



# **NEW MEXICO HUNTER JUMPER ASSOCIATION STANDING RULES**

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## **ARTICLE I. UNITED STATES EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION (USEF)**

A. The USEF rules will govern in all instances except where New Mexico Hunter Jumper Association (NMHJA) Standing Rules differ from or when adjustment for local situations is appropriate.

B. The Association shall annually become an Affiliated Member of USEF.

## **ARTICLE II. MEMBERSHIP AND AWARDS YEAR**

The membership year will be December 1st to November 30th, to coincide with the USEF membership year. The membership year will also be used for Year End Award calculations and for horse recordings. NMHJA dues and recording fees are payable December 1st of each membership and awards year. Postmarked date of receipt of bona fide funds by the NMHJA Membership Committee or receipt by a designated representative such as, horse show secretary or NMHJA Board of Director, will determine official date and time of NMHJA membership and recording.

## **ARTICLE III. YEAR END AWARDS**

A. The NMHJA will offer the following High Point Year End Awards. Divisions can be divided or combined for year-end awards as deemed appropriate by the Board.

- |                                  |                               |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Pony Hunter                   | 10. Baby Green Hunter         |
| 2. Schooling Pony Hunter         | 11. Green Hunter (combined)   |
| 3. Low Children's/AA Hunter      | 12. Low Adult Amateur Jumper  |
| 4. Modified Children's/AA Hunter | 13. Low Children's Jumper     |
| 5. Children's Hunter Pony        | 14. High Children's Jumper    |
| 6. Children's Hunter             | 15. High Adult Amateur Jumper |
| 7. Adult Amateur Hunter          | 16. Junior/A.O. Jumper        |
| 8. Junior Hunter                 | 17. Pony Equitation           |
| 9. Amateur Owner Hunter          | 18. 11 and Under Equitation   |

19. 12 - 14 Equitation
20. 15 - 17 Equitation
21. Adult Amateur Equitation
22. Short Stirrup Rider
23. Medium Stirrup Rider
24. Long Stirrup Rider

25. Performance Hunter
26. Pre-Child/Adult Jumper
27. Open Jumper
28. Thoroughbred Hunter
29. Thoroughbred Jumper

B. Qualifications for NMHJA Year End Awards

1. All horses must be recorded with, and all owners and riders must be members in good standing of, NMHJA to be eligible for points to be counted for NMHJA Year End Awards, except for Equitation classes and Stirrup Divisions, for which only the rider must be a member. An official USEF lease shall be construed as ownership except in classes restricted to Amateur Owners.
2. If an exhibitor wishes to join NMHJA or record a horse at an approved horse show, he or she must fill out the proper form(s) and pay the show secretary, or a current NMHJA Board of Directors. Any application filed at an approved show will be counted as joined as of the first day of the show.
3. To qualify for Year End Awards in the Hunter Divisions, horses must complete at least one applicable course over fences.

C. Classes to count for Year End Awards

1. Pony Hunter: As defined by USEF.
2. Schooling Pony Hunter: Open to ponies not exceeding 14.2 hands to be ridden by a Junior Exhibitor as defined by USEF. All ponies must have a current measurement card or valid measurement form issued by USEF. No jog. Fences will be set at 2'0" and 2'6" with spreads not to exceed fence height. Riders may choose which height to jump, regardless of pony size.
3. Low Children's/Adult Amateur Hunter: Open to horses ridden by Adult Amateur or Junior Exhibitors as defined by USEF. Horse/rider combination may not cross enter into any division or class with fences exceeding 3' at the same show except Equitation and Medal classes. No jog. Fence height 2'6" with spreads not to exceed fence height.
4. Modified Children's/Adult Amateur Hunter: Open to horses ridden by Adult Amateur or Junior Exhibitors as defined by USEF. Horse/rider combination may not cross enter into any division or class with fences exceeding 3' at the same show except Equitation and Medal classes. No jog. Fence height 2'9" with spreads not to exceed fence height.
5. Children's Pony Hunter: As defined by USEF.

