



The rulebook outlined in these pages is used to govern the Alabama Hunter Jumper Association. This rulebook helps to ensure a safe and fair horse show environment, assist show managers in running effective horse shows, and encourage sportsmanlike actions by all members, professionals, competitors, and associated persons. The text herein overrides all previous text including AHJA bylaws. If there are rulebook discrepancies are handled by the executive board.

This rulebook replaces the original rulebook as of February 1, 2024. (if approved)

- Warning -

Under Alabama Law, an equine activity sponsor or equine professional is not liable for an injury or death of a participant in equine activities resulting from the inherent risks of equine activities, pursuant to the Equine Activities Liability Protection Act.

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1. Definitions

- a. **Competition Year** – from December 1st to November 30th of the following year.
- b. **Age of Competitor** – age will be determined by the age of the competitors on December 1st of the competition year.
- c. **Amateur** – rider 18 years of age or older who is a non-professional. Amateurs do not receive payment of any kind for riding, showing, training, teaching, or other activities that would be considered a professional as outlined by the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF-03 General Rules, Subchapter 13-B Amateurs and Professionals, sections GR1306 and GR1308 for specific requirements and definitions for Amateur and Professional status). Amateurs can receive payment for grooming and hauling within the outlines of the AHJA.
- d. **Junior** – rider 17 years or younger.
- e. **Prize List** – outlines classes, fees, schedule, staff, and facilities of each horse show. The Prize List will also list any pertinent information for each show.
- f. **Steward** – keeper of the rule book at each show. Any questions regarding rules or procedures at shows will be directed to the steward. The steward will also access any judges cards for a rider, trainer, or parent who would wish to see them during the show day.
- g. **Pony** – Any equine animal who measures 14.2 hands or lower.
 - i. **Small Pony** – measure 12.2 hands and under
 - ii. **Medium Pony** – measure 12.3 – 13.2 hands
 - iii. **Large Pony** – measure 13.3 – 14.2 hands
- h. **Horse** -Any equine animal who measure 14.3 hands or higher.
- i. **Kick Off Show** – the first show of the AHJA season. To be hosted and funded by the AHJA. The board of directors will select a committee to run this show.
- j. **Year End Show** -the final show of the AHJA season. To be hosted and funded by the AHJA. The board of directors will select a committee to run this show.
- k. **Hunter Classes** – to be judged on the horses' performance. Emphasis to be placed on suitability, movement, and overall style.
 - i. **Over Fences** – classes where horses are shown over a course of jumps.
 - ii. **Undersaddle** – Flat classes where all horses/ponies are shown collectively at the walk, trot, and canter (unless specified in the class descriptions below)
- l. **Equitation Classes** – to be judged on the rider. Emphasis to be placed on suitability, position, and overall style. Riders may only enter one equitation section per show.
 - i. **Over Fences** – classes where horses are shown over a course of jumps.
 - ii. **Equitation on the Flat** – flat class where all riders will show at the walk, trot, and canter (unless specified below). Judges can ask level appropriate testing.
- m. **Jumper Classes** – to be judged on time and faults.
- n. **Cross Entry** – outlines classes that riders can enter. If a cross entry restriction is broken, points will be revoked. Please read all divisions to abide by all cross-entry restrictions.

2. Membership Requirements

- a. The AHJA offers 4 levels of membership.
 - i. **Individual** – valid from the date of purchase to the end of the competition year. Covers one individual member.

