



2023 USEF Pony Jumper National Championships Selection Procedures

Modifications in *blue italics*

The United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) Jumping Sport Committee will oversee the selection process, which will be reviewed and approved by the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors.

The USEF Pony Jumper Championships will be held in conjunction with the United States Pony Finals, Lexington, in Kentucky August 10-12, 2023. A Team Championship and an Individual Championship will be offered. The Team Championship will be a modified Nation's Cup format (two rounds on the same day). The Individual Championship will be a multi-round competition. Fence heights will be a maximum of 1.15m.

I. MINIMUM ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

- A. Athletes wishing to participate in the USEF Pony Jumper Championships must be U.S. citizens.
- B. The athlete must be a current USEF Junior member in good standing (see GR128) at the time of application and through the conclusion of the Event
- C. The athlete must be a current USHJA member (see JP 100.1) at the time of application and through the conclusion of the Event.
- D. The zone of each athlete is determined by the athlete's point state as recorded with USEF as of December 1, 2021 (See JP 100.5).
- E. The pony must be recorded with USEF pursuant to USEF GR 1102, in good standing under USEF rules, and shown under the owner of record.
- F. The pony must be registered with USHJA (see JP 100.2) and the pony owner must be an active member of USHJA (see GR 1110).
- G. The pony must have a valid USEF measurement card prior to entry in any class used for qualifying and at the time of application.
- H. Athletes wishing to be considered for the 2023 USEF Pony Jumper Championships must complete and submit an application on-line at www.usef.org and pay the requisite application fee no later than *July 3, 2023 at 5:00PM EST*. The application fee is twenty-five dollars (\$25.00). This application states that the athlete and parent must certify by signing the application that they have read the Selection Procedures and the Code of Conduct and that they understand these documents and agree to be bound by them.

II. SELECTION

- A. Qualifying period – The Qualifying period for both the Zone and National Standings will be September 1, 2022 to *July 3, 2023*. The start date of a competition is used to determine if a qualifying class falls within a qualifying period. For example, if a competition starts on July 4, and the qualifying class is on July 6, the class will be included in a qualifying period that ends on July 3.
- B. Athlete/pony combinations will be selected based on their ranking on their Zones' Standing List, the National Standings List, or from the Open List for the USEF Pony Jumper Championships.
 - a. Zone and National Standings
 - i. Each Zone's Zone Standings and the National Standings can be found on the USEF web site at www.usef.org.
 - ii. Points (see III.B.vii) can only be earned at USEF Licensed Competitions (exceptions: points cannot be earned at Local Competitions).
 - iii. Athlete/pony combinations can acquire points in any Zone.
 - iv. Only points from the athlete/pony combination's three (3) highest point accumulating (see III.B.vii) Pony Jumper and/or Children's Jumper classes per competition will count towards the Zone and National Standings.
 - v. Pony Jumper classes must be run in accordance with JP 119.4.

- vi. Children's Jumper classes must be run in accordance with current Zone Specifications for the Zone in which the competition is held.
- vii. Points will be awarded in Pony Jumper classes and Children's Jumper classes held at 1.05m or above according to the point chart listed in GR 1133.2 as follows:
- viii.

| Exhibitors | 3-8 | 9-15 | 16-25 | 26+ |
|-----------------|-----|------|-------|-----|
| 1 st | 15 | 20 | 25 | 30 |
| 2 nd | 10 | 15 | 20 | 25 |
| 3 rd | 8 | 12 | 16 | 20 |
| 4 th | 6 | 9 | 12 | 15 |
| 5 th | 5 | 8 | 11 | 14 |
| 6 th | 4 | 7 | 10 | 13 |
| 7 th | 3 | 6 | 9 | 12 |
| 8 th | 2 | 5 | 8 | 11 |

- ix. Pony Jumper classes held at 1.05m or above, with less than three (3) exhibitors in a class, will receive points according to the faults and fence height in the first round as follows:

| | <i>number of faults</i> | | |
|-------|-------------------------|---------|-------|
| | 0-3 fts | 4-7 fts | 8 fts |
| 1.05m | 5 | 3 | 1 |
| 1.10m | 10 | 5 | 2 |
| 1.15m | 15 | 8 | 4 |

b. Open List

- i. Athlete/pony combinations wishing to compete in the Pony Jumper National Championships that are not ranked on the Zone Standings List or the National Standings List.
 - ii. Athlete/pony combinations must meet the minimum eligibility requirements in Section I.
- C. Verification of Standings - It is the responsibility of the athlete to verify the accuracy of the Pony Jumper National Championship Standings posted on the USEF website. USEF is not responsible for inaccurately reported results. If any errors are detected, athletes are encouraged to contact the USEF office immediately. Errors must be reported no less than three (3) business days after the standings are posted.

III. **INVITATIONS** - Each zone is invited to send a team ("Zone Team") or individual athlete/pony combinations to the USEF Pony Jumper Championships. Additional athlete/pony combinations will be invited according to their ranking on the National Standings List for the USEF Pony Jumper Championships (see II.C and III).

A. Zone Teams

- 1. Teams will consist of a minimum of three (3) athlete/pony combinations but not more than four (4) athlete/pony combinations.
- 2. All members of the Zone Team will participate in the Team Championship and the Individual Championship.