6. Children's Hunter: As defined by USEF.
7. Adult Amateur Hunter: As defined by USEF.
8. Junior Hunter: As defined by USEF.
9. Amateur Owner Hunter: As defined by USEF (3'3" & 3'6" combined).
10. Baby Green Hunter: Open to all horses or ponies showing in its first or second year of showing and not having shown 2'9" or higher as defined by USEF. The course will be a hunter course with no combinations. Trotting will not be penalized. No jog. Fence height 2'6".
11. Green Hunter: As defined by USEF.
12. Low Adult Amateur Jumper: As defined by USEF.
13. Low Children's Jumper: As defined by USEF.
14. High Children's Jumper: As defined by USEF.
15. High Adult Amateur Jumper: As defined by USEF.
16. Junior/Amateur Owner Jumper: As defined by USEF.
17. Pony Equitation: Hunt Seat Equitation as defined by USEF; restricted to Junior Exhibitors riding ponies. All ponies must have a current measurement card or valid measurement form issued by USEF. Fences will be set at 2'0" and 2'6" with spreads not to exceed fence height. Riders may choose which height to jump, regardless of pony size.
18. 11 and Under Equitation: Hunter Seat Equitation as defined by Zone 8; restricted to riders age 11 and under. Fence height 2'3"- 2'6".
19. 12 - 14 Equitation: Hunter Seat Equitation as defined by Zone 8; restricted to riders age 12 - 14. Fence height 3'0"- 3'3".
  - i.
20. 15 - 17 Equitation: Hunter Seat Equitation as defined by Zone 8; restricted to riders age 15 - 17. Fence height 3'0"- 3'6".
  - i.
21. Adult Amateur Equitation: Hunter Seat Equitation as defined by USEF; restricted to adult riders age 18 - 35 and 36+ to be shown over a course of not less than eight fences and the fence height cannot exceed 3'3".
22. Short Stirrup Rider: Open to riders 12 and under as defined by USEF. Fence height 2'0". Rider may not cross enter into any division or class with fences exceeding 2'9" at the same horse show. Rider may ride only one horse in this

division per show. This is a BEGINNER division.

23. Medium Stirrup Rider: Open to riders 13 - 17 as defined by USEF. Fence height 2'0". Rider may not cross enter into any division or class with fences exceeding 2'9" at the same horse show. Rider may ride only one horse in this division per show. This is a BEGINNER division.

24. Long Stirrup Rider: Open to amateurs as defined by USEF. Fences height 2'0". Rider may not cross enter into any division or class with fences exceeding 2'9" at the same horse show. Rider may ride only one horse in this division per show. This is a BEGINNER division.

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25. Performance Hunter: As defined by USEF (3'3" and 3'6" combined).

26. Pre-Child/Adult Jumper - Open to horses ridden by Adult Amateur or Junior Exhibitors as defined by USEF. Horse/rider combination may not cross enter into any division or class with fences exceeding 1m at the same show except Equitation and Medal classes. Fence height 0.8m (2'7") - 0.9m (2'11").

27. Open Jumper - No entry restrictions. Any horse, regardless of money won, is eligible to compete in this section. The specific height at which the class or section is being offered must be stated in the prize list. Minimum fence height of 1.15m (3'9").

28. Thoroughbred Hunter: As defined by USEF.

29. Thoroughbred Jumper: As defined by USEF.

#### **ARTICLE IV. MEDAL CLASSES**

A. NMHJA offers the NMHJA Medal classes to stimulate interest among riders toward attaining the highest standards of horsemanship. A rider is not required to be a NMHJA member to compete, but only riders who are members NMHJA will have points recorded. Points are awarded to the rider (not the horse), provided the rider is a NMHJA member. In all classes, three riders must have shown over the course for points to count. NMHJA Hunt Seat Equitation Champions will be determined by the rider who has accumulated the most points for the respective Medal.

B. General Medal Specifications: To be shown over a minimum of eight hunter fences set at the required height including at least two changes of direction after the first fence. At least 1/3 of the obstacles should be oxers (except for the Pony and Mini

Medal). A combination is recommended for the Junior/Amateur and Children's Adult Medals. In addition, all courses should include at least two of the following:

1. Bending Line
2. Narrow Jump (6' - 8')
3. Roll-back Turn
4. Fence at the end of the ring
5. Long approach to a single jump.

Two or more tests of the top four competitors are required. The same horse/pony must be used in all phases. Only one rider per horse.

C. Specific Medal Specifications.

1. NMHJA Junior/Amateur Medal: Open to Junior and Amateur riders. No cross entry of rider into NMHJA Children's/Adult Medal at the same show. Fences will be set at 3'0" and 3'3". Riders may choose which height to jump.
2. NMHJA Children's/Adult Medal: Open to Junior and Amateur riders. No cross entry of rider into NMHJA Mini Medal at the same show. Fence height 2'9".
3. NMHJA Mini Medal: Open to Junior and Amateur riders. Fences will be set at 2'3" and 2'6". Riders may choose which height to jump.
4. NMHJA Pony Medal: Open to Junior riders on ponies. All ponies must have a current measurement card or valid measurement form issued by USEF. Fences will be set at 2'0" and 2'6". Riders may choose which height to jump, regardless of pony size.

## **ARTICLE V. HORSE SHOW APPROVALS**

A. Requirements:

1. Application for Non-NMHJA Managed Shows:
  - a. Forms shall be made electronically available to show managers from the NMHJA website.