- ii. Family – valid from the date of purchase to the end of the competition year. Covers two members of the same family.
 - iii. Farm – valid from the date of purchase to the end of the competition year. Covers the farm owner, trainer, and one additional rider.
 - iv. Lifetime – valid from the date of purchase for the entire lifetime of the member. Covers one individual.
- b. For horses to accumulate either regular local or rated circuit points both the owner and rider must be members in good standing with the association, USEF, and USHJA.
- c. In exchange for membership in the AHJA, its individual members, trainers, owners, exhibitors and show management agree to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Association, and each member, director, officer, agent, employee, attorney, successor or assign of the Association (collectively, the "Association Parties") from and against any and all damages, losses, claims, liabilities, injuries, costs or expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees, which the Association Parties, or any of them, might incur as a result of the AHJA's procedures
- d. Members must be in good standing with USEF, USHJA, and not have any restrictions from AHJA.
- e. All adult and professionals with USEF memberships must have completed and passed their Safe Sport Training.
- f. If a member has a pending hearing with Safe Sport that member's AHJA membership is suspended pending the Safe Sport verdict. If Safe Sport deems that a violation has occurred, the AHJA hearing committee will determine how the AHJA moves forward. The hearing committee has the power to decline membership, remove points, and or instill a permanent or temporary ban on any individual who is in violation of Safe Sport.

3. Attire

- a. Appropriate attire is required in all classes. Appropriate attire is separately defined for each discipline. If anyone enters the show ring without proper horse show attire, the judge is at liberty to penalize or refrain from pinning the participant. ASTM/SEI approved helmets must be worn at all times for all riders on horseback, regardless of age or Professional/Amateur status.
- b. Formal riding attire is required for all AHJA rated classes and all classes offered at the Kick- Off Show and End- Of- Year Show.
- c. Show management and judges have the right to waive coats. Coats will automatically be waived if the temperature is over 90 degrees.
- d. Riders are permitted to wear safety vest including body protectors and air vest.
- e. For hunter and equitation classes riders must wear a show coat, show shirt (with choker or tie), breeches or jodhpurs, belt, tall boots or paddock boots with garters.
 - i. Formal Attire – hunter classes requiring formal attire will consist of tan pants, with tall boots or garters. Rider will wear a shadbelly with a stock tie or a show coat with a tie (whichever is appropriate)?
- f. For jumper classes traditional, short, or long-sleeved riding shirts with choker or tie or polo shirt, breeches or jodhpurs, belt, tall boots or paddock boots with garters. Shirts must be tucked in. Show coats are optional.

- i. Formal Attire – jumper classes requiring formal attire must wear a show coat with a traditional short or long sleeve show shirt tucked in with tall boots or paddock boots with garters.
- g. The judge and/or Show Management may waive coats for any or all divisions at their discretion. If coats are waived, riders must wear traditional, short, or long-sleeved riding shirts with choker or tie. Shirts must be tucked in.

4. Tack Requirements

- a. Hunters
 - i. Hunters are to use an English saddle and bridle with a cavesson for all classes.
 - ii. Bits are limited to those approved by USEF in section HU126.
 - iii. Martingales are allowed in over fences classes only. They are prohibited in hunter under saddle. Horses showing in flat classes with a martingale will be eliminated.
 - iv. No boots of any kind are allowed on the horse in hunter classes.
 - v. Belly bands are not permitted in hunter classes of any kind.
- b. Equitation
 - i. Equitation riders are to use an English saddle and bridle with a cavesson for all classes.
 - ii. Bits are limited to those approved by USEF in section HU126.
 - iii. Martingales are allowed in over fences classes only. They are prohibited in equitation on the flat classes. Horses showing in flat classes with a martingale will be eliminated.
 - iv. Polos wraps and tendon boots are permitted in equitation on the flat and over fences classes.
 - v. Bell bands are not permitted in equitation classes of any kind.
- c. Jumpers
 - i. Jumpers are to use an English saddle and bridle with a cavesson for all jumper classes.
 - ii. Bell boots, polo wraps, and tendon boots are permitted in jumper classes.
 - iii. Running and standing martingales are permitted.
 - iv. Belly bands are permitted in jumper classes.
- d. General
 - i. Whips may not be longer than 30”.
 - ii. Spurs may be no longer than 1.5”.
 - iii. All riders must wear protective headgear while mounted and the chin strap must be buckled.
 - 1. Use of a cell phone or other electronic devices is discouraged while mounted.
 - iv. The use of draw reins, over checks, anti-grazing devices, and German martingales are all prohibited while showing.
 - v. Riders are permitted to wear safety vest including body protectors and air vest.

