outside, the performance starts at any spot designated by competition management and ends at any spot so designated. If the start and finish are not clearly set forth, it is suggested that a judge consider the start approximately 50' before the first obstacle and the finish approximately 50' after the last.

## HU124 Faults

1. The following faults are scored according to the judge's opinion and depending on severity or division, may be considered minor or major faults.
  - a. Rubbing the jump
  - b. Swapping leads in a line or in front of a jump
  - c. Late lead changes
  - d. Spooking
  - e. Kicking up or out
  - f. Jumping out of form
  - g. Jumping off the center line of jump
  - h. Bucking and/or playing
  - i. Adding a stride in a line with a related distance
  - j. Eliminating a stride in a line with a related distance
  - k. Striking off on a wrong lead on the courtesy circle. (May be corrected with either a simple or flying change of lead)
2. The following are considered major faults.
  - a. Knockdown
  - b. Refusal
  - c. Refusal or stopping while on course
  - d. Crossing the track. A track is established once a horse has landed from a fence or completes a required test and follows the horse until the consecutive fence is jumped or the next test is executed. Upon completion of each consecutive fence or performance of the next test, the track is erased. Crossing a track between obstacles and/ or required tests shall constitute a disobedience and will be penalized by the judge(s). Exceptions
    1. A course diagram that requires a rider to cross their track
    2. Snake or multiple panel jumps that are jumped consecutively
  - e. Dangerous jumping
  - f. Addressing a jump - coming to a stop in front of a jump in order to show the jump to the horse.
  - g. Completely missing a lead change
  - h. Adding or eliminating a stride in an in and out
  - i. Breaking stride, or Trotting while on course. (Exceptions-Where posted on the course diagram i.e. trot jumps, steep banks, etc., and also as outlined above in HU124.1k. Striking off on a wrong lead on the courtesy circle.)
3. The following constitute elimination:
  - a. Three refusals (Exception: USEF Pony Hunter National Championship, USEF Junior Hunter National Championship, and the national USHJA International Hunter Derby Championship exhibitors will be eliminated after two cumulative refusals).
  - b. Off course
  - c. Jumping course before it is reset
  - d. Bolting from the ring
  - e. Fall of horse and/or rider (rider shall not remount in the ring).
  - f. Stopping for loss of shoe or broken equipment
  - g. In model classes, a horse or pony that breaks away from the handler or one whose actions threaten to endanger the rider, handler, other exhibitors or their entries.
  - h. Hunter Breeding and Pony Breeding classes, a horse or pony whose actions threaten to endanger any humans or equines in the ring.

## **SUBCHAPTER HU-7 CONDUCT OF CLASSES**

### **HU125 Back to Back Classes**

No more than two rounds may be ridden back to back. In sections where three classes over fences are held on one day and the section has eight or fewer exhibitors, all three over fences classes may be held using back to back rounds with the judge's consent. Classes using this format must be jogged, if required, and pinned separately, following the last class. Management may not require back to back rounds in rated classes. Management may not require a judge to score more than three classes concurrently. Classes run back to back must be in the same division (i.e. Hunter or Equitation). Exception: USEF Pony Medal and WIHS Equitation Hunter Phase.

### **HU126 Jumping Order**

1. If a jumping order is established it must be posted in a conspicuous place at least one-half hour before the class. The jumping order must be legible to a mounted rider. If a jumping order is used throughout the section, a systematic rotation of the starting list must be employed so that a complete cycle is made during the competition. Failure to enter the ring within one minute after an audible signal to proceed is given incurs elimination. The time limit for entering the ring must be enforced by competition management. Management may permit a rider to compete out of order to minimize delays and in case of class conflicts.
2. Establishing the Order. (Either manually or via computer) The jumping order for the first round must be established by one of the following procedures:
  - a. The horses' names are drawn individually, starting with the first position and then working down
  - b. The horses' names are listed and their positions drawn
  - c. The horses' names and the positions are both drawn
  - d. The horses' names are listed (with multiple rides pre-spaced) with the first name drawn becoming the first horse to compete in the first round, the remaining horses following from that point (i.e., the horses' name after the one drawn first is second, the next one third, etc.).

### **HU127 Entry Fees**

1. In rated sections in which individual class entry is permitted under these rules, competitions are prohibited from requiring a combined entry fee. A horse that is entered in a section that requires a combined entry fee may be entered in individual classes in another section for which it is qualified. (Exception: the horse may not be entered in the stake class unless it has met all qualifications.) A horse that is exhibited in the first performance class of rated section must pay a combined entry fee, unless otherwise permitted in this chapter. After the first performance class exhibitors may enter individual classes at management's discretion.
2. A Model class may not be included in a combined entry fee. It must always be offered separately as an optional class.

## **SUBCHAPTER HU-8 HUNTER SECTIONS**

### **HU128 General**

Hunter classes are to be judged on performance, way of moving and soundness. All horses being considered for an award must be serviceably sound.

### **HU129 Under Saddle and Hack Classes**

1. In Under Saddle and Hunter Hack classes, horses are shown at a walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring. Light contact with the horse's mouth is required. Horses should be obedient, alert, responsive and move

freely. They should not be eliminated for slight errors. Judges may ask horses to hand gallop collectively, one way of the ring. (Exception: green classes.) No more than eight will be asked to hand gallop at one time. (Exception: Hunter National Championships see Championship Specifications) All horses being considered for an award must be serviceably sound. Judges must work competitors in groups of (20) or less or they must work a larger group in one direction, line up their selected competitors before working those remaining on the rail in the second direction, excusing the unselected competitors, and judging the selected competitors in the second direction.

2. To be eligible for a Model or Under Saddle class counting toward a Championship in any rated hunter section, horses must be entered in at least one full point class over obstacles in the same section during the competition. To maintain awards or points won in the aforementioned classes the competitor must complete the course in at least one class.

## **HU130 Non-rated Classes**

1. The following classes have no point value for Championships or for Horse of the Year Awards. Judging percentages are left to the discretion of competition management. (Exception: Hunter Hack for Ladies Side Saddle.) Unrated classes are not required to jog for soundness.
  - a. MAIDEN, NOVICE, LIMIT HUNTERS. Open to horses which have not won a blue ribbon, three blue ribbons, six blue ribbons in Hunter over fences classes at Regular Competitions.
  - b. HUNTER HACK. To be shown at a walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring. At least eight horses, if available, are required to jump two obstacles and gallop one way of the ring. Horses are not to gallop in Green Hunter classes.
  - c. BRIDLE PATH HACK (Hunter type). To be shown at a walk, trot and canter and hand gallop. To back easily and stand quietly. Emphasis is placed on actual suitability to purpose.
  - d. THREE-YEAR-OLD HUNTER. Section must include two or three Over Fences classes and one Under Saddle class with a Championship and Reserve Championship awarded. If possible, this section should be held immediately after the Three-Year-Old Hunter Breeding class. Courses are to be simple. One Over Fences class must be judged on at least 25% conformation.
  - e. Walk-Trot.
    1. Classes that the exhibitor is asked to walk and trot only. These classes are exempted from non-member fees per GR901.9(5).
    2. The horse must give the appearance of being a safe and suitable mount for the class. The safety of all exhibitors is of primary concern in walk-trot Hunter, walk-trot pleasure and walk-trot equitation classes.

## **HU131 Hunter Eligibility and Green Eligibility Status for Horses**

1. In all cases, the Hunter eligibility and green status of the horse is the responsibility of the owner.
2. Hunter eligibility for a horse begins when a horse of any age, competes for the first time in any over fences class with jumps at three feet (3'0") in height or higher in any Hunter or Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation classes or sections held at a Federation or Equine Canada licensed competition. Any previous jumper experience attained prior to the horse competing in its first Hunter or Hunter/Jumper Seat Equitation class at 3'0" or above shall not impact the horse's green status. Once a horse begins competing in any of the classes mentioned above, however, competing in comparable jumper classes will impact a horse's green eligibility in the same manner as Hunter or Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation classes.
3. Once a horse begins its Hunter eligibility by competing in Hunter or Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation classes or sections at 3'0" or higher held at a Federation or Equine Canada licensed competition the following statements apply:
  - a. Green Hunter 3'/3'3": A horse in its first competition year of showing in classes with fence heights of 3'0' - 3'5" is eligible for Green Hunter 3'0" and 3'3" for a total of two competition years (not necessarily consecutive). During a horse's Green Hunter 3'0" and 3'3" years:



1. Horses competing in classes at 3'6": Once a horse competes in any Hunter, Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation, or Jumper class at a Federation or Equine Canada licensed recognized competition with fence heights of 3'6" (or 1.10m), it will be deemed is no longer eligible to compete in the Green Hunter 3'0" section but remains eligible to compete in the Green Hunter 3'3" section.
2. Horses competing in classes higher than 3'6": Once a horse competes in any Hunter, Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation, or Jumper classes at Federation or Equine Canada licensed competitions with fences higher than 3'6" (or 1.10m), it shall no longer be eligible for the Green Hunter 3' or 3'3" sections.
3. A horse that competes in any Hunter, Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation, or Jumper classes at a Federation or Equine Canada licensed competition with fence heights of 3'6" (or 1.10m) during more than four (4) competitions shall no longer be eligible to compete in the Green Hunter 3'3" section.
4. Once a horse competes in a Federation or USHJA National Championship/Event with fence heights of 3'6" (or 1.10m) or higher it is no longer eligible for the Green Hunter 3'0" or 3'3" sections.
- b. Green Hunter 3'6": A horse in its first competition year showing in classes with fence heights 3'6" (or 1.10m) or higher is eligible for the Green Hunter 3'6" section for one competition year. Exception: see points 1 and 2 below.
  1. A horse shall remain eligible for the Green Hunter 3'6" section in a future year if it meets the following criteria:
    - a. Has not competed at more than four (4) competitions in one competition year prior to August 1 at Federation or Equine Canada licensed competitions in any Hunter, Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation, or Jumper classes with fence heights of 3'6" (or 1.10m).
    - b. Has not competed at any Federation or Equine Canada licensed competitions in any Hunter, Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation, or Jumper classes with fence heights of higher than 3'6" (or 1.10m).
    - c. Has not competed at any Federation or Equine Canada licensed competitions in any Hunter, Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation, or Jumper classes with fence heights of 3'6" (or 1.10m) or higher on or after August 1.
    - d. Has not competed in a Federation or USHJA National Championship/Event with fence heights of 3'6" or higher.
  2. Should a horse meet all of the above criteria, its Green Hunter 3'6" year may be postponed for a future competition year. The next competition year during which a horse competes in any Hunter, Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation, or Jumper classes of 3'6" or higher at a Federation or Equine Canada licensed competitions shall be considered the horse's Green Hunter 3'6" year.
- c. Green Hunter 3'9": A horse in its second competition year (not necessarily consecutive) of showing in classes with fences 3'6" or higher is eligible for the Green Hunter 3'9" section for one competition year.
  1. Following a horse's Green Hunter 3'6" year, it is eligible to compete in the Green Hunter 3'9" section for one year. That one year will commence the next competition year that the horse competes in any Hunter, Equitation, or Jumper class at a Federation or Equine Canada licensed competition with fence heights of 3'6" (or 1.10m) or higher.
  2. A horse that has completed its Green Hunter 3'9" year is no longer eligible for any Green Hunter section. Exception: A horse shall remain eligible for the Green Hunter 3'9" section in one future year if it meets the following criteria:
    - a. During its Green Hunter 3'9" year the horse has not competed at more than four (4) competitions in one competition year prior to August 1 at Federation or Equestrian Canada licensed competitions in any Hunter, Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation, or Jumper classes with fence heights of 3'6" (or 1.10m) or higher.
    - b. Has not competed at any Federation or Equestrian Canada licensed competitions in any Hunter, Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation, or Jumper classes with fence heights of 3'6" (or 1.10m) or higher on or after August 1.
    - c. Has not competed in a Federation or USHJA National Championship/Event with fence heights of 3'6" or higher.

4. In all cases, fence heights will be determined by the specifications of each section regardless of whether or not the fences are actually set at the regulation height.
5. If a competition starts prior to or on November 30th Green status at the start of the competition is maintained throughout the competition.