B. Ratings:

1. Division/Class Ratings: NMHJA approved show ratings shall correspond directly to USEF ratings published for that horse show. Shows not rated by USEF,

but approved by NMHJA, shall receive points equivalent to a USEF C rated show.

## ARTICLE VI. POINTS

A. NMHJA shall award year-end points in accordance with the following points chart:

Rating: First thru Eighth

AA Rating – 25, 20, 16, 12, 11, 10, 9, 8

A Rating – 20, 15, 12, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5

B Rating – 15, 10, 8, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2

C Rating – 10, 6, 4, 3, 2, 1.5, 1, 0.5

Model Classes – One-half of the above points

Classic Classes – Double points

B. Additional Requirements:

1. Points shall be awarded for all divisions, including Equitation and Stirrup classes, regardless of the division name (e.g., Rusty, Long), age specification range (e.g., 11 and under, 12 - 14, etc.), and fence height when the rider competes in the age appropriate division as specified in the prize list.

2. Points shall be awarded when show management combines similar divisions due to lack of entries (e.g., Long and Short Stirrups, Junior and Amateur Owner Hunters, Equitation classes).

3. Points shall be awarded when the prize list division/class specifications, such as fence height and eligibility to compete, meet or exceed NMHJA division specifications of the same type of division regardless of the specific division/class name (e.g., Low, Modified, Pre-Adult/Children's Hunter/Jumper).

4. When there is a range in fence heights in a particular hunter division, NMHJA will award points earned in that division to a NMHJA-comparable division utilizing the higher-end of the fence height specification (e.g., fence heights of 2'6" to 2'9" in a comparable division will be awarded in NMHJA's Modified Adult Amateur Hunter division, which is a 2'9" division).

5. Points shall be awarded to the rider (not the horse) for Stirrup and Equitation divisions/classes.

6. Should a question of eligibility of points arise, determination of points awarded shall be voted on by simple majority by the Board of Directors at a

Board meeting.

7. As determined by the grievance procedure set forth in Article VII of these Standing Rules, no Year-End points will be awarded if a class or division is not conducted or an exhibitor does not show in accordance with USEF and/or NMHJA rules in effect at the time.

8. No points shall be awarded in classes if less than three exhibitors have shown. Exception: At an "A" or "AA" rated USEF hunter/jumper competition when it is required that the hunter division be held over two days, if there are less than three exhibitors the second day, year-end points will still apply.

9. If a show offers the required number of classes in each division to qualify for a certain rating and some classes do not fill, those classes held meeting the minimum exhibitor requirements will count for NMHJA points at that rating.

## **ARTICLE VII. GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE**

A. NMHJA members should use the USEF protest, charge or grievance process regarding USEF approved shows (Subchapter 6-A, GR602).

B. A protest related specifically to NMHJA Standing Rules may be made by any NMHJA member in good standing to the Board of Directors as follows:

1. In writing,
2. Signed by the protestor,
3. Addressed to the Chair of Rules and Bylaws Committee,
4. Accompanied by a deposit of fifty dollars (\$50.00) (if check, payable to "NMHJA") said deposit will be refunded in the event the protest is upheld, and Received by a Board member within five (5) days after the conclusion of the horse show.

C. Within thirty (30) days of receipt of the written protest, the Rules and Bylaws Committee shall arrange the matter to be heard at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors. Should the next regular scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors convene in less than ten (10) days, then the matter will be considered at the next following scheduled meeting. Notice of the grievance hearing shall be sent at least ten (10) days in advance of the meeting to the complainant, the show manager, alleged offender, or any other person named in the protest as necessary to a fair determination of the complaint and all NMHJA members.

D. The Rules and Bylaws Chairman shall direct the Grievance Procedure including any questions or discussion. The complainant will present the issue of the grievance. The



alleged offender shall have the opportunity for reasonable rebuttal. In the absence of the Rules and Bylaws Chairman, the NMHJA President will preside over the Grievance Procedure.

E. Upon conclusion of the presentation, the Rules and Bylaws Chairman will submit to the NMHJA Board of Directors, *in written form*, the Grievance and the NMHJA Standing Rule(s) involved. If a NMHJA Board of Directors Member is the presenter of the Grievance or is in any way mentioned or involved in the Grievance, such Director will recuse himself or herself from the deliberation and vote by the NMHJA Board of Directors on the Grievance. If the Grievance is found to be valid, the NMHJA Board of Directors shall determine the appropriate remedial action if necessary.

F. The standard to be applied in reaching a grievance decision shall be the current NMHJA Rules and Bylaws at the time of the grievance.

G. The Board of Directors shall determine what notice, if any, shall be provided to the affected members.