

NEW MEXICO HUNTER AND 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 1 to November 30, 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 1 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, 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 must be offered, held, and judged in at least three NMHJA-approved shows during the membership and awards year. Divisions can be divided or split for year-end awards as deemed appropriate by the Board.

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| 1. Pony Hunter | 16. Modified Children's/Adult Amateur Jumper |
| 2. Schooling Pony Hunter | 17. Children's Jumper |
| 3. Low Children's/AA Hunter | 18. Adult Amateur Jumper |
| 4. Modified Children's/AA Hunter | 19. Low Junior/A.O. Jumper |
| 5. Children's Hunter (13 & under) | 20. Level 4 Jumper |
| 6. Children's Hunter (14 – 17) | 21. Open Jumper |
| 7. Adult Amateur Hunter (18 – 35) | 22. Pony Equitation |
| 8. Adult Amateur Hunter (35 & over) | 23. 11 and Under Equitation |
| 9. Junior Hunter | 24. 12 - 14 Equitation |
| 10. Amateur Owner Hunter | 25. 15 -17 Equitation |
| 11. Baby Green Hunter | 26. Adult Amateur Equitation |
| 12. Pre-Green Hunter | 27. Short Stirrup Rider |
| 13. Green Hunter | 28. Medium Stirrup Rider |
| 14. Regular Hunter | 29. Long Stirrup Rider |
| 15. Low Children's/Adult Amateur 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, who will note the date and time on the application so the points will count from that point on.
- 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 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 Hunter (13 & under): As defined by USEF Zone 8.
6. Children's Hunter (14 – 17): As defined by USEF Zone 8.
7. Adult Amateur Hunter (18 –35): As defined by USEF Zone 8.
8. Adult Amateur Hunter (36 & over): As defined by USEF Zone 8.
9. Junior Hunter: As defined by USEF.
10. Amateur Owner Hunter: As defined by USEF.
11. 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. The course will be a hunter course with no combinations. Trotting will not be penalized. No jog. Fence height 2'6"
12. Pre Green Hunter: As defined by USEF Zone 8.
13. Green Hunter: As defined by USEF.
14. Regular Hunter: As defined by USEF.
15. Low Children's/Adult Amateur Jumper: Open to horses or ponies ridden by Junior or Adult Amateurs as defined by USEF. Horse/rider combination may not cross enter into any division or class with fences exceeding Level 3 at the same show. Level 1
16. Modified Children's/Adult Amateur Jumper: Open to horses or ponies ridden by Junior or Adult Amateurs as defined by USEF. Horse/rider combination may not cross enter into any division or class with fences exceeding Level 3 at the same show. Level 2
17. Children's Jumper: As defined by USEF Zone 8.
18. Adult Amateur Jumper: As defined by USEF Zone 8.

19. Low Junior/Amateur Owner Jumper: As defined by USEF. Fence heights may be level 4 through 6.
 20. Level 4 Jumper: Open to horses and ponies. No cross entry restrictions. Level 4.
 21. Open Jumper: As defined by USEF. Level 5 and above.
 22. 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.
 23. 11 and Under Equitation: Hunter Seat Equitation as defined by USEF; restricted to riders age 11 and under. Fence height 2'3".
 24. 12 - 14 Equitation: Hunter Seat Equitation as defined by USEF; restricted to riders age 12 - 14. Fence height 2'9".
 25. 15 - 17 Equitation: Hunter Seat Equitation as defined by USEF; restricted to riders age 15 - 17. Fence height 3'0".
 26. Adult Amateur Equitation: Hunter Seat Equitation as defined by USEF; restricted to Adult Amateurs as defined by the USEF. Fence height 2'9".
 27. Short Stirrup Rider: Open to riders 12 and under. 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.
 28. Medium Stirrup Rider: Open to riders 17 and under. Fence height 2'6". 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.
 29. Long Stirrup Rider: Open to amateurs as defined by the 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.
- D. There will be an Awards Banquet after the last show of the year at a time and place to be determined by the Board of Directors.

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 complete 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 must 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 must include at least two of the following:

- Bending Line
- Narrow Jump (6'-8')
- Roll-back Turn
- Fence at the end of the ring
- 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. Fence height 3'3". No cross entry of rider into NMHJA Children's/Adult Medal at the same show.
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 3'.0"
3. NMHJA Mini Medal: Open to Junior and Amateur riders. Fence height 2'6".
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 and Fee Requirements for Non-NMHJA Managed Shows
 - a. Forms shall be made electronically available to show managers at www.NMHJA.org. Completed forms and a \$25.00 fee shall be submitted to the Board along with the application form prior to the start of the show. The Board, in its discretion, may elect to waive the fee requirement in the interest of NMHJA and its members.
 - b. The Expo New Mexico (State Fair) is exempt from paying an approval fee.
2. Show Management Requirements:
 - a. Prize lists shall be made available by mail or electronically to all NMHJA members.
 - b. NMHJA reserves the right not to allow points for any divisions that deviate from USEF or NMHJA specifications.
 - c. The prize list must state it has the NMHJA approval and include a NMHJA application for membership and horse/pony recording.
 - d. Results must be submitted, whether printed or electronically, to NMHJA within two weeks of the last day of the show.

- e. When show management, other than NMHJA, accepts application for membership to NMHJA said application must be sent by mail to the NMHJA post office box or delivered to a member of the NMHJA Board of Directors within 14 days of the close of the show.

B. Ratings

1. Division/Class Ratings: NMHJA approved show ratings shall correspond directly to USEF ratings published for that horse show.
2. Number of Class Entries Required for Class to Fill: Three entries are required to fill a class except as otherwise specified for Medal classes. 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 held with the minimum number of entries will count for NMHJA points at that rating.

Article VI. Points

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

<u>Rating</u>	<u>First</u>	<u>Second</u>	<u>Third</u>	<u>Fourth</u>	<u>Fifth</u>	<u>Sixth</u>
A Rating	30	18	12	6	3	1½
B Rating	20	12	8	4	2	1
C Rating	10	6	4	2	1	½
Model Classes	One-half of the above points					
Classic Classes	Double points as determined by USEF					

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 appropriate age division specified in the prize list.
2. Points shall be awarded when show management combines similar divisions (e.g., same fence height) due to lack of entries (e.g., Long and Short Stirrups, Junior and Amateur Owner Hunters).
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). 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 count in NMHJA's Modified Adult Amateur Hunter division (which is a 2'9" division)).
4. Points shall be awarded to the rider (not the horse) for Stirrup and Equitation divisions/classes.

5. Should a question of eligibility of points arise, determination of points awarded shall be voted on by simple majority at a Board meeting.
- C. 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.

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:
 - In writing,
 - Signed by the protestor,
 - Addressed to the Chair of Rules and Bylaws Committee,
 - Accompanied by a deposit of fifty dollars (\$50.00) (if check, payable to made out 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 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 shall determine what notice if any shall be provided to the affected members.