5. Back Numbers

- a. Riders must enter the show ring with the appropriate back number pertaining to their entry. Failure to do so will result in a no score for their round. Riders must have a new back number assigned at each show by the show secretaries. Numbers are assigned to horse/rider combinations.

6. Judging

- a. It is recommended that judges for a hunter show be selected from the AHJA Recommended Judge List, (this list may be obtained from the AHJA President) and be approved by the Show Committee Chairperson at least four weeks prior to the date of the show. Most judges that are "r" or "R" USEF rated judges will be approved as long as they are in good standing with USEF. New judges may be added to the list at the discretion of the Show Committee. Judges may not be asked to officiate at AHJA hunter shows more than twice a year in the upper ring (main hunter ring) and twice a year in the lower ring.
 - i. *Note: If you anticipate 70 or more entries, we recommend show management hire a USEF licensed "r" or "R" hunter judge(s).
- b. Judge's Course Discretion
 - i. The judge has full authority to approve, disapprove, change, or alter any course which he/she feels does not meet generally accepted safety standards or generally accepted course design standards.
- c. Showing un-judged is prohibited at any AHJA recognized show unless entered in a "warm-up" class. Having warm up classes must be approved by the show committee chairperson when the prize list is approved. Warm-up classes cannot be added after the prize list has been approved. The maximum fee for a warmup class is \$25 and only one warm up class is allowed per horse per day per ring.

7. Horse Welfare

- a. The following acts are prohibited:
 - i. Riding an exhausted horse.
 - ii. Excessive pressuring of a tired horse.
 - iii. Riding or lunging an obviously lame horse.
 - iv. 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.
 - v. Using a whip on a horse while unmounted from the ground.
 - vi. Any striking of the horse's head (on the poll or forward of the poll shall be deemed excessive.
 - vii. Repeated jerking on the reins and sawing on the bit unless applied to an unruly horse that is jeopardizing his own safety or the safety of his rider.
 - viii. Improper use of the bit resulting in bleeding, broken skin or broken mucous membrane.
 - ix. Excessive use of the spurs or spurring resulting in broken and bleeding skin.
 - x. Rapping the legs of a horse with the butt end of a riding crop or other implement.
 - xi. Poling.

- xii. Use of a wire or chain in conjunction with any schooling jumps.
- xiii. Use of electronic shock devices in schooling or showing.
- xiv. Showing a horse with hypersensitive, raw or bleeding sores around the cornets, pasterns, legs or body.
- xv. Withholding of feed or water for prolonged periods.
- xvi. Inhumane treatment of a horse in a stall, aisle, schooling area, competition ring or elsewhere on the competition grounds, by any person.

Class Descriptions, Points, & Shows

The following class descriptions and heights are the AHJA approved heights and will be measured from the top of the tallest element to the ground. Should a rider show at a recognized out-of-state division where fence heights exceed an AHJA maximum division height restriction, the rider will not be prevented from showing in his/her regular division at in-state shows. For example, a rider whose regular division is Long Stirrup, which has a 2'0" maximum height for AHJA, may show in Pensacola's Long Stirrup, which is 2'3", and still show in AHJA Long Stirrup.

NOTE: The AHJA abides by all USEF bit and tack restrictions for Hunter, Equitation and jumper divisions. In addition, all Hunter and Equitation over fences classes are allotted three (3) refusals before being excused. Furthermore, the AHJA recommends having your horse(s) yearly vaccinations done before you begin your show season. Coggins are required before back numbers can be given at the show.

Courses should be designed with level appropriate questions that meet the specifications below. Jump rails should be between 10' and 12' in length. The show committee can request that courses be changed no later than 1 hour prior to the show's start time.

One round (second hunter) per show is allowed to be a handy style course with a trot jump and roll back. This is limited to pre-child/adult hunter, modified hunter, low hunter, child/adult hunter, AHJA hunter, jr/am hunter, children's pony hunter, and regular pony hunter.