### **HU132 Green Hunter Sections**

1. A horse may compete in only one Green Hunter fence height section at any one competition.
2. Green Hunters are divided into Green 3', Green 3'3", Green 3'6" and Green 3'9".
3. Green Hunters are required to jog for soundness.
4. Premier or National rated Green Hunter 3'6" and 3'9" sections must offer an over fence class as a Handy Hunter. A Handy Hunter class may be offered in any Green Hunter 3'0" and 3'3" sections but is not required.

### **HU133 Young Hunter Eligibility and Status for Horses**

1. Young Hunter age restrictions are defined as:
  - a. Young Hunter 5 and under
  - b. Young Hunter 6 and under
  - c. Young Hunter 7 and under
2. Horses eligible for the Young Hunters may begin competing in any Young Hunter height section for which they are eligible.
3. The Young Hunter section is open to any age-verified horse eligible by age regardless of competition experience.
4. A horse is eligible to compete in an age-restricted Hunter class from December 1 of the competition year in which they reach the applicable age at any time during that same competition year.
5. Age of horse must be verified in accordance with Federation policies and procedures prior to competing for awards in the Young Hunter sections. Age can be verified using only the following documents:
  - a. Registration papers, Certificate of Pedigree, or passport issued from a breed or sport horse registry approved by the Federation.
  - b. Horse Identification Document issued by a breed or sport horse registry approved by the Federation that states the registered name of the horse, the registration number of the horse and age of the horse.

### **HU134 Young Hunter Sections**

1. A horse may compete in only one Young Hunter fence height section at any one competition.
2. Young Hunters are not required to jog for soundness.
3. A Handy Hunter class may be offered in the Young Hunter sections but is not required.

### **HU135 High Performance, Performance, Small Hunter and Thoroughbred Hunter – Definition and Classifications**

1. A High Performance or Performance Hunter is a horse of any age and is not restricted by previous showing. High Performance Hunters and Performance Hunters are required to jog for soundness.
2. High Performance Hunter
  - a. Championships must be offered in accordance with HU154.
  - b. Number of classes and prize money must be offered in accordance with GR312.6.
  - c. Individual classes may be entered. (Exception: Under Saddle classes. See HU129.2)
  - d. In a section with three (3) classes, the under saddle will count half points towards champion and reserve.
  - e. The High Performance section must offer the greatest amount of prize money of all hunter sections at the competition. (Exception: When the High Performance Hunter section is combined with the Performance Hunter or the Green Hunter, see HU166)
3. Performance Hunter 3'6"

- a. Championships must be offered in accordance with HU154.
- b. Number of classes and prize money must be offered in accordance with GR312.6.
- c. Individual classes may be entered. (Exception: Under Saddle classes. See HU129.2)
- d. In a section with three (3) classes, the under saddle will count half points towards champion and reserve.
4. Performance Hunter 3'3"
  - a. Championship and Reserve must be offered in accordance with HU154.
  - b. Number of classes and prize money must be offered in accordance with GR312.6.
  - c. Individual classes may be entered. (Exception: Under Saddle classes. See HU129.2)
  - d. In a section with three (3) classes, the under saddle will count half points towards champion and reserve.
5. Small Hunter
  - a. Fences set at 3'.
  - b. Championships must be offered in accordance with HU154.
  - c. Individual classes may be entered.
  - d. A small Hunter is a horse over 14.2 hands and not to exceed 16 hands.
  - e. A measurement card is required for all horses entered as per HJ127.
  - f. Small Hunters are not required to jog for soundness.
6. Thoroughbred Hunter
  - a. Thoroughbred restricted classes are open only to horses that are registered with USHJA and are in possession of Breed Registry papers. Horses must have been either registered with The Jockey Club or meet one of the criteria below. All horse shows must require riders to verify registration on the day of the horse show through one of the following methods:
    1. The Jockey Club Certificate of Foal Registration or a copy thereof
    2. The horse's lip tattoo, the horse's 5-cross pedigree and the successful tattoo lookup result from The Jockey Club's Tattoo Identification Services, (located at [www.registry.jockeyclub.com](http://www.registry.jockeyclub.com))
    3. If neither of the above is available, a letter from The Jockey Club verifying the horse's identity.
  - b. Cross entry into other sections is allowed unless otherwise stated in the prize list.
  - c. Championships must be offered in accordance with HU154.
  - d. This section will be rated for Zone Horse of the Year Awards as per GR312.6.
  - e. Thoroughbred Hunters are not required to jog for soundness.
  - f. Individual classes may be entered. (Exception: Under Saddle classes. See HU129.2).

## HU136 Conformation Hunter Sections

1. Model Classes for Green Conformation Hunter 3'6" and High Performance Conformation Hunter:
  - a. To be shown at a walk and trot. To be judged on conformation, way of moving and soundness.
  - b. All horses being considered for an award must be serviceably sound.
  - c. Model classes to count 1/2 points. Points will be awarded even if less than three entries compete.
2. In a combined section, if a horse is eligible for more than one section; the exhibitor must declare to the Competition Secretary which height section the points are to count toward.
3. No horse may compete in more than one height section of a combined division.
4. No credit will be given in combined sections unless three entries have competed.
5. A horse must be eligible for the Green Hunter 3'6" in order to be eligible for Green Conformation Hunter 3'6".
6. High Performance Conformation Hunter fences to be 3'9" and open to all horses.
7. All Conformation sections are to be judged 70% on performance, 30% on conformation.
8. **When Option A jog is used, eight entries (if there are sufficient entries) must be called back to the ring at the end of the class to be judged for conformation. If competitors do not return for conformation, they will be eliminated for failing to complete the requirements of the class.**
9. **When Option B jog is used, two (2) additional entries in addition to the number of ribbons (if entries allow) must be called back to the ring at the end of the class to be judged for conformation.**
10. Conformation Hunters are required to jog for soundness.

**BOD 06/17/2025 Effective 12/1/2025**

## **HU137 Amateur Owner Hunter**

1. To be ridden by Amateur Owners or an amateur member of the owner's family. In either case classes are restricted to riders who are no longer eligible to compete as junior exhibitors. Leased horses are not eligible and multiple ownership is not permitted unless all owners are members of the same family.
2. An amateur who competes for a person outside of their family may not compete in a class restricted to Amateur Owners at the same competition. Exceptions:
  - a. Equitation classes
  - b. Under Saddle classes
  - c. A maximum of one (1) horse not owned by the rider, or their family, in jumper sections and a maximum of one (1) horse not owned by the rider or their family in Hunter sections, in classes not restricted to amateur owners. (For Amateur rules please see GR1306)
3. To be judged on performance and soundness. If conformation is to be judged, it may not count more than 25%. All horses being considered for an award must be serviceably sound.
4. If an Under Saddle class is divided by age and a rider has two or more horses entered, provided at least one horse is ridden by the Amateur Owner or an amateur member of the owner's family, the additional horse(s) entered may be ridden by another amateur regardless of rider's age.
5. Cross entry. Riders may cross enter between the Amateur Owner 3'3" and/or the Amateur Owner 3'6" sections. Horses may not cross enter between the sections.
6. Amateur Owner Hunters are required to jog for soundness.

## **HU138 Adult Amateur**

1. Competitions must offer Adult Amateur Hunter sections in accordance with the specifications of the applicable USHJA zone. The following specifications will apply for the Adult Amateur Hunter section unless address by specific USHA Zone specifications (available at [www.ushja.org](http://www.ushja.org)):
  - a. To be ridden by exhibitors who have reached their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday as of December 1 of the current competition year and who hold a current Federation Amateur Status.
  - b. Horses and riders entered in the Adult Amateur Hunter sections may not compete in the Amateur Owner section at the same competition. Riders entered in the Adult Amateur Hunter sections may not compete in any other class in which obstacles are required to exceed 3'9" (1.15m) at the same competition.
  - c. Horses may be entered in Junior Hunter sections at the same competition if ridden by a member of the same family.
  - d. Cross entry into other sections is allowed unless otherwise stated in the prize list.
2. To be judged on performance and soundness, suitability to count. All horses being considered for an award must be serviceably sound.
3. If an under saddle class is divided by age and a rider has two or more horses entered, all riders must be amateurs but need not be eligible by age.
4. When a section is divided by age of rider no horse may compete in more than one section.
5. Individual classes may be entered. (Exception: Under Saddle classes. See HU129.2).

## **HU139 Low Adult Amateur**

1. Competitions must offer Low Adult Amateur Hunter sections in accordance with the specifications of the applicable USHJA zone. The specifications as shown below will apply unless addressed by specific zone specifications (available at [www.ushja.org](http://www.ushja.org)):
  - a. To be ridden by exhibitors who have reached their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday as of December 1 of the current competition year and who hold a current Federation Amateur Status.
  - b. Riders may not cross enter into any class or section where fences exceed 2'9" at the same competition (Exception 3'0" Equitation).
2. Individual classes may be entered. (Exception: Under Saddle classes. See HU129.2).

## HU140 Hunter Eligibility and Green Status for Ponies

1. In all cases, the Hunter eligibility and green status of the pony is the responsibility of the owner.
2. Determining Hunter eligibility for ponies. Hunter eligibility for a pony begins when a pony of any age, competes for the first time in any over fences class with jumps at 2'3" or higher for small ponies, 2'6" or higher for medium ponies and 2'9" or higher for large ponies in Hunter or Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation classes or sections held at a Federation or Equine Canada Licensed competition in North America.
  - a. For the purposes of eligibility, equivalent heights are:

2'3"	.70 meter
2'6"	.80 meter
2'9"	.85 meter
3'0"	.90 meter
3. Determining Green Status for ponies. Ponies that have not broken their Green Status must jump less than their regulation height or their Green Status will be broken. The Green status of a pony is determined by the following factors in competition experience at Hunter or Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation classes or sections held at a Federation or Equine Canada Licensed competition in North America:
  - a. The height of fences (determined by the class, section or division specifications) over which a pony has competed.
  - b. The number of competition years a pony has competed at regulation height. A pony that has competed in such classes for more than two (2) competition years is no longer eligible to compete in the Green section.
4. In all cases, fence heights will be determined by the specifications of each section regardless of whether or not the fences are actually set at the regulation height.
5. If a competition starts prior to or on November 30th, Green status at the start of the competition is maintained throughout the competition.
6. Green Pony Status.
  - a. A green pony is a pony not exceeding 14.2 hands of any age, which is eligible to compete in the Green Pony section. A pony's Green Hunter eligibility, regardless of age, begins the first time the pony competes in any over fences class with jumps at 2'3" or higher for small ponies, 2'6" or higher for medium ponies and 2'9" or higher for large ponies in Hunter or Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation classes or sections held at a Federation or Equine Canada Licensed competition in North America.
  - b. A pony is eligible to compete as a Green Pony for a maximum of two (2) years (not necessarily consecutive), regardless of age or change to measurement status. A pony that has changed height sections in its green years may complete the green years at its new height.
  - c. A green pony may also compete in the Regular Pony Hunter section at its respective height.
  - d. Once a pony begins competing in any class that restricts Green status, the following restrictions apply for Jumper classes held at a Federation or Equine Canada Licensed competition:
    1. Small Ponies are not permitted to compete in any Jumper classes with fence heights at or above .70 meters or they will lose their green status.
    2. Medium Ponies are not permitted to compete in any Jumper classes with fence heights at or above .75 meters or they will lose their green status.
    3. Large ponies are not permitted to compete in any Jumper classes with fence heights at or above .85 meters or they will lose their green status.
  - e. A pony that is green eligible may only compete in the Green Pony Hunter section one time at the USEF Hunter Pony Championship. If the pony competes in the Green Hunter Pony section at this competition it must be the pony's first time competing at the USEF Hunter Pony Championship.

## HU141 Ages, Sizes and Restrictions for Ponies

1. No animal may be shown in a performance class in this division unless the owner possesses a current measurement card or valid measurement form issued by the Federation (see HJ127).