B. Combined Zone Teams

- 1. Zones unable to field a team may send up to two (2) athlete/pony combinations.
 - a. The Zone may apply to USEF to combine with another zone that is also unable to field a team; or

- b. USEF may combine Individual athlete/pony combinations into Combined Zone Teams.
- 2. USEF will make the final decision to combine zones.
- C. Additional athlete/pony combinations
 - 1. Athlete/pony combinations who have not been named to a Zone team will be invited to participate according to their ranking on the National Standings List for the USEF Pony Jumper Championships.
 - 2. The athlete/pony combinations from the National Standings List will compete in the Team and Individual Championships.
 - 3. Athlete/pony combinations who have applied to compete in the Pony Jumper National Championships but are not ranked on the Zone Standings List or National Standings List will be listed on the Open List and invited to compete in the Team and Individual Championships.
 - 4. USEF will make the final decision on the method used to combine these athlete/pony combinations into teams either by combining them with other additional athlete/pony combinations, or adding them to a Zone Team or Combined Zone Team which has fewer than four (4) athlete/pony combinations.
- D. Athletes are eligible to compete only one (1) pony at the USEF Pony Jumper Championships.
- E. If an Athlete declines to represent a Zone, they are ineligible to compete in the USEF Pony Jumper Championships an individual.
- F. Zone Selection
 - a. By no later than *July 28, 2023*, Zones will confirm their athlete/pony selections based on the applicant's ranking on their Zone's Standings dated *July 26, 2023*.
 - b. If an athlete has more than one pony in the top four positions of their Zone's Zone Standings, the athlete may choose with which pony he/she will compete and the next highest ranked athlete/pony combination will move into the vacancy.
- G. Additional Athlete/Pony Combination Selection –
 - a. By no later than *July 28, 2023*, USEF will confirm the athlete/pony combinations on the National Standings List dated *July 26, 2023* who have not already been selected on a team.
 - b. By no later than *July 28, 2023*, USEF will confirm the athlete/pony combinations on the Open List to compete in the Pony Jumper National Championships.
- H. Ties - In the event of a tie in either the Zone or National Standings, the tie will be broken by the number of points earned in classes held at 1.15m, followed by the number of points earned at 1.10m, followed by the number of points earned at 1.05m, followed by the number of first places, followed by the number of second places, and so on until the tie is broken.
- I. Substitutions
 - a. In the event that a selected athlete/pony combination representing a Zone is unable to compete due to illness and/or injury to an athlete or pony, or other unforeseen circumstances, the next highest ranked athlete/pony combination from that Zone's Standings dated *July 26, 2023* will move into the vacancy. If the vacancy is filled by an Additional athlete/pony combination from the National Standings List, then the next highest ranked athlete/pony combination from the National Standings List dated *July 26, 2023* will be invited to participate.
 - b. In the event that a selected Additional athlete/pony combination is unable to compete due to illness and/or injury to an athlete or pony, or other unforeseen circumstances, the next highest ranked athlete/pony combination from the National Standings dated *July 26, 2023* will move into the vacancy.
 - c. In the event the National Standings List is exhausted the Open List will be utilized. Athlete/pony combination(s) from the Open List will be selected by a random draw to fill the vacancy.
 - d. Substitutions will be accepted until 5:00 pm ET Monday *8, 2022*.
- J. Extraordinary Requests – Extraordinary requests from a Zone will only be considered if submitted between *July 3, 2023 and July 28, 2023* and only when the Zone has exhausted the list of eligible athlete/horse combinations on the Zone's Final Ranking.

- a. The request must be in writing to Erin Keating, Director Jumping Development Programs; ekeating@usef.org with copies sent to the athlete's Zone Jumper Committee, Zone Coordinator, and Chef d'Equipe.
- b. Athlete/pony combinations must meet the Minimum Eligibility Requirements outlined in Section I with exception to application deadlines.
- c. The request will be reviewed by the nonconflicted members of the athlete's Zone Jumper Committee or their designees, in consultation with the Zone Coordinator and Chef d'Equipe, if nonconflicted.

The request must have the recommendation of the USHJA Executive Committee or its designees, the USEF Jumping Sport Committee or its designees and final approval by the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the Board of Directors. In making their recommendation, the USHJA Executive Committee or its designees, the USEF Jumping Sport Committee or its designees will evaluate the past performance of the athlete and horse, including the ability to jump the size and difficulty of obstacles, the complexity of the course(s) and the required speed to avoid time penalties. The impact on other athletes already qualified / selected will also be considered.

I. EQUINE DRUG TESTING: Ponies competing in the USEF Pony Jumper Championships are subject to all USEF Drug and Medication rules.

II. VETERINARY INSPECTION:

- A. There will be a veterinary inspection at the USEF Pony Jumper Championships.
- B. Time and location for the veterinary inspection will be included in the USEF Pony Jumper Championships prize list.
- C. Ponies failing the veterinary inspection will not be permitted to compete.

VI. USEF BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES: The USEF Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found on the USEF's website www.usef.org. For more information about USEF grievance procedures contact Emily Pratt at epratt@usef.org.

VII. DISCLAIMER: These procedures are based on USEF rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in USEF rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The selection criteria are based on the latest information available. However, the selections are always subject to unforeseen, intervening circumstances, and realistically may not have accounted for every possible contingency.

VIII. QUESTIONS: Contact Erin Keating, USEF Director of Jumping Development Programs at ekeating@usef.org or (859) 225-2036

Please click [here](#) to view Pony Jumper Zone Coordinator contact information.

Additional USPC Requirements: Athletes must be current members in good standing of USPC with a minimum D3 rating and declare their intent to compete for USPC by March 10, 2023. Athletes must be members of USEF and ponies must be recorded with USEF at the time of declaring their intent to compete for USPC. USPC declared athletes will no longer be eligible to compete for their home Zone for the 2023 USEF Pony Jumper Championships qualifying period.

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