Flat Classes: all flat classes will be judged with the appropriate gaits and shown in both directions. The judge and in gate staff may choose to divide classes for safety and work in the horses/ponies in multiple groups. One set of ribbons will be awarded, and all horses must be shown equally.

Over Fences Classes: horses are to be shown over a course of jumps that meets the requirements listed below. Judges are to not penalize an appropriate and well executed add step.

Divisions must consist of two over fences and one flat class. Equitation sections will have one flat and one over fences class.

Over 8 Rule

A single horse may not show in more than (8) hunter over fences classes in an AHJA show Day.

Horses are limited to (8) over fences classes per day at the Kickoff Show or Year End Show where hunters and jumpers are both offered.

In jumper shows (where no rated hunter classes are offered) horses are limited to (5) over fences classes per show day.

Divisions

b. Walk/Trot (8 & Under and 9 & Over) Hunter & Equitation

- i. Specifications– Open to horses and ponies to be shown over a course of 4 ground poles (one line set on each long side of the arena). Each element will consist of a single ground pole. To be shown at the trot. Courses to be trotted and no opening circles are not permitted. Flat classes will be shown at the walk and trot. Judges can ask for level appropriate testing in the flat classes.
- ii. Cross entry – riders can only enter the age appropriate crosspole section (hunter or equitation) at any AHJA recognized show. If a rider enters any other class or division, excluding the appropriate crosspole division, at an AHJA sanctioned, recognized, or affiliated shows they will be no longer eligible to compete in any walk trot section (hunter or equitation). Riders are not eligible to compete in any jumper classes.
- iii. Limitation – riders may compete in this division for two show years. Trainers may reach out to the board for special consideration.

c. Crosspole (8 & under and 9 & Over) Hunter & Equitation

- i. Specifications – Open to horses and ponies to be shown over a course of 4 jumps (one line set on each long side of the arena). Each jump will consist of a crosspole that measures no bigger than 12” at the cross. Courses to be shown at the trot, canter, or combination. Opening circles are optional and can be eliminated at show management’s decision. Flat classes will be shown at the walk, trot, and canter with equitation on the flat being allowed level appropriate tests.
- ii. Cross entry – riders can only enter the age-appropriate walk trot section (hunter or equitation) at any AHJA recognized show. If a rider enters any other class or division, excluding the appropriate walk trot division, at an AHJA sanctioned, recognized, or affiliated shows they will be no longer eligible to compete in any walk trot section (hunter or equitation). Riders are not eligible to compete in any jumper classes.
- iii. Limitation – riders may compete in this division for two show years. Trainers may reach out to the board for special consideration.

d. Hopeful Hunter

- i. Specifications- Open to horses or ponies shown by junior, amateurs, or professionals to be shown over jumps 2’ in height with no flower boxes, fill, or oxers. Courses will be 4 jumps (one line set on each long side of the arena). Courses can be trotted, cantered, or a combination. Horse must be in their first year of showing.
- ii. Cross Entry – horses can only show in hopeful hunter or starting hunter at the same show and are not permitted to show in any jumper classes.
- iii. Limitations – horses and ponies can only be shown in this division for one show year.

e. Short Stirrup Hunter & Equitation

- i. Specifications - open to horses or ponies shown by riders whose competition age is 12 years of age or younger. Courses consist of at least 6 jumps with no

more than 8 jumps. Jumps to be 2' in height with appropriate fill. No oxers are allowed. Courses will be an inside, outside, inside, and outside pattern. Courses can be trotted, cantered, or a combination.

- ii. Cross Entry – riders are permitted to show in only starting hunter at the same show and the .65m jumpers at jumper shows.

f. Long Stirrup Hunter & Equitation

- i. Specifications - open to horses or ponies shown by riders whose competition age is 13 years of age or older. Courses consist of at least 6 jumps with no more than 8. Jumps to be 2' in height with appropriate fill. No are oxers allowed. Courses can be trotted, cantered, or a combination.
- ii. Cross Entry – riders are permitted to show in only starting hunter at the same show and .65m jumpers at jumper shows.

g. Starting Hunter

- i. Specifications – Open to horses and ponies shown by juniors, amateurs, or professionals. Courses consist of at least 6 jumps with no more than 8 jumps. Jumps to be 2' in height with appropriate fill. No oxers allowed. Courses will be an inside, outside, inside, and outside pattern. Courses can be trotted, cantered, or a combination.
- ii. Cross Entry – horse/rider combinations can only show in hopeful, short stirrup, long stirrup, or .65m jumpers at the same show or jumper shows where applicable.

h. Schooling Pony Hunter

- i. Specifications – open only to ponies ridden by junior riders. Fences 2' with appropriate fill and no oxers or combinations.
- ii. Cross Entry – pony/rider combinations can only cross enter into the children's ponies, regular pony, schooling hunter, or .65m jumpers at the same show or jumper shows where applicable.

i. Children's Pony Hunter & Equitation

- i. Specifications – open to ponies ridden by junior riders. Fence heights follow pony heights. All ponies to be scored on the same card and flat collectively. Pony measurement cards must be presented upon request of show management.
 - 1. Small & Medium Ponies – 2'
 - 2. Large Ponies – 2'6"
- ii. Cross Entry – pony/rider combinations can only cross enter into the schooling pony, schooling hunter, .65m or .75m jumpers at the same show or jumper shows. Pony/rider combinations can NOT enter the regular pony hunter or regular pony equitation at the same show.

j. Regular Pony Hunter

- i. Specifications – open to ponies to be ridden by junior riders. Fence heights to follow pony heights. All ponies to be scored on the same card and flat collectively. Pony measurement cards must be presented upon request of show management.
 - 1. Smalls – 2'3"

- 2. Medium – 2'6"
 - 3. Large – 2'9"
 - ii. Cross Entry – pony/rider combinations can only cross enter into schooling pony, schooling hunter, .65m or .75m jumpers at the same show or jumper shows. Pony rider/combinations can NOT enter the children's pony or the children's pony equitation.
- k. Pony Model – to only be offered at Kick Off Show and the Year End Show
 - i. Specifications - To be judged on confirmation, soundness, and presentation. Ponies entered in the schooling pony, children's pony, and regular pony hunter will all be eligible to compete in this class. It will not count for yearend awards but rather a special educational attraction. Riders will line their ponies up in a single file line and allow the judge to examine them for confirmation. Rider will jog their ponies one at a time to the end of the line on the judge's cue then be rearranged to determine placements. Showing attire required. Ponies are to be present in a USEF approved hunter bridle and bits. Riders may carry a crop.
 - ii. Cross Entry – only open to ponies showing in the schooling pony, regular pony, and children's pony hunters at the Kick Off Show and Year End Show.
- I. Regular Pony Medal**
 - i. Specification - open to juniors riding ponies. This is a one round class to be judged on the rider's position and execution for the given course. Riders must jump at the given height of their mount (see below). After all jumping rounds are completed, riders may be tested at judges' discretion. Riders are to remain on the same mount for all testing.
 - 1. Smalls – 2'3"
 - 2. Medium – 2'6"
 - 3. Large – 2'9"
 - ii. Cross Entry – pony/rider combinations can only cross enter into schooling pony, schooling hunter, .65m or .75m jumpers at the same show or jumper shows. Pony rider/combinations can NOT enter the children's pony or the children's pony equitation.
- m. Schooling Hunter**
 - i. Specification – open to horses and ponies ridden by juniors, amateurs, or professionals. Fences 2'3" with no oxers or combinations.
 - ii. Cross Entry – horse/rider combinations are allowed to cross enter any division where applicable.
- n. Pre-Children's/Adult Hunter & Equitation**
 - i. Specifications – open to horses ridden by juniors or amateurs. Jumps to be 2'3"- 2'6" in height.
 - ii. Cross Entry – riders can not cross enter into any class where fences are 3'/.85m or higher at the same show or jumper shows.
- o. Baby Green Hunter**
 - i. Specifications – open to horses or ponies to be ridden by juniors, amateurs, or professionals. Fences 2'6". Horses must be in their first or second year of

showing (The two years do not have to be consecutive years so long as the horse or pony is not shown at all over fences in the year(s) following the first Baby Green year.) Horses or ponies cannot jump 3'/.95m or higher at any show during the two years of baby green status. A horse or pony who shows over 3'/.95m or over is immediately ineligible to shown in the baby greens.

- ii. Cross Entry – horses and ponies may cross enter in any classes where the jumps are smaller than 3'/.95m and where other cross entry limitations allow. Baby greens are permitted to show in .85m jumpers but not the .95m or above.

p. Modified Hunter

- i. Specifications – open to horses or ponies to be shown by juniors, amateurs, or professionals with jumps set at 2'6".
- ii. Cross Entry – where eligible.

q. Low Hunter

- i. Specifications – open to horses or ponies to be shown by juniors, amateurs, or professionals with jumps set at 2'9"
- ii. Cross Entry – where eligible.

r. Child & Adult Hunter & Equitation

- i. Specifications – open to horses ridden by juniors or amateurs with jumps set at 3'.
- ii. Cross entry – horse/rider combinations cannot cross enter into the junior/amateur (hunter or equitation), or pre-child/adult (hunter or equitation) at the same show. Riders cannot cross enter into the pre-child adult (hunter or equitation).

s. Junior/Amateur Hunter & Medal

- i. Specifications – open to horses to be ridden by juniors or amateurs. Jumps to be set at 3'3". To be judged on the equitation of the riders. Judges can require additional testing of the top 4 riders.
- ii. Cross Entry – horse/rider combinations cannot cross enter into the child/adult (hunter or equitation), pre-child/adult (hunter or equitation), or modified hunter at the same show.

t. AHJA Hunter

- i. Specifications – open to horses to be ridden by juniors, amateurs, or professionals. Fences 3', 3'3", and 3'6" all fence heights to be scored on the same card.
- ii. Cross Entry – where eligible

8. Jumpers

a. Timers

- i. Show managers are required to use electronic timers for all jumper classes.
- ii. Start Line – to be 12' before the first jump & must be indicated with a marker.
 - 1. Markers must be 12' apart.
- iii. Finish Line – to be 24' after the last jump & must be indicated with a marker.
 - 1. Markers must be 12' apart.

- iv. Riders must cross both the start and finish line, mounted upon their horse and in the correct direction, to complete the course. A fall of horse or rider after the finished times does not disqualify a rider.
 - v. The judge will signal the rider with a horn or buzzer. The rider has 45 seconds to cross the start timer and begin their course. Time will continue to run until the horse and rider cross the finish timer. The judge will pause the time in the event of a major refusal that requires the rebuilding of a jump. This will be signaled with a horn or buzzer. Riders can resume their course on the second buzzer or horn.
 - vi. Horses are limited to 5 jumper classes at a jumper only show.
- b. Jumps
- i. Fences can be bright colored and consist of the following:
 - 1. Brush, boxes, gates, poles, panels, liverpools (not in .65m-.85m), walls, banks, coops. Wing standards are encouraged.
 - 2. Ground lines are optional.
 - 3. Breakaway cups are encouraged.
 - 4. Oxers can be squared or ramped but not offset.
 - ii. Courses are limited to 10 jumping elements per round and a jump off can have no more than 7 jumping elements.
- c. Jump Offs
- i. To be held over a shortened course of no more than 7 jumps. Jumps can be added or jumped in the opposite direction as long as they are properly marked.
- d. Faults
- i. Knockdown – 4 faults
 - ii. 1st Refusal – 4 faults
 - iii. 2nd Refusal – 4 faults
 - iv. 3rd Refusal – elimination
 - v. Fall of horse or rider – elimination
 - vi. Knockdown of timers – elimination
 - vii. Off Course – elimination
 - viii. Going over the time allowed – 1 fault per second over (rounded up)
 - ix. Riders taking longer than 45 seconds after the buzzer to cross the start line will be eliminated.
 - x. Starting before a judges signal to proceed – elimination
 - xi. Actions against the horses deemed to be excessive by the judge – elimination
- e. Jumper Heights
- i. .65m (2')
 - ii. .75m (2'5")
 - iii. .85m (2'9")
 - iv. .95m (3'1")
 - v. 1.0m (3'3")
 - vi. 1.05-1.10m (3'5"-3'7")
- f. Jumper Tables