2. Regular classes are open to all ponies not exceeding 14.2 hands. Qualifications must follow as nearly as possible those outlined for Hunters.
3. Small ponies:
  - a. Small ponies are not to exceed 12.2 hands
  - b. No junior over 12 years of age may ride in a Regular Small Pony Hunter Section.
4. Medium ponies:
  - a. Medium ponies are over 12.2 and do not exceed 13.2 hands
  - b. No junior over 14 years of age may ride in a Regular Medium Pony Hunter Section.
5. Large ponies:
  - a. Large ponies are over 13.2 and do not exceed 14.2 hands.
6. Green ponies:
  - a. Riders under the age of 18 years may ride in any Green Hunter Pony section. The rider age restrictions for the Regular Hunter Pony sections do not apply to the Green Hunter Pony section.
7. Riders under 18 years of age may ride for other exhibitors who have more than one entry in the Under Saddle class and/or exhibit the pony in the model class.
8. Ponies must be handled by junior exhibitors in all phases of a class, except in breeding classes in-hand.
9. Restrictions:
  - a. Stallions are prohibited from all Pony Hunter classes except breeding classes.
  - b. Number that may be shown:
    1. No rider may show more than three ponies in any Green Pony Hunter height section.
    2. In the Regular Pony Hunter sections, a rider may ride three ponies in one height section and a maximum of two ponies in each remaining height section at Premier rated competitions.
    3. At National or Regional rated competitions, a rider may ride a maximum of 3 ponies in each height section.
  - c. Junior riders showing ponies cannot compete in any class where fences may be set higher than 3'6" at the same competition (Exception Junior Jumper classes held below 1.20m, USHJA International Hunter Derby, Pony Jumpers, WIHS Equitation Jumper Phase and junior riders competing in Green Pony but not Regular Pony division(s)).

## HU142 Pony Hunter and Green Pony Hunter

1. Manners of the pony and suitability of the pony to the rider must be emphasized in all classes. Extreme speed must be penalized. Suitability of a pony for a rider is determined by height of rider as related to the height of the pony. Judges must penalize but not necessarily eliminate an entry not having such suitability and manners.
2. Class Specifications.
  - a. Classes are the same as those listed for Hunters. Maiden, Novice, Limit and Green Ponies are not to gallop.
  - b. Conformation must not exceed 25% in any class except a Model class.
  - c. Appointment classes are prohibited in all competitions. Uniformity and similarity may count 15% in Team and Pair classes.
  - d. Model and Conformation classes should occur on the same day. If a Model class is held it must be the first class held in any section.
  - e. In Conformation classes, **when Option B jog is used** two (2) additional entries in addition to the number of ribbons (if entries allow) must be called back to the ring at the end of the class to be judged for conformation. **When Option A jog is used, eight entries (if there are sufficient entries) must be called back to the ring at the end of the class to be judged for conformation. If competitors do not return for conformation, they will be eliminated for failing to complete the requirements of the class.**
3. Separate Championships must be offered when all classes are divided into height sections but cannot be offered unless they are divided. See HU154 – HU157 for all requirements.
4. Championships. Show Champions and Reserve Champions are selected as outlined in GR808.
5. Pony Hunters and Green Pony Hunters are required to jog for soundness.

## HU143 Junior Hunter 3'3" and 3'6"

1. Riders must not have reached their 18th birthday (See GR128).
2. All horses showing in the small Junior Hunter Section at Regular Competitions must have a Federation measurement card.
  - a. A large Junior Hunter is over 16.1 hands, or any horse without a Federation measurement card, regardless of size.
  - b. A small Junior Hunter is 16.1 hands and under with a Federation measurement card.
  - c. Any Junior Hunter measuring from one section to another will not maintain points from prior section.
  - d. Beginning December 1, 2023, and ending November 30, 2024, a one-time application may be made for Junior Hunters with a Large Junior Hunter standard measurement card to be measured for a new measurement card.
    1. During this transition period, there will be no penalties for these horses to obtain a new measurement card and horses may immediately begin competing in the new section.
    2. If a horse measures from the Large Junior Hunter section to the Small Junior Hunter section, only points earned in the Small Junior Hunter classes will be credited toward Horse of the Year awards.
    3. If a horse measures from the Large Junior Hunter section to the Small Junior Hunter section, points earned in the Large Junior Hunter section from the previous competition year will count toward qualification for competitions operating under HJ126.
3. Junior Hunter. In all classes manners will be emphasized and extreme speed will be penalized.
4. Conformation is not to exceed 25% in any class except a Model class. In Junior Working Hunter sections no more than 50% of the classes may be judged on conformation.
5. Show championships:
  - a. Separate Championships must be offered when all classes are divided but cannot be offered unless they are divided.
  - b. The Champion and Reserve titles are awarded to the top two of the four horses which have acquired the most points performing over a regulation course in the Junior Hunter section. In addition to these points only these horses will receive half points for ribbons won in Model classes and full points for ribbons won in Under Saddle classes if otherwise qualified. The prize list must specify which classes will count.
6. Restrictions for all Junior Hunter sections:
  - a. Stallions are prohibited from all Junior Hunter classes.
  - b. Ponies may not be entered in Junior Hunter classes if Pony Hunter classes are offered at the same competition.
  - c. Horses cannot be entered in more than one age section of the same class.
  - d. If two or more sections are offered, horses cannot be entered in more than one section.
  - e. Number of horses ridden
    1. In Premier or National rated Junior Hunter sections divided by age of rider only, no exhibitor may ride more than two (2) large and two (2) small Junior Hunters in any section.
    2. In Premier or National rated Junior Hunter sections offered by the height of horse, an exhibitor may not ride more than two (2) horses in any section. If sections offered by height of horse are combined, an exhibitor may not ride more than two (2) large and two (2) Small Junior Hunters in the combined section.
    3. In Premier or National rated Junior Hunter sections divided by height of horse and age of rider an exhibitor may not ride more than two (2) horses in each section.
    4. In Regional rated Junior Hunter sections, no exhibitor may ride more than three (3) horses in a class.
7. Junior Hunter 3'3" restrictions:
  - a. Riders may not cross-enter into any class at 3'6" or higher in the Hunter division, higher than 3'9" in the Equitation division or higher than 1.25m in the Jumper division at the same competition.
  - b. Horses entered in the Junior Hunter 3'3" section may not cross-enter into the Junior Hunter 3'6" section at the same competition.

8. If the Junior Hunter section is split by height of animal, the horse may be shown over fences by different riders as long as they are from the same age group.
9. Any junior rider may show a Junior Hunter under saddle.
10. Junior Hunters are required to be evaluated for soundness using one of the methods in HU118.3.

## **HU144 Children's Hunter Sections**

1. If fence heights are changed to accommodate ponies in Children's Hunter classes, measurement cards in accordance with HJ127 are required for all entries.
2. Children's Hunter  
Competitions must offer Children's Hunter sections in accordance with the specifications of applicable USHJA Zone. The following specifications will apply for the Children's Hunter section unless addressed by specific USHJA Zone specifications (available at [www.ushja.org](http://www.ushja.org)):
  - a. To be ridden by exhibitors who have not reached their 18th birthday as of December 1 of the current competition year.
  - b. Restrictions:
    1. Riders entered in Children's Hunter sections may not compete over fences in any other class at the same competition in which obstacles are required to exceed 3'3". (Exception: USHJA National Hunter Derby).
    2. Horses and ponies entered in Children's Hunter classes may not cross enter into Junior Hunter 3'6" sections or Pony Hunter sections at the same competition.
    3. Horses entered in Children's Hunter classes may be shown in the Amateur Owner Hunter section at the same competition if ridden by a member of the child's family.
    4. Cross entry into other sections is allowed unless otherwise stated in prize list.
    5. Stallions are prohibited from all Children's Hunter classes.
    6. If two or more sections are offered, horses cannot be entered in more than one section.
3. Individual classes may be entered. (Exception: Under Saddle classes. See HU129.2).

## **HU145 Low Children's Hunter Horse Sections**

1. Competitions must offer Low Children's Hunter Horse sections in accordance with the specifications of applicable USHJA Zone. The specifications as shown below will apply unless addressed by specific zone specifications (available at [www.ushja.org](http://www.ushja.org)).
  - a. To be ridden by exhibitors who have not reached their 18th birthday as of December 1 of the current competition year.
  - b. Restrictions: Riders may not cross enter into the Children's Hunter, Large Pony Hunter, or any class/section where fences exceed 2'9" at the same competition (Exception: 3'0" Equitation).
  - c. Stallions are prohibited from all Low Children's Hunter Horse classes.
2. Individual classes may be entered. (Exception: Under Saddle classes. See HU129.2).

## **HU146 Low Children's Hunter Pony Sections**

1. Competitions must offer Low Children's Hunter Pony sections in accordance with the specifications of applicable USHJA Zone. The specifications as shown below will apply unless addressed by specific zone specifications (available at [www.ushja.org](http://www.ushja.org)).
  - a. To be ridden by exhibitors who have not reached their 18th birthday as of December 1 of the current competition year.
  - b. Stallions are prohibited from all Low Children's Pony Hunter classes.
2. Individual classes may be entered. (Exception: Under Saddle classes. See HU129.2).



## **HU147 USHJA Hunter Sections**

1. USHJA Hunter 2'0". Fences 2'0", oxers are optional, combinations are not permitted. To be shown over a course of at least eight (8) fences.
2. USHJA Hunter 2'3". Fences 2'3", oxers are optional, combinations are not permitted. To be shown over a course of at least eight (8) fences.
3. USHJA Hunter 2'6". Fences 2'6", combinations are permitted. To be shown over a course of at least eight (8) fences.
4. USHJA Hunter 2'9". Fences 2'9", combinations are permitted. To be shown over a course of at least eight (8) fences.
5. USHJA Hunter 3'0". Fences 3', combinations are permitted. To be shown over a course of at least eight (8) fences.
6. Individual classes may be entered. (Exception: Under Saddle classes. See HU129.2).

## **SUBCHAPTER HU-9 HUNTER & PONY HUNTER BREEDING**

### **HU148 General**

1. Classes will only accumulate Federation Horse of the Year Points from January 1 to November 30 of the current show year (see GR1115). (Exception: Pony Hunter Breeding will accumulate Zone Horse of the Year points.)
2. Classes must be offered as printed in the prize list. Classes may not be combined however they may be split if the number of entries warrant.
3. Ribbons in all classes must be presented to the winners while in the ring.
4. At Premier and National rated competitions a handler may not exhibit more than one horse in any Hunter Breeding classes listed in HU149 or HU150. At these competitions the same handler must present the horse in all phases of the class, including the jog and lineup. Entries must be presented for conformation, walked, and/or trotted under the review of the judge. Horses must be judged for conformation before being walked and/or trotted. After completing a review of each horse in the class, the judge(s) must line up the entries in order of preference (exception see HU148 for ponies). Judge(s) then have one last opportunity to review the horses collectively, and may move horses in the lineup as preferred based on the Hunter Breeding judging standards.
5. At Regional rated competitions a handler may exhibit multiple horses in any Hunter Breeding classes listed in HU149 and HU150. At these competitions the same handler must present the horse in all phases of the class, including the jog (exception, lineup). Entries must be presented for conformation, walked, and/or trotted under the review of the judge. Horses must be judged for conformation before being walked and/or trotted. After completing a review of each horse in the class, the judge(s) may line up the entries in order of preference (exception see HU150 for ponies). Judge(s) then have one last opportunity to review the horses collectively, and may move horses in the lineup as preferred based on the Hunter Breeding judging standards.
6. A competition may not offer more than one Hunter Breeding division to count for National or Zone HOTY Awards and one Pony Hunter Breeding division to count for Zone HOTY awards.
7. Additional classes and championships may be offered but will not count towards National or Zone Horse of the Year Awards. The prize list must clearly state which classes count for Horse of the Year Awards.
8. Stallions are prohibited from Junior/Amateur Handler classes.

**BOD 06/17/2025 Effective 12/1/2025**

## HU149 Hunter Breeding

1. The Hunter Breeding Section is open to horses only.
  - a. Horses shown as a Thoroughbred must have been either registered with The Jockey Club or meet one of the criteria below. All competitions must require verification of registration on the day of the competition through one of the following methods:
    1. The Jockey Club Certificate of Foal registration or a copy thereof
    2. The horse's lip tattoo, the horse's 5-cross pedigree and the successful tattoo lookup result from The Jockey Club's Tattoo Identification Services, (located at [www.registry.jockeyclub.com](http://www.registry.jockeyclub.com))
    3. If neither of the above is available, a letter from The Jockey Club verifying the horse's identity.
2. Division of Classes. Breeding classes may be divided as to a) thoroughbred, and b) other than thoroughbred and include: Foals (colts, geldings and/or fillies); Yearlings (colts, geldings and/or fillies); Two-Year-Olds (colts, geldings and/or fillies); Three-Year-Olds; Mares (3 years old or over, with or without foal); Mares (3 years old or over, without foal but having been bred); Broodmares (with foal at foot; 50% mare and 50% foal or 75% mare and 25% foal); Stallions (3 years old and over); Stallion (with 1, 2 or 3 of get; 50% stallion and 50% get or 75% stallion and 25% get). See also HU149.1 and GR907.2 for breed registry requirements.
3. Class Specifications.
  - a. Breeding classes are judged on conformation, athleticism, way of moving, quality, substance, soundness and suitability to become or in the case of sires and dams apparent ability to produce or beget Hunters. Possible inheritable conformational defects are only to be considered in the case of sires and dams or prospective sires and dams. Horses are to be judged for conformation before being walked and/or trotted. Broodmares and weanlings are to walk. Yearlings, Two-Year-Olds and Three-Year-Olds are to walk and trot. Horses that are not sound are ineligible for an award. Entries should be lined up in the order of preference before the ribbons are pinned.
  - b. Foals in Breeding classes may wear leather halters. All animals of yearling status and older must be shown in a bridle. Only a snaffle or straight bar bit may be used. A properly fitted in-hand leather lead and chain, such as a new market or "V" shank type may be substituted for reins. A properly fitted in-hand leather lead may also be substituted for reins. A properly fitted chain should be short enough to prevent the horse from getting it in its mouth and should never be placed over the nose or tightly under the chin.
  - c. Four classes must be offered consisting of Yearlings, Two-Year-Olds, Three-Year-Olds and Best Young Horse. Classes may not be combined. Classes may be divided by sex and/or breeding and competition management is encouraged to divide classes where entries warrant. Only these classes will count for Federation Horse of the Year Awards. A Best Young Horse class must be offered and judged as a separate class. Winners in all qualifying classes may show in the Best Young Horse class. Second place winners may return. Federation Horse of the Year points will be awarded in the Best Young Horse class regardless of the number of entries.
4. Individual classes may be entered.

## HU150 Pony Hunter Breeding

1. Pony Hunter Breeding classes are open to ponies.
2. The following specifications will apply for the Pony Hunter Breeding Division unless addressed by specific USHJA Zone specifications (available at [www.ushja.org](http://www.ushja.org)):
  - a. Ponies in the Pony Hunter Breeding Division are not required to have a measurement card. However, a pony shall be subject to measurement by the competition steward to verify a height that does not exceed 14.2 hands.
  - b. Division of Classes. Foals (colts, geldings and/or fillies); Yearlings (colts, geldings and/or fillies); Two-Year-Olds (colts, geldings and/or fillies); Three-Year-Olds (colts, geldings and/or fillies); Broodmares (with foal at foot and/or bred with a breeding certificate); Stallions (Three-Year-Olds and over); Produce of Dam (two ponies produced by the same mare); Get of Sire (two ponies sired by the same stallion). Animals shown in the Produce or Get classes must be three years of age or younger.
3. Class Specifications.

- a. Breeding classes are judged on conformation, athleticism, way of moving, quality, substance, soundness and suitability to become Pony Hunters. Transmissible unsoundness is only to be considered in the case of sires and dam or prospective sires and dams. Ponies are to be judged for conformation before being walked and/or trotted. Broodmares and weanlings are to walk. Yearlings, Two-Year-Olds and Three-Year-Olds are to walk and trot. Ponies that are not sound are ineligible for an award. Entries should be lined up in order of preference before the ribbons are pinned.
  - b. All entries may either be shown in a bridle or a leather halter.
  - c. Four classes must be offered consisting of Yearlings, Two-Year-Olds, Three-Year-Olds and Best Young Pony. Classes may not be combined. Classes may be divided by sex. Management is encouraged to divide classes where entries warrant. Only these classes will count for USHJA Zone Horse of the Year awards.
  - d. A Best Young Pony class must be offered and judged as a separate class. Yearlings, Two-Year-Olds and Three-Year-Olds are to walk and trot. Winners in all qualifying classes may show in the Best Young Pony Class. Second place winners may return. USHJA Zone Horse of the Year points will be awarded in the Best Young Pony class regardless of the number of entries.
4. Individual classes may be entered.

## **SUBCHAPTER HU-10 LADIES SIDE SADDLE**

### **HU151 Ladies Side Saddle Classes**

(See also EQ105.1)

1. To be ridden by ladies who are no longer eligible to compete as junior exhibitors.
2. Stallions not permitted.
3. To be judged on performance and soundness with emphasis on manners 75%; formal hunting attire, appointments and general overall appearance of horse and rider 25%. Judges should give particular consideration to quality, condition and cleanliness of tack. Mane and tail must be braided, (Exception: roached manes or pulled tails). Judges must line up exhibitors in order of preference before checking appointments.
4. All horses being considered for an award must be serviceably sound, but are not required to jog for soundness.
5. Over Fences: To be shown over a course of at least eight fences 3' in height. No in and out to be used.
6. Under Saddle: To be shown at a walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring in formal hunting attire with appointments. See HU151-HU153. If the Under Saddle class is not scheduled as the first class of the section, the schedule must allow at least two hours to prepare before the start.
7. Hunter Hack: To be shown at a walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring. Judges may ask for a hand gallop but no more than eight to hand gallop at one time. To jump two fences at 2'6". To be judged on performance and soundness with an emphasis on manners. Under Saddle performance to count 50%, Over Fences performance to count 50%.
8. Three classes must be offered: Over Fences, Under Saddle and Hunter Hack.
  - a. All three classes will count equally for the Championship.
  - b. In cases of ties, horses are to hack off for Champion and Reserve.
  - c. HOTY points will be awarded in the Over Fences classes to entries that place, provided that there are at least three horses entered and shown in the Over Fences class.
  - d. At least three entries must compete in the Under Saddle class and the Hunter Hack class for HOTY points to count.
9. Individual classes may be entered. (Exception: Under Saddle classes. See HU129.2).

## **HU152 Ladies Side Saddle Attire**

1. Hat: See GR801.2
2. Neckwear: Plain white hunting stock neatly tied and fastened with a plain gold safety pin. Latter should be horizontal.
3. Habit: Melton or other cloth of black or dark blue color, unless bona fide member of a recognized hunt whose livery color is different; then hunt livery color with hunt colors is permissible. Lining must match.
4. Breeches: Same color as habit.
5. Collar: Same material and color as coat unless bona fide member of a recognized hunt has been invited to wear the hunt colors in which case, the collar should conform to the livery of the hunt and be worn only on coats of the hunt livery color.
6. Vest: Of plain white, buff or yellow material, unless bona fide member of a recognized hunt has been invited to wear the hunt's livery in which case, the vest should conform to the livery of the hunt and be worn only with habits of the hunt livery color.
7. Buttons: Must conform to hunt livery. Usual specifications are: Brass or bone on vest. Black bone on black or dark blue coat. If bona fide member of a recognized hunt has been invited to wear the hunt button, it should be engraved with the hunt emblem, otherwise it should be plain.
8. Boots: Black, without tops: of plain black calf without tabs. Boot garters, if worn, plain black. Zippers and laces are not permitted.
9. Spur: Optional. If worn, must be regular hunting spur, without rowels—worn high on the heel.
10. Whip: Light hunting whip with thong required.
11. Gloves: Plain; heavy wash leather or brown leather gloves.
12. Rain Gloves: White or light colored rain gloves. Should be carried on off (right) side under billets and just showing in front of saddle flap.—Fingers forward, thumbs in.
13. Jewelry: Except for finger rings and small plain stud earrings for pierced ears, jewelry is not permitted.
14. Hair: With hair net, preferably in bun. Must be neat and unobtrusive.
15. Boutonniere not permitted.
16. Mane and Tail: Must be braided. (Exception: roached mane and pulled tails).

## **HU153 Ladies Side Saddle Tack and Equipment**

1. Sandwich Case: Required for appointments. Must be combined sandwich case and flask. Sandwich case must contain a plain white-meat sandwich, crusts removed, cut on the diagonal, wrapped in wax paper; a linen handkerchief or napkin is optional and flask must contain sherry or tea.
2. Bridle: Must be either double or pelham. First definitely preferable. All leather must be flat. A cavesson noseband must be used. Rubber, laced, and plaited reins are not permissible. Stitched in leather preferred.
3. Breastplate: Optional, but preferred. All leather must be flat.
4. Martingales: Not permitted on the flat or in Hunter Hack, permitted in over fences classes.
5. Saddles: Must be plain English type. May have doeskin or suede seat and pommel. Lining may be leather or linen.
6. Girths: Triple fold leather. No elastic permitted. Cannot be shaped. Balance girth, either separate or stitched to triple fold girth, is necessary. First definitely preferable. Girth cover not permitted.
7. Irons: Should be regular side saddle iron with oval eye or safety stirrup. Should be large, workmanlike and polished, without pads.

## **SUBCHAPTER HU-11 SHOW CHAMPIONSHIPS**

### **HU154 General**

1. Show Championships must be offered in rated sections.
2. A Championship may not be offered in a section unless a minimum of two over fences classes and one Under Saddle class are held. A Championship will not count for points unless a minimum of three entries complete in

at least two over fences classes and one under saddle class (Exception: Ladies Side Saddle, see HU151; Performance Hunter, High Performance Hunter, and any other sections where individual classes may be entered, see HU154.3). If a competition offers more than one Under Saddle class in any one section, only one will count towards the Championship. (Exception: classes divided as to weight, height, age or breeding.) The prize list must specify the class to count.

3. The number of Championship and Reserve Championships that are awarded will be determined by the number of sections created from dividing the first over fences class. **Exception: Performance Hunter 3'3", Performance Hunter 3'6", and High Performance.** In order to award a section Championship in the Performance Hunter, High Performance Hunter, and any other sections where individual classes may be entered at least two (2) over fences classes per section and one (1) under saddle class must be held in which a minimum of three (3) entries complete. When multiple Championships are awarded when using the California Split method, under saddle classes with fewer than thirty (30) entries are not required to be split. When multiple Championships are awarded and only one under saddle class is held the points from the one under saddle class will be used to calculate the Championship for both sections. When a random split is used, multiple Championships may only be awarded if a minimum of two (2) over fences and one (1) under saddle class are held per section.
  - a. When a Championship is offered, management must keep a score card or chart of winnings throughout the competition, which must be prominently displayed so that exhibitors may inspect it at all times. Only the first six ribbons count towards Championships regardless of the number offered.
  - b. Ribbons won in classes with specifications restricting horses in any manner, will not count toward any Championship unless such classes are complementary and over the same course, affording equal opportunity to all horses competing. If, however, competition management, having reserved the right to do so in the prize list, combines two or more complementary classes because of insufficient entries, thus making one open class, ribbons won in such a class count toward the Championship.

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## **HU155 Show Championship Eligibility**

1. General.
  - a. The Champion and Reserve Champion titles are awarded to the top two of the four horses that acquired the most points performing over a regulation course with obstacles at the full height required in the section in which shown, except under the provisions of HU151. In addition to these points, only these four horses, receive half points for ribbons won in Model classes and full points for ribbons won in one Under Saddle class. Exception: High Performance and Performance Hunter sections with three classes receive half points for the under saddle class, see HU135.
  - b. The prize list must state the numbers of the full point and half point classes counting towards the Championship in each section.
2. The following classes do not count towards nor make a horse eligible for Championships: Appointment, Breeding, Local, Junior, Consolation, Maiden, Novice, Limit, Owners, Hunter Hack, Pairs, Teams and any class restricted unless complementary classes are offered. Points won in one section do not count towards nor make a horse eligible for the Championship in another section.

## **HU156 Ties**

1. In case of a tie score the Championship and/or Reserve is awarded to the horse that accumulated the most points over fences. If horses have an equal number of points over fences and no points under saddle, the tied horses will be asked to compete in a hack off, or independent under saddle class, to be judged on soundness and performance at the walk, trot and canter. Competitors may be asked to hand gallop at the discretion of the judge. (Exception: Green Hunters and Young Hunters.) Any competitor may concede to the other if they choose not to hack off, or if both competitors agree, they may choose to break the tie with a coin toss. If horses have an equal number of points over fences, under saddle, and model (i.e. Green Conformation

Hunter 3'6" or High Performance Conformation Hunter) the tie will stand as is and both horses will receive Horse of the Year Points in their respective Champion and/or Reserve position.

2. If all tied horses are declared unsound, selection of the winner among such tied competitors is left to the discretion of the judges.

## **HU157 Combination Hunter Championship**

All competitions with a limited number of Hunter classes, including events in more than one section (i.e. High Performance Conformation or Green Conformation Hunter 3'6", Green, High Performance or Performance Hunter), may count points won in such classes toward a Combination Hunter Championship. A Combination Hunter Championship and Reserve are awarded to two of the four horses which have acquired the most points performing over a regulation Hunter course with fences the height required in the section in which shown. In addition to these points, only these horses receive half points for ribbons won in Model, Maiden, Novice, Limit and Green classes and full points for ribbons won in one Under Saddle class or, if not held, in one Hunter Hack class, if otherwise qualified. The prize list must specify which classes count. This Championship does not count toward a Federation Horse of the Year Award except for Amateur Owners Hunters.

## **HU158 Challenge Trophies**

If a Challenge Trophy for a Championship is being offered in a section that has not previously been divided it must be awarded to the horse which has obtained the most points towards the Championship in its respective section. If a Challenge Trophy for a class is being offered in a class that has not previously been divided it shall be awarded to the first place winner with the best performance.

## **SUBCHAPTER HU-12 COMBINING AND DIVIDING OF SECTIONS OR CLASSES**

### **HU159 General**

1. Unless stated otherwise in Federation rules, a competition may offer sections as combined or divided. However, if originally offered as combined, but later divided, each subsequent divided section must offer the minimum amount of prize money offered in the original combined section (see HU160).
2. Sections must be divided or combined based on the number of entries in the first over fences class and may not be combined or divided after the first class. Exception: Performance/High Performance Working Hunter, see HU166.1b.
3. No section may be divided if there are less than 30 entries with the exception of those sections required to split sections based on the number of entries for a particular fence height, horse size, or rider age section i.e.:
  - a. Exception:
    1. Green Hunter (HU166.2)
    2. Young Hunter (HU166.3)
    3. Junior Hunter (HU166.5)
    4. Amateur Owner Hunter (HU166.6)
    5. Regional rated Pony Hunter sections (HU166.8)
    6. Children's and Adult Amateur Hunter sections refer to HU166.9; HU166.10 and sections governed by USHJA Zone Specifications.
4. Any section with 50 or more entries at the beginning of the first class must be divided. If there are 50 or more entries remaining in a section after it has been divided, the section must be redivided by every other number. Once a section has been redivided it may not be divided further.

## HU160 Prize money

Whenever a section is divided, the prize money offered in each divided section must be the same as offered in the original section. Additionally, the prize money offered per class and per placing in each of the divided sections must be no less than the amounts offered in the original undivided section.

1. Prize money must be doubled whenever a section is divided.
2. Unless otherwise approved by the Federation, prize money (including exhibition class prize money), bonus money, add backs, leading rider, and/or any other award (including series awards), whether cash or in-kind, are all included in the calculation for total prize money when determining Hunter Rating. All elements of the total hunter prize money must be included and reported to the Federation in the Prize List and competition results. For purposes of these rules, cash prize money must be used to meet the minimum prize money paid as required by the relevant Hunter Rating. In-kind prizes may be awarded in addition to the cash prize money offered but the total combined value shall not exceed the maximum prize money permitted in the relevant Hunter Rating. In-kind prizes shall be valued at the fair market value of the prize.
3. Leading Rider and other series awards do not count toward USEF Horse of the Year standings or qualification for any other USEF competitions.
4. All competitions included in a series must be the same hunter rating, unless otherwise approved by the Federation.

## HU161 Methods of Dividing

1. California Split (see HU162 below for definition)
2. Random Split (see HU163 below for definition)
3. Floating Split (see HU164 below for definition)
4. Junior/Amateur (see HU165 below for definition)
5. Size of Horse
6. Age of Rider

## HU162 Definition of a California Split:

1. The California Split is used to divide large classes. The judge keeps track of twice the number of placings required for either ribbons or the jog order. At the completion of the jog, the judge creates two separate orders using alternating numbers in the following manner: the highest score is first in Section A, the second highest score is first in Section B, the third highest score is second in Section A, the fourth highest score is second in Section B and so on until all placings are awarded or the jog order is complete. The result is two sections of the same class being pinned separately. Competition Management may choose to split classes using the California Split after the class has started.

Example:

Horse's Placing	Prize Awarded
1st	1st
2nd	1st
3rd	2nd
4th	2nd
5th	3rd
6th	3rd
7th	4th
8th	4th
9th	5th
10th	5th
11th	6th
12th	6th
13th	7th
14th	7th

15th  
16th

8th  
8th

2. Jog. The judge will call one jog order of up to twenty (20) horses. Once the horses have jogged for soundness and the jog has been made official, the A and B sections will be pinned using the California Split.
3. Under Saddle. A Section with twelve (12) or less must be judged as one class using the California Split. Sections that are judged under the California Split must have results for Section A and B. A random split will be used for under saddle classes of more than twelve (12).
4. In reckoning Championship points, the top eight horses that receive the most points in the Over Fences classes are awarded points for the Under Saddle and/or Model class(es). The Championship is awarded as follows: Horse with most points—Champion Number 1. Horse with second highest points—Champion Number 2. Horse with third highest points—Reserve Champion Number 1. Horse with fourth highest points—Reserve Champion Number 2.

### **HU163 Definition of a Random Split**

A random split allows management to draw horses for a section either by hand or a computer-generated draw. The number of horses in each section must be equal with a variable of one.

### **HU164 Definition of Floating Split**

A Floating Split allows management to adjust sections offered split by age in the prize list either up or down in one year increments until the minimum number of entries required for each new section has been reached. As long as the minimum requirements for splitting sections are met, management may split the sections using the age split they deem most appropriate for their competition. Rider age must be given on the entry blank.

### **HU165 Definition of Split by Junior Amateur**

If there are 30 or more entries in a section that is open to all competitors, Competition Management may choose to divide the section and offer one of the divided sections as restricted to Juniors and Amateurs (See GR128 and GR1306-GR1307 for definition of Junior and Amateur).

### **HU166 Combining and Dividing Specific Sections**

1. Performance Hunter and High Performance Hunter.
  - a. Number to hold separate sections: Performance: four (4) and High Performance three (3). If four (4) compete and only three (3) complete (i.e. one is eliminated or retires) points will be awarded as per GR 1113.
  - b. Combining
    1. At all licensed competitions, if there are fewer than four entries in either the Performance Hunter 3'3" or Performance Hunter 3'6" they must be combined, but they cannot be combined with any other Hunter sections, except High Performance Hunter. If there are four or more entries in each Performance Hunter section, they must be held separately. If the Performance Hunter 3' 6" and the Performance Hunter 3'3" sections have fewer than three entries after they have been combined they may be further combined with the High Performance Hunter section.
    2. If there are fewer than three entries in the High Performance Hunter section it must first be combined with the Performance Hunter 3'6" section or the Green Hunter 3'9" section (or with Green Hunter 3'6"/3'9" if offered combined). If the High Performance Hunter section is combined with the Performance Hunter 3'6" section it may then further be combined with the Performance Hunter 3'3" section, but may not be combined with the Green Hunter section(s).



3. When the High Performance Hunter section is combined with the Performance Hunter section the following applies:
  - a. When combining High Performance Hunter with Performance Hunters, the combined sections must offer the same number of classes offered by the Performance Hunter section(s) with which it is combined.
  - b. When combining High Performance Hunter with another section, if different amounts of prize money or entry fees were offered in the original sections, the combined sections will use the lower amount for both prize money and entry fees.
4. When the High Performance Hunter section is combined with the Green Hunter section the following applies:
  - a. If, after combining, there are still fewer than three entries in the combined section, it must be further combined with the Green Hunter 3'6" section
  - b. If combined Green Hunter sections have fewer than three entries, they must be combined with High Performance Working Hunter.
  - c. A horse that is eligible for more than one section must be declared and compete in only one. Horses will jump the respective height for the entered section.
  - d. When combining High Performance Working Hunter with another section, if different amounts of prize money or entry fees were offered in the original sections, the combined sections will use the lower amount for both prize money and entry fees.
  - e. When combining a section of High Performance Hunter with either a section of Green Hunter 3'6", Green Hunter 3'9", or both, the combined sections must offer the same number of classes offered by the Green Hunter section(s) with which it is combined. In addition, a section entry fee will be required and individual classes may no longer be entered for the combined section.
  - f. The High Performance Hunter section may be combined with a combined Green Hunter 3'6"/3'9" section but may not be combined with any Green Hunter 3'3" or 3'0" sections.
- c. Dividing:
  1. In Performance Hunter, High Performance Hunter and any other sections where individual classes may be entered, **any class may split at 30 and must split at 50. See HU159.4.** Subsequent classes may be divided once twelve (12) horses have competed in each class.
  2. For Championships, see HU154. **If more than one class is California Split, championships must be awarded in accordance with the number of splits.**
2. Green Hunter
  - a. Number to hold separate sections: three (3).
  - b. Combining:
    1. Green Hunter section(s) may not be combined with any other hunter section(s). (Exception; The High Performance Hunter section may be combined with the Green Hunter 3'6" and 3'9" sections, see HU164.1)
    2. Regardless of competition rating, each Green Hunter section that is offered separately must be held separately when there is a minimum of three entries.
    3. If there are fewer than three entries in a Green Hunter section, that section must be combined with a contiguous fence height section of the Green Hunter.
    4. If, after combining, there are still fewer than three (3) entries in the combined section, it must be further combined with the next contiguous fence height section of the Green Hunter.
    5. In the case where there are no entries in the fence height section that bridges the gap between the two non-contiguous fence height sections those two non-contiguous fence height sections may be combined.
    6. If Premier or National rated Green Hunter 3'0" and/or 3'3" sections are combined with Premier or National rated Green Hunter 3'6" and/or Green Hunter 3'9" sections a Handy Hunter class is not required. The combined sections must meet class number requirements for Premier or National rated Green Hunter 3'6" and Green Hunter 3'9" and use the lower amount for both prize money and entry fees.

7. When the High Performance Hunter section is combined with the Green Hunter section the following applies:
  - a. If, after combining, there are still fewer than three entries in the combined section, it must be further combined with the Green Hunter 3'6" section
  - b. If combined Green Hunter sections have fewer than three entries, they must be combined with High Performance Working Hunter.
  - c. A horse that is eligible for more than one section must be declared and compete in only one. Horses will jump the respective height for the entered section.
  - d. When combining High Performance Working Hunter with another section, if different amounts of prize money or entry fees were offered in the original sections, the combined sections will use the lower amount for both prize money and entry fees.
  - e. When combining a section of High Performance Hunter with either a section of Green Hunter 3'6", Green Hunter 3'9", or both, the combined sections must offer the same number of classes offered by the Green Hunter section(s) with which it is combined. In addition, a section entry fee will be required and individual classes may no longer be entered for the combined section.
  - f. The High Performance Hunter section may be combined with a combined Green Hunter 3'6"/3'9" section but may not be combined with any Green Hunter 3'3" or 3'0 sections.
- c. Dividing:
  1. Regardless of competition rating, any Green Hunter section that is offered combined must be split by fence height, and sections held separately when there is a minimum of three entries in any one fence height section provided at least three (3) entries remain in each of the other two sections, which would also be held separately, or as one other combined section. Contiguous fence height sections should be combined before combining non-contiguous fence height sections.
3. Young Hunter
  - a. Number to hold separate sections: three (3).
  - b. Combining:
    1. Young Hunter section(s) may not be combined with any other Hunter section.
    2. At Competition Management's discretion, and with at least three (3) Young Hunters entered in any section, the Young Hunter Section(s) may run concurrently with the corresponding Green Hunter height section or Combined Green Hunter Section. Horses that are entered in both the Young Hunter and Green Hunter section(s) will be eligible for awards in both sections. Horses that are not entered in both sections will only be eligible for awards in the section in which they are entered. If there are fewer than three (3) entries in any of the Young Hunter section(s) they must be combined for awards per HU166.3. A separate entry fee for the Young Hunter Section will apply. The Green Hunter section requirements by rating listed in HU166.2 will still apply.
    3. Regardless of competition rating, each Young Hunter section that is offered separately must be held separately when there is a minimum of three entries. If there are fewer than three (3) entries in a Young Hunter section that section must be combined with a contiguous fence height section of the Young Hunter. If, after combining, there are still fewer than three (3) entries in the combined section, it must be further combined with the next contiguous fence height section of the Young Hunter. In the case where there are no entries in the fence height section that bridges the gap between the two non-contiguous fence height sections those two non-contiguous fence height sections may be combined.
  - c. Dividing:
    1. Regardless of competition rating, any Young Hunter section that is offered as a combined section must be split by fence height, and sections held separately when there is a minimum of three entries in any one fence height section provided at least three (3) entries remain in each of the other two sections, which would also be held separately, or one other combined section. Contiguous fence height sections should be combined before combining non-contiguous fence height sections.
4. Green Conformation Hunter 3'6" and High Performance Conformation Hunter
  - a. Number to hold separate sections: three (3).
  - b. Combining:

1. The Green Conformation Hunter 3'6" may only be combined with the High Performance Conformation Hunter. The High Performance Conformation Hunter may only be combined with the Green Conformation Hunter 3'6".
2. When offered as two sections, if there are fewer than three (3) horses in either the Green Conformation 3'6" or the High Performance Conformation section they must be combined.
3. When combining Green Conformation Hunter with High Performance Conformation Hunter, if different amounts of prize money or entry fees were offered in the original sections, the combined section will use the lower amount for both prize money and entry fees.
- c. Dividing: If there are three (3) or more horses in each Conformation section they must be held separately.
5. Junior Hunter
  - a. Number to hold separate sections: four (4) in each section. If four (4) compete and only three (3) complete (i.e. one is eliminated or retires) points will be awarded as per GR1113.
  - b. Combining:
    1. The Junior Hunter 3'6", Junior Hunter 3'3", Amateur Owner Hunter 3'6", and Amateur Owner Hunter 3'3" sections may only be combined with other Junior Hunter or Amateur Owner Hunter sections. See below for conditions.
    2. At Premier, National or Regional rated competitions if there are fewer than three (3) entries in the Amateur Owner 3'3", the Amateur Owner 3'6", the Junior Hunter 3'3" or the Junior Hunter 3'6" sections, Competition Management may choose to combine the sections. The Competition Management may choose to combine the sections as necessary, based on the sections with the lightest entries. If sections are combined, the horses must jump the respective height of the original section entered. In addition, while the sections can be combined if entries warrant, in order for Horse of the Year points to count they must be offered separately in the prize list for Premier rated competitions (see HJ122). When sections are combined as per above, three (3) must complete for points to count.
    3. It is recommended that when competitions anticipate 50 horses or more this section be divided by age of rider or height of horse when prize list is prepared.
  - c. Dividing:
    1. When divided, sections must be split using one of the methods from HU161 Methods of Dividing.
    2. If there are 50 or more entries in the section at the beginning of the first class it must be divided and the prize money must be doubled.
    3. If there are 50 or more entries remaining in a section after it has been divided, the section must be reddivided and the prize money must be doubled. Once a section has been reddivided it may be divided further if management so desires.
    4. If the Junior Hunter sections are divided by height of animal, they must be divided into Large and Small. Premier rated Junior Hunter 3'6" sections at Premier rated competitions must be offered as four sections (large/younger, large/older, small/ younger, small/older).
    5. If there are four (4) or more entries in each divided section, the divided sections must be held separately. If there are fewer than four (4) entries in any sections divided by age and/or height of animal, those sections must be combined with other sections. If there is a minimum of twelve (12) entries once any sections have been combined, the newly combined section must be reddivided.
6. Amateur Owner Hunter
  - a. Number to hold separate sections: four (4) in each section. If four (4) compete and only three (3) complete (i.e. one is eliminated or retires) points will be awarded as per GR1113.
  - b. Combining:
    1. The Amateur Owner Hunter 3'6", Amateur Owner Hunter 3'3", Junior Hunter 3'6", and Junior Hunter 3'3" sections may only be combined with other Amateur Owner Hunter or Junior Hunter sections. See below for conditions.
    2. At Premier, National or Regional rated competitions if there are fewer than three (3) entries in the Amateur Owner 3'3", the Amateur Owner 3'6", the Junior Hunter 3'3" or the Junior Hunter 3'6" sections, competition management may choose to combine the sections. The competition management may choose to combine the sections as necessary, based on the sections with the

lightest entries. If sections are combined, the horses must jump the respective height of the original section entered. In addition, while the sections can be combined if entries warrant, in order for Horse of the Year points to count they must be offered separately in the prize list for Premier rated competitions (see HJ121). When sections are combined as per above, three (3) must complete for points to count.

3. At Premier, National or Regional rated competitions if there are fewer than three (3) entries in the Amateur Owner 3'3", the Amateur Owner 3'6", the Junior Hunter 3'3" or the Junior Hunter 3'6" sections, these sections may be combined. The competition management may choose to combine the classes as necessary, based on the sections with the lightest entries. If sections are combined, the horses must jump the respective height of the original section entered.

c. Dividing:

1. Amateur Owner 3'6" When a section is divided, one section must be offered for amateurs 18-35 and one section for amateurs over 35 years of age. If there are four (4) or more entries in each divided section, the divided sections must be held separately. If there are fewer than four (4) entries in either divided section, they must be combined. If there are a minimum of 12 entries once the sections are combined, the newly combined section must be redivided using either a Floating or California Split. (See HU162 & HU160 for definition of a Floating and California Split.) When using a floating split the age groups must be posted at the competition office. Rider age must be given on the entry blank. When divided as to age of rider no horse may compete in more than one section. These sections may be further divided by age of rider or by every other number.
2. Amateur Owner 3'3" When a section is divided, one section must be offered for amateurs 18-35 and one section for amateurs over 35 years of age. If there are four (4) or more entries in each divided section, the divided sections must be held separately. If there are fewer than four (4) entries in either divided section, they must be combined. If there are a minimum of 12 entries once the sections are combined, the newly combined section must be re-divided using either a Floating or California Split. (See HU164 & HU162 for definition of a Floating and California Split.) When using a floating split the age groups must be posted at the competition office. Rider age must be given on entry blank. When divided as to age of rider no horse may compete in more than one section. These sections may be further divided by age of rider or by every other number.

7. Pony Hunter

- a. Number to hold separate sections: three (3).

b. Combining:

1. The Regular Pony Hunter Section may not be combined with any other sections.
2. Height sections may be combined if there are fewer than three (3) in any height section. Combined height sections should be either small/medium or medium/large but if possible not small/large.

c. Dividing:

1. Classes for Pony Hunters may be divided by height of pony as outlined in HU141.
2. If there are 50 or more entries in the division at the beginning of the first class, it must be divided by height of pony and prize money must be doubled.
3. If there are 50 entries remaining in a section after the section has been divided by height of pony, the section must be re-divided by every other number and the prize money must be doubled.
4. Once a section has been re-divided it may not be divided further.
5. If a pony under saddle class has over 30 entries, the class must be split and held in at least two sections with one set of awards.
6. If there are a minimum of 10 small/medium ponies combined and 10 large ponies in any Regional rated Regular or Green height Section, the height section must be divided (small/medium and large); If there is a total of thirty (30) ponies, prize money must be doubled.

8. Green Pony Hunter

- a. Number to hold separate sections: three (3) per section.

b. Combining:

1. The Green Pony Hunter Section may not be combined with any other sections.

2. Green Pony Hunter Sections at National and Premier rated competitions may be combined if there are fewer than three (3) entries in any height section.
- c. Dividing:
  1. National and Premier rated competitions must split (small, medium and large) if there are four (4) or more entries in any height section.
  2. If there are a minimum of 10 small/medium ponies combined and 10 large ponies in any Regional rated Regular or Green height section, the height section must be divided (small/medium and large); prize money need not be doubled. If there is a total of thirty (30) ponies, prize money must be doubled.
9. Adult Amateur Hunter
  - a. Competitions must offer Adult Amateur Hunter sections in accordance with the specifications of each USHJA Zone.
  - b. Notice of the use of a floating split and the age groups must be posted at the competition office. When divided as to age of rider no horse may compete in more than one section. Age must be given on entry blank. These sections may be further divided by age of rider or by every other number.
10. Children's Hunter
  - a. Children's Hunter sections must be combined or divided in accordance with applicable Zone Specifications
11. Low Adult Hunter
  - a. Low Adult Hunter sections must be combined or divided in accordance with applicable Zone Specifications.
12. Low Children's Hunter
  - a. Low Children's Hunter sections must be combined or divided in accordance with applicable Zone Specifications.

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## **SUBCHAPTER HU-13 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

### **HU167 USEF Hunter Breeding National Championships**

1. In order to compete in the USEF Hunter Breeding National Championship, the horse and owner must be recorded with the Federation and registered with USHJA on or before the first day of the competition. The owner must be an Active member of the Federation and USHJA.
2. Points for the USEF Hunter Breeding National Championship for Yearlings, Two-Year-Olds and Three-Year-Olds will be awarded as follows:

Number in Class	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
1	2					
2	4	2				
3-10	10	6	4	2		
11+	20	12	8	4	3	2

Points awarded for the Championship and Reserve Championship are based on the total number of horses entered in all rated classes of the Hunter Breeding section.

Total Number	Champion	Reserve
1-14	10	6
15 or more	20	12

## HU168 USEF Pony Hunter

1. Full qualifying criteria and Official Specifications will be posted on the Federation website ([www.usef.org](http://www.usef.org)) at least 30 days prior to the start of the qualifying period.
2. This competition is designed to encourage the breeding of quality Hunter ponies and the proper basic training for them.
3. Eligibility.
  - a. The pony must be 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, i.e. ponies must be shown in accordance with GR1102 and GR1108 in order to be eligible to qualify.
4. Points.

Model and Under Saddle Phase	
1st	100
2nd	90
3rd	80
4th	70
5th	60
6th	50
7th	40
8th	30
9th	20
10th	10

Over Fences Phase (all height sections)	
1st	250
2nd	225
3rd	200
4th	175
5th	150
6th	125
7th	100
8th	75
9th	50
10th	25

Overall Top Twenty (all height sections)	
Champion	500
Reserve	300
3rd	200
4th	190
5th	180
6th	170
7th	160
8th	150
9th	140
10th	130
11th	115
12th	100
13th	85
14th	80
15th	75
16th	70
17th	65
18th	60
19th	55
20th	50

## HU169 USEF Junior Hunter National Championship

1. Full qualifying criteria and Official Specifications will be posted on the Federation website ([www.usef.org](http://www.usef.org)) at least 30 days prior to the start of the qualifying period.
2. This competition is designed to encourage and promote the basic training and development of Junior Hunters.
3. Eligibility.
  - a. The horse must be 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 horse must be an Active member in good standing of the Federation and USHJA, i.e. horses must be shown in accordance with GR1102 and GR1108 in order to be eligible to qualify.
4. Points.

All points are based on values below. In classes that have less than 10 entries, the point values will be one-half of what is listed below.

	Under Saddle	Handy Hunter	Classic
First	100	250	250
Second	90	225	225
Third	80	200	200
Fourth	70	175	175
Fifth	60	150	150
Sixth	50	125	125
Seventh	40	100	100
Eighth	30	75	75
Ninth	20	50	50
Tenth	10	25	25

OVERALL (all sections)		
Champion	500	2.0 times the classic
Reserve	300	1.2 times the classic
Third	200	
Fourth	150	
Fifth	100	
Sixth	90	
Seventh	80	
Eighth	70	
Ninth	60	
Tenth	50	

5. Zone or Regional Championships.
  - a. The Chairman of each Zone may request permission of the USHJA to hold a Zone or Regional Championship section. Specifications for these championships will be posted on the USHJA website ([www.ushja.org](http://www.ushja.org)) at least 30 days prior to the start of the qualifying period.
  - b. Two or more Zone Chairmen may request permission to hold a Regional Championship section including several zones.
  - c. Application must be made to the USHJA office at least sixty days in advance of the holding of the section.
  - d. The location of these sections is subject to the approval of the Federation.
  - e. The Championships are conducted under the same regulations as the USEF Junior Hunter National Championship. (Exception: All points awarded are based on Premier point values as per GR1132.5)

## SUBCHAPTER HU-14 USHJA CHAMPIONSHIPS, PROGRAMS, AND SPECIAL CLASSES

For full specifications see [www.ushja.org](http://www.ushja.org).

### HU170 Amateur Hunter Championship

1. The USHJA, at its discretion may choose to hold a National or East and West Championship for Amateur Hunters. This competition is designed to encourage and promote the basic training and development of Amateur Hunters. The Championship must be offered for the Amateur Owner Hunter 3'6 and the Amateur Owner Hunter 3'3" section **and may also be offered for the Adult Amateur Hunter and the Low Adult Amateur Hunter**. Championship(s) must be run in accordance with USHJA specifications found at [www.ushja.org](http://www.ushja.org).
2. Eligibility.
  - a. The horse must be recorded with the Federation and registered with USHJA on or before the first day of the Championship.
  - b. The owner of record of the horse must be an Active member in good standing of the Federation and USHJA, i.e. horses must be shown in accordance with GR1102 and GR1108 in order to be eligible to qualify.
3. Points.

All points are based on values below. In classes that have less than 10 entries, the point values will be one-half of what is listed below.

Placing	Under Saddle	Handy Hunter	Classic
First	100	250	250
Second	90	225	225
Third	80	200	200
Fourth	70	175	175
Fifth	60	150	150
Sixth	50	125	125
Seventh	40	100	100
Eighth	30	75	75
Ninth	20	50	50
Tenth	10	25	25

OVERALL (all sections)		
Champion	500	2.0 times the classic
Reserve	300	1.2 times the classic
Third	200	
Fourth	150	
Fifth	100	
Sixth	90	
Seventh	80	
Eighth	70	
Ninth	60	
Tenth	50	

4. Zone or Regional Championships.
  - a. The Chairman of each Zone may request permission of the USHJA to hold a Zone or Regional Championship section for the riders of each Zone who have won a Champion or Reserve at a National or Premier rated Amateur Owner Hunter division within the previous competition year.
  - b. Two or more Zone Chairmen may request permission to hold a Regional Championship section including several zones.



- c. Application must be made to the USHJA office at least sixty days in advance of the holding of the section.
- d. The location of these sections is subject to the approval of the USHJA.
- e. The Championships are conducted under the same regulations as the USHJA Amateur Owner Hunter Championship. (Exception: All points awarded are based on Premier point values as per GR1132.5).

## HU171 Membership Requirements

Exhibitors must be Federation and USHJA active members and horses must be Federation recorded and USHJA registered in order to participate in the following programs. See [www.ushja.org](http://www.ushja.org) for complete specifications.

1. **USHJA Amateur Hunter Championships (exhibitors must be active Amateur members);**
2. USHJA Hunter Team Challenge (exhibitors must be active Junior or Amateur members);
3. USHJA Green Hunter Incentive Stake Class (horses must be enrolled);
4. USHJA Green Hunter Incentive Regional Championship (horses must be enrolled);
5. USHJA Green Hunter Incentive National Championship (horses must be enrolled);
6. USHJA Hunter Sections (2'-3');
7. USHJA International Hunter Derby;
8. USHJA International Hunter Derby Championship (horses must be enrolled);
9. USHJA International Hunter Derby Regional Championship;
10. USHJA Pony Hunter Derby (exhibitors must be active Junior members);
11. USHJA Pony Hunter Derby Championship (exhibitors must be active Junior members);
12. USHJA World Championship Hunter Rider Program
13. USHJA WCHR Spectaculars;
14. USHJA WCHR Challenge classes;
15. USHJA Young Hunter Pony Championships (exhibitors must be active Junior members);
16. USHJA National Championship (exception: Affiliate classes);
17. USHJA National Hunter Derby;
18. **USHJA 2'6" Junior/Amateur Hunter Derby (exhibitors must be active Junior or Amateur members);**
19. USHJA Zone Horse of the Year Championship;
20. USHJA Zone Handy Hunter Challenge (exhibitors must be active members in home zone); **and**
21. USHJA Zone Horsemanship Class/Championship

Horses competing in these programs shall accrue Federation and/or Zone Horse of the Year points and/or money won in accordance with the point values and prize money won referenced in the class specifications available at [www.ushja.org](http://www.ushja.org) and outlined in GR1132 and HU173.

**BOD 06/17/2025 Effective 12/01/2025**

## HU172 Competition Requirements

The following classes may be held at the eligible competitions listed below:

1. **Amateur Hunter Championship – National, Premier, or Regional;**
2. USHJA Hunter Team Challenge – National or Premier;
3. Green Hunter Incentive Stake Class– National, Premier or Regional;
4. Green Hunter Incentive Regional Championship– National or Premier;
5. Green Hunter Incentive National Championship– National or Premier;
6. USHJA Hunter Sections (2'-3'); – National, Premier or Regional;
7. International Hunter Derby; – National or Premier;
8. International Hunter Derby Championship; – National or Premier;
9. **2'6" Junior/Amateur Hunter Derby – National, Premier, or Regional;**
10. Pony Hunter Derby – National, Premier or Regional;
11. Pony Hunter Derby Championship – National, Premier or Regional;
12. World Championship Hunter Rider Program – National or Premier;

13. WCHR Spectaculars – National or Premier;
14. WCHR Challenge classes – National or Premier;
15. Young Hunter Pony Championships – any USEF licensed competition;
16. USHJA National Championship – any USEF licensed competition;
17. National Hunter Derby– National, Premier or Regional;
18. Zone Horse of the Year Championship – National or Premier;
19. Zone Handy Hunter Challenge – any USEF licensed competition; and
20. Zone Horsemanship Class/Championship – National or Premier;

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## HU173 National Horse of the Year Point Values

a. USHJA Green Hunter Incentive.

The USHJA Green Hunter Incentive will count towards National and Zone Horse of the Year points/money for each horse's respective Green Hunter height section. See GR1132.3 for restrictions. See chart below for how points are calculated.

Stake Class			
Premier and National Competitions		Regional Competitions	
Place	Points	Place	Points
1st	50	1st	40
2nd	40	2nd	31
3rd	35	3rd	25
4th	30	4th	20
5th	25	5th	15
6th	20	6th	13
7th	15	7th	10
8th	10	8th	7
9th	7	9th	5
10th	5	10th	3
11th	3	11th	2

Regional Championship					
Round 1		Round 2		Overall	
Place	Points	Place	Points	Place	Points
1st	50	1st	50	1st	200
2nd	40	2nd	40	2nd	160
3rd	35	3rd	35	3rd	140
4th	30	4th	30	4th	120
5th	25	5th	25	5th	100
6th	20	6th	20	6th	80
7th	15	7th	15	7th	60

8th	10	8th	10	8th	40
9th	7	9th	7	9th	28
10th	5	10th	5	10th	20
11th	3	11th	3	11th	12
12th	2	12th	2	12th	8

National Championship					
Round 1		Round 2		Final Championship Round	
Place	Points	Place	Points	Place	Points
1st	150	1st	200	1st	400
2nd	140	2nd	185	2nd	370
3rd	130	3rd	170	3rd	340
4th	120	4th	155	4th	310
5th	110	5th	140	5th	280
6th	100	6th	125	6th	250
7th	90	7th	110	7th	220
8th	80	8th	100	8th	200
9th	70	9th	90	9th	180
10th	60	10th	80	10th	160
11th	55	11th	70	11th	140
12th	50	12th	60	12th	120
13th	45	13th	50	13th	100
14th	40	14th	45	14th	90
15th	35	15th	40	15th	80
16th	30	16th	35	16th	70
17th	25	17th	30	17th	60
18th	20	18th	25	18th	50
19th	15	19th	20	19th	40
20th	10	20th	15	20th	30

## 2. International Hunter Derby

Points to be credited to each horse's respective section as declared at the time of entry. Only Juniors and Amateurs may declare for the applicable Junior or Amateur Owner section. Points may not be credited toward the HOTY awards for the Green Conformation Hunter 3'6" or the High Performance Conformation Hunter. The money won and points won in the USHJA International Hunter Derby will only be awarded towards a declared Hunter section for HOTY points if a horse competes in the declared section a minimum of five (5) times during the competition year.

Class					
Round 1		Round 2		Overall/Top 12	
Place	Points	Place	Points	Place	Points
1st	50	1st	50	1st	200
2nd	40	2nd	40	2nd	160
3rd	35	3rd	35	3rd	140
4th	30	4th	30	4th	120
5th	25	5th	25	5th	100
6th	20	6th	20	6th	80
7th	15	7th	15	7th	60
8th	10	8th	10	8th	40
9th	7	9th	7	9th	28
10th	5	10th	5	10th	20
11th	3	11th	3	11th	12
12th	2	12th	2	12th	8

Welcome Stake	
1st	50
2nd	40
3rd	35
4th	30
5th	25
6th	20
7th	15
8th	10
9th	7
10th	5
11th	3
12th	2

Championship					
Round 1		Round 2		Overall	
Place	Points	Place	Points	Place	Points
1st	150	1st	200	1st	400
2nd	140	2nd	185	2nd	370
3rd	130	3rd	170	3rd	340
4th	120	4th	155	4th	310

5th	110	5th	140	5th	280
6th	100	6th	125	6th	250
7th	90	7th	110	7th	220
8th	80	8th	100	8th	200
9th	70	9th	90	9th	180
10th	60	10th	80	10th	160
11th	55	11th	70	11th	140
12th	50	12th	60	12th	120
13th	45	13th	50	13th	100
14th	40	14th	45	14th	90
15th	35	15th	40	15th	80
16th	30	16th	35	16th	70
17th	25	17th	30	17th	60
18th	20	18th	25	18th	50
19th	15	19th	20	19th	40
20th	10	20th	15	20th	30

### 3. National Hunter Derby (Zone Points, National Points and Money Won)

Points and money won to be credited to each horse's respective section as declared at the time of entry in the following sections: Performance 3'3", Green 3'0", Green 3'3", Small Hunter, Amateur Owner 3'3", Adult Amateur, Junior Hunter 3'3", Children's Horse, **Pony**, and Young Hunters.

Premier and National Competitions		Regional competitions	
Place	Points	Place	Points
1st	75	1st	50
2nd	60	2nd	40
3rd	54	3rd	35
4th	45	4th	30
5th	38	5th	25
6th	30	6th	20
7th	23	7th	15
8th	15	8th	10
9th	10	9th	7
10th	7	10th	5
11th	5	11th	3
12th	3	12th	2

#### 4. World Championship Hunter Rider

National HOTY points and money won, where applicable, will be awarded for placing in a WCHR Challenge Class. Zone HOTY Points will not be awarded. Horses and ponies must be eligible for the section declared at the time of entry. In order for the National HOTY points and money won, where applicable, to be awarded:

- Riders must complete the USHJA Exhibitor Declaration Form prior to the conclusion of the competition for applicable Challenge Classes only (Professional and Developing Professional);
- Declaration for the Professional Challenge class may be any one WCHR recognized 3'6" Professional section;
- Declarations for the Developing Professional Challenge Class may be any one WCHR recognized 3'3" or 3' Professional section;
- Riders may only declare one section in which to earn HOTY points;
- The two-rounds stand-alone Hunter Classic point scale will be utilized when awarding National HOTY bonus points. See HU174.9(b); and
- HOTY points and money won will only be awarded towards a declared Hunter section for HOTY points if the horse competes in the declared section a minimum of five (5) times during the current competition year.

#### 5. WCHR Spectaculars

The Spectacular will count for HOTY points and money won, where applicable, in the section declared at the time of entry, for which the horse must be eligible, and that corresponds to the height jumped in the Spectacular. Zone HOTY points will not be awarded. The two-round stand-alone Hunter Classic point scale will be utilized when awarding National HOTY bonus points. See HU174.9(b). HOTY points and money won for horses qualifying with a bye will only be awarded towards a declared Hunter section for HOTY points if horses competes in the declared section a minimum of five (5) times during the competition year.

#### 6. 2'6" Junior/Amateur Hunter Derby

- Points accrued may be awarded to the declared Low Children's-Horse and the Low Adult Amateur sections.

- b. The money won and points won in the USHJA 2'6" Junior/Amateur Hunter Derby will only be awarded towards the Hunter section for National and Zone HOTY points if a horse competes in the declared section a minimum of one (1) time during the competition year.
- c. At Channel I (Premier or National) rated competitions, or competitions approved for Special Competition status, National and Zone HOTY points will be awarded as follows:

Channel I (Premier or National Competitions)		Channel II (Regional Competitions)	
Place	Points	Place	Points
1st	75	1st	50
2nd	60	2nd	40
3rd	54	3rd	35
4th	45	4th	30
5th	38	5th	25
6th	30	6th	20
7th	23	7th	15
8th	15	8th	10
9th	10	9th	7
10th	7	10th	5
11th	5	11th	3
12th	3	12th	2

- d. At Channel II (Regional) rated competitions, National and Zone HOTY points will be awarded as follows:

#### 7. Zone Handy Hunter Challenge

Participation in these classes accrues double points for the USHJA Zone Horse of the Year standings and double points for the USEF National Horse of the Year standings.

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## HU174 Hunter Classics

1. Any Premier, National or Regional rated competition may offer a Hunter Classic.
2. Hunter Classics may be offered for any rated sections offered and held at the same competition. An Open Hunter Classic is a classic that is open to entries from multiple Hunter sections of the same rating. It is permitted for Open Hunter Classics to encompass several fence heights to correspond with the respective Hunter sections being offered. The prize list must state the specific Hunter sections that are invited to compete in the Open Hunter Classic. If a horse competes in more than one Hunter section qualifying for the Open Hunter Classic, the exhibitor must declare their point section to the Competition Secretary on a declaration form at the time of entry into the Classic. All other provisions of HU174 apply to Open Hunter Classics.
  - a. Six (6) entries are required to conduct a Hunter Classic.
  - b. If there are fewer than six (6) entries in any one Hunter Classic, it may combine with other sections of the same rating, regardless of the combining or dividing rules of the section. Exception: The Adult Amateur Hunter Classic, Low Adult Amateur Hunter Classic, Children's Pony Hunter Classic, Children's Hunter Classic, Low Children's Hunter Horse Classic, and Low Children's Hunter Pony Classic may be held with the number of entries indicated in the Zone specifications. If Hunter Classics are combined and a horse is shown in more than one section qualifying for the Hunter Classic, the exhibitor must declare their point section to the Competition Secretary on a declaration form at the time of entry into the Classic.
  - c. Ponies entered in the Green Hunter Pony section are not eligible for the Regular Pony Hunter Classic unless they have competed in the Regular Pony Hunter section (see HU174.6).
  - d. Hunter Classics cannot be divided in any manner and held by section if there are fewer than six (6) entries in each divided section. Exception: Premier or National rated sections must have twelve (12) entries to divide.
3. All Hunter Classics must be conducted as a two round class. A handy hunter round may not be used as part of a Hunter Classic. A Hunter Classic may be conducted as a separate two round class or a designated Hunter class of the specified Hunter section may be counted as the first round of the Hunter Classic. However, the second round may not be another designated class in the Hunter section, but must be held as a separate round. If a designated class is used as a first round, each round shall count 50%.
4. At National and Premier competitions, in sections with a National or Premier rating, Hunter Classics conducted using either a designated Hunter class as the first round or a separate two round class must offer at least \$1000 in prize money, except Pony Hunter Classics, Children's Hunter Classic, Adult Amateur Hunter Classic, and Low Adult Amateur Hunter Classic must offer a minimum of \$500 in prize money. (Exception: Children's Hunter Pony, Low Children's Hunter Horse, and Low Children's Hunter Pony are not required to offer prize money). At Regional competitions, in sections with a Regional rating, Hunter Classics conducted using either a designated Hunter class as the first round or a separate two round class must offer at least \$250 in prize money (Exception: Children's Hunter Pony and Low Children's Hunter Horse are not required to offer prize money and if a Children's Hunter Horse and Children's Hunter Pony Classics are combined, the competition is not required to offer prize money in the combined Classic). At Premier, National or Regional competitions, when a Hunter Classic is conducted as a separate two round class, the minimum prize money offered is stated above.
5. The entry fee may not exceed 10% of the prize money offered in the Hunter Classic.
6. To be eligible, horses must have entered, shown and completed the course in at least two classes in the Hunter section. All horses being considered for an award must be serviceably sound and may be jogged if so stated in the prize list.
7. A minimum of the top 12 entries, if available, or 50% of the entries in the first round, whichever is greater, will return for the second round. If a horse or pony is eliminated in the first round of competition, they may not return for the second round. If a horse/rider combination does not return for the second round or is eliminated during the second round of a classic, a score of zero will be combined with the first round score and the horse/rider combination will be placed accordingly. If possible, twelve places are to be awarded.
8. The Hunter Classic does not count toward the minimum number of classes required for the section's rating.
9. Bonus points will be awarded toward Horse of the Year Awards in the horse's respective section and are based on the number of horses that compete in the classic. In a Hunter Classic using a designated class of



the Hunter section as the first round, the number of horses that compete in the classic is determined by the number of horses who have entered and competed in the first round of the classic, not the designated class used as the first round. In a Hunter Classic held as a separate two round class, the number of horses that compete in the classic is determined by the number of horses who compete in the first round of the classic. The bonus points are as follows:

- a. In a Hunter Classic using a designated class as the first round, the bonus points for Zone HOTY are determined by adding one point for each entry that competes in the first round of a classic to the applicable increment in GR1132.5 and multiplying the result by 1.25.
  - b. In a Hunter Classic held as a separate two round class, the bonus points for Zone HOTY are determined by adding one point for each entry that competes in the first round of a classic to the applicable increment in GR1132.5 and multiplying the result by 1.5.
  - c. In a Hunter Classic using a designated class as the first round, the bonus points for National HOTY are determined by adding one point for each entry that competes in the classic to the applicable increment in GR1132.5 and multiplying the result by 1.75.
  - d. In a Hunter Classic held as a separate two round class, the bonus points for National HOTY are determined by adding one point for each entry that competes in the classic to the applicable increment in GR1132.5 and multiplying the result by 2.
10. The first round of all Hunter Classics must consist of eight (8) to ten (10) obstacles in accordance with HU109. In the second round of all Hunter Classics the course must consist of a minimum of eight (8) obstacles of at least six different types. Exception: separate standalone classics must have ten (10) obstacles.
  11. An open numerical judging system must be used. If there are multiple judging panels, one judging panel must be appointed as the tie breaker.
  12. Attire: riders are required to comply with HU107.
  13. There is no limit to the number of horses a rider may compete on in a Hunter Classic. Exception: Competitors in a Regular or Green Hunter Pony Classic may only ride two ponies per height section.
  14. The same horse/rider combination must compete in both rounds of a Hunter Classic.
  15. A horse may not compete in more than one classic per section but may compete in an open classic, a USHJA National Hunter Derby, or a USHJA International Hunter Derby at the same competition. A horse is limited to competing in a maximum of two classics or derbies or combination of classics and derbies per competition. (Exception: Leagues approved by the Federation in accordance with HJ125).
  16. The same pony may not compete in the USHJA Pony Hunter Derby and the USHJA National Hunter Derby at the same competition.
  17. If more than 30 horses are entered in a Junior Hunter Classic, the classic must be split in accordance with HU166.5b.

## **Appendix A. USEF Hunter Schooling Rules**

1. Schooling over obstacles by a hunter exhibitor while on competition grounds must be consistent with the obstacles requirements set forth in Hunter Schooling Rules Appendix A.
2. For Certified Schooling Supervisor duties and requirements see GR1030.
3. Schooling areas for Hunters must contain adequate standards, jump cups and rail and Hunter-type rails to make a minimum of a trotting fence, a vertical and an oxer.
4. A supervisor of schooling must be appointed for the schooling areas designated for hunters, if the total square footage of these areas is less than 20,000 sq. ft. in size. Exception: Breed-restricted competitions offering hunter classes or sections.
5. Duties of Certified Schooling Supervisors (see also GR1030)
  - a. The Certified Schooling Supervisor's or official competition Steward's decision regarding schooling rules in the warm-up/schooling area is final.
  - b. Competition Management is responsible for providing a Category 1 Steward or Certified Schooling Supervisor to supervise schooling in the Hunter schooling area during any Hunter class offering \$10,000 or more in prize money.

6. Within the thirty minutes prior to the scheduled start of the class, any schooling over obstacles by an entry in a class of \$10,000 or more, or any USHJA National Hunter Derby or USHJA International Hunter Derby must be done in a designated area.
7. The use of FEI approved safety cups is mandatory in all warm-up/schooling areas on the back rails of all oxers. If an oxer is set so that it may be jumped in both directions, safety cups must be used on all top rails. It is the Competition Manager's responsibility to ensure sufficient FEI approved safety cups are available in each warm-up/schooling area, the competitor's responsibility to use the safety cups in the schooling area, and the Steward or CSS's responsibility to ensure the safety cups are being used.
8. The unsafe use of electronic devices, as determined by the competition steward in their sole discretion, including cell phones, while mounted is prohibited in all areas designated for schooling and exercise, and while lunging horses on competition grounds. Earphone(s)/Earbud(s) are prohibited in areas designated for schooling and exercise.
9. It is important to remember that all exercise areas are different in size, type of footing, and jump material provided. Furthermore, the ability of the horse and rider must always be taken into consideration as well when deciding what is permitted and not permitted during preparation.
10. In the schooling/exercise areas during the preparation before competition, a minimum of one vertical and one oxer must be provided. The ground must be in good condition. Management must provide sufficient obstacle material. The jumping area should be large enough to provide sufficient room for the training.
11. Obstacles may be flagged, in which case they must be jumped in the proper direction. The Steward, and/or Schooling Supervisor should decide if the flags may be interchanged.
12. No one may hold a rail or touch a standard while it is being jumped.
13. 10 All rails must be either in cups or totally on the ground (exception: one end of a cross rail may rest on the ground). Rails must be able to fall easily when hit.
14. If a rail is placed on the edge of a cup it must be placed on the far side of the cup, and is only allowed at an oxer if it does not cause the front rail to be higher than the back rail (i.e. offset).
15. Walk rails may be no higher than 12" at the highest point. A walk rail may be parallel to the ground with both ends in cups, or may have one end resting on the ground. Cross rails are NOT allowed. Ground rails are NOT permitted. Horses will approach and depart in a straight line only and may NOT be turned.
16. There may never be more than two (2) rails on the back of an oxer, with the lower rail equal in height to the lowest rail on the front of the oxer. If the oxer is flagged so that it may only be jumped in one direction, there may only be one (1) rail on the back.
17. Ground lines are not mandatory, however if they are used they must be placed either directly below the front of the jump or up to 1 m (3'3") out. If a ground line is used on the landing side of a jump, there must be one on the take-off side, and it may not be any further out than the one on the take-off side. If an oxer is flagged so it may only be jumped in one direction, the ground line is only permitted on the front of the oxer.
18. If a trot, canter or placement rail is used, it may not be used at a jump higher or wider than 1.30m (4'3"). If used on the take-off side, it may not be closer than 2.50m (8'2"). If used on the landing side of a vertical, it may be no closer than 3.0m (9'10"). If used on the landing side of an oxer, it may be no closer than 20' from the back rail of the oxer.
19. If guide rails are used on the landing side of a jump, the closest part of the rail must be a minimum of 3 m (9'10") from the jump. The schooling supervisor may allow a shorter distance for ponies.
20. A cross rail may be made either by itself, in which case it may not exceed 1.30 m (4'3") in height, or be below a rail at a vertical, or the front of an oxer.
21. Swedish Oxers are permitted with the following stipulations: a) no more than a 6" height difference (low to high points) for ponies, and b) no more than an 18" height difference (low to high points) for horses.
22. If an item (blanket, cooler, etc.) is laid over the rail of an oxer, it may be laid over the front rail. If there is more than one rail on the front of the oxer, the item may be laid over any of those rails.
23. The use of materials which proves dangerous is forbidden, **this includes but is not limited to lattices.**
24. If space and available material allows and safety conditions permit, combinations may be built using correct distances. Bounce jumps may only be used with verticals and may not exceed 1.10m (3'7") in height.
25. Any action deemed not in the best interest of the horse will not be allowed.

26. The total maximum weight of equipment allowed to be added to a horse's leg, front or hind (single or multiple boots, fetlock rings, etc.), is 500 grams or 17.637 ounces (shoe excluded). Failure to comply with this paragraph will incur disqualification.
27. The use of draw reins, chambons, de gogues, or similar tack when schooling over fences must be done in a safe manner. If draw reins, chambons, de gogues, or other similar tack attach to the girth between the legs, they must be run through a yoke or neck strap, and if attached on the side, they must be attached to the saddle or billets.

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