- i. The AHJA will allow the following Jumper Tables.
 1. Table II, 2(b) – all riders will compete in the first round. Those clear will follow directly to the jump off (after the buzzer or horn from the judge)
 2. Table II, 2(c) – also known as power and speed. The course is split into 2 phases. The first phase is power where the rider needs to be clear within the time allowed. If the rider finished the first phase with no penalties, they would continue directly onto the speed portion (without stopping). If the rider has penalties, they will be buzzed out at the conclusion of phase one.
 3. Table II – also known as a speed class. Each horse/rider combination will jump the same course and the one with the fastest time and fewest penalties is the top of the class.
 4. Table VI section 1- Optimum time. The rider closest to the posted optimum time (over or under) will be the top of the class. Faults will be used the same as they would in scoring a traditional jumper round.
- g. Restrictions & Additional Information
 - i. .65m classes cannot have combinations but oxers are permitted.
 - ii. Horse/rider combination showing in the .65m jumpers can only cross enter into the .75m jumpers at the same show.
 - iii. Hunter classes can be cross entered where applicable (see hunter specs).
 - iv. The AHJA follows all USEF restrictions when it comes to tack.
 - v. All heights are open to juniors, amateurs or professionals on horses or ponies.
 - vi. Courses will be posted 30 minutes prior to the first class and when schooling is closed. Jumper numbers can also be posted at this time.
 - vii. All riders will be allowed to course walk after schooling has closed.
 - viii. Any additional rule or expectation will be outlined in the prize list.
 - ix. The judge can alter the time allowed after the first 3 horses jump the posted course.
 - x. Show managers can offer 3 classes per fence height. Only the first two classes offered will count toward the overall year end standings. Show managers who offer 3 classes are required to have champion and reserve champion prizes.

9. Local Rated Circuit

- a. USEF rated shows that have been sanctioned with the AHJA will accumulate points for our rated circuit. Only the following divisions are recognized in the rated circuit. These divisions will be eligible for overall Year End Awards.
 - i. Regular Pony Hunter (small 2'3", medium 2'6", large 3')
 - ii. Children's Hunter (3')
 - iii. Adult Amateur Hunter (3')
 - iv. Junior Hunter (3'3" and 3'6" – small and large)
 - v. Amateur Owner Hunter (3'3" and 3'6")
 - vi. Child/Adult Jumper (low and high)
- b. Rated participation will only count towards the local rated circuit and class restrictions.

10. AHJA Administered Shows

- a. Kick-Off Show
 - i. This show will be the official start to the AHJA season. Only Local Rated shows can be held prior to the Kick-Off Show.
 - ii. This show is open to both members and non-members.
 - iii. All specific rules and specifications will be outlined in the prize list.
 - iv. Additional classes such as classics, mini prix, derby, may be added to a class list but will not count for year end points.
- b. Year End Show
 - i. This show will be the official end to the AHJA season. Only Local Rated shows can be held after the Year End Show.
 - ii. Equitation Medal Classes
 1. The AHJA offers year end Medal classes for top qualifiers in certain Equitation Over Fences Divisions. The top twelve (12) riders—those with the highest point total in their class—will be invited to participate in the Medal Final for their division. If fewer than 12 riders commit to compete, additional riders may be invited to compete if they have scored 1 point. Invitations shall be extended in order of year-end point standings; in no event shall more than 12 riders compete. **A rider may only compete in one Medal final**, with the following exception: a rider may compete a pony in the Pony Medal and a horse in the Pre-Children's, Children's or Junior/Amateur Medal if that rider has qualified both animals. The following are the Medal classes offered:
 - Pony Medal (small: 2'3", medium: 2'6", large: 2'9")
 - Children's Pony Medal (small/medium: 2', large: 2'6")
 - Pre-Child/Pre-Adult Medal (2'6")
 - Children's/Adult Medal (3')
 - AHJA Junior/Amateur Owner Medal (3'6")
 - Walk Trot 8 & Under Medal
 - Walk Trot 9 and Over Medal
 - Crosspole 8 & Under Medal
 - Crosspole 9 and Over Medal
 - Short Stirrup Medal (2')

- Long Stirrup Medal (2')
2. All Medal classes are to be performed over a course with at least 2 changes of direction. Only one rider per horse/pony; testing at judge's discretion (USEF test).
 3. Riders who qualify in multiple medal finals must declare in the horse show office by noon on the first day of showing at the Year End Show. Riders must follow cross entry restrictions when selecting a final to compete in.
- iii. Additional classes such as classics, mini prix, derby, may be added to a class list but will not count for year end points.

11. Points

- a. AHJA members in good standing may accumulate points for placing in AHJA approved shows. Points for the year-end awards begin at the time the membership dues are paid. Individuals can join before any show, up to and including the day of the horse show. No person will earn any points until registered with the AHJA. The AHJA will tabulate points for year-end awards. The year-end awards are presented at the annual awards banquet.
- b. Only the divisions listed in the Rulebook are recognized for end-of-year awards. A division or class must be offered and completed in at least three AHJA recognized shows during the membership year in order for an end-of-year award to be presented. At least one entry must enter and compete for points in any class to count toward end-of-year awards. In over fences classes, at least one horse or pony must COMPLETE the course for points to count. If all entries are disqualified by three refusals, rider, or horse fall, or goes off course, the class will not count for points. Hunter divisions must have all three classes filled at that show for points to count for end-of-year points.
- c. Any questions regarding points or standings can be emailed to AHJApresident@gmail.com
- d. Points will be assigned using the following chart:

Class Entries	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
	1-3	10.00	6.00	4.00	3.00	2.00
4-4	14.00	10.00	8.00	7.00	6.00	5.50
5-5	15.00	11.00	9.00	8.00	7.00	6.50
6-6	16.00	12.00	10.00	9.00	8.00	7.50
7-7	17.00	13.00	11.00	10.00	9.00	8.50
8-8	18.00	14.00	12.00	11.00	10.00	9.50

9-9	19.00	15.00	13.00	12.00	11.00	10.50
10-10	20.00	16.00	14.00	13.00	12.00	11.50
11-11	21.00	17.00	15.00	14.00	13.00	12.50
12-12	22.00	18.00	16.00	15.00	14.00	13.50
13-13	23.00	19.00	17.00	16.00	15.00	14.50
14-14	24.00	20.00	18.00	17.00	16.00	15.50
15-15	25.00	21.00	19.00	18.00	17.00	16.50
Points continue by adding the number of entries to the "points base" (10, 6, 4, 3, 2, 1.5 respectively)						

i. The points multiplier is the number of entries in each class.

e. Champion and Reserve Champion

- i. Division with 3 classes will be awarded a champion and reserve champion.
- ii. Each placing will be assigned a point value based on the points listed below.

<i>1st</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>2nd</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>3rd</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>4th</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>5th</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>6th</i>	<i>1.5</i>

iii. In the event of a tie the first tie break is the horse with more points over fences. If a tie continues the tie break will be the first over fences class.

f. One Rider Per Class

- i. In the event there is only one rider participating in a given class or division, that rider's over fences, equitation and under saddle rounds will be scored and rewarded according to the following point scale:

75% and Up	1 st Place
60-74%	2 nd Place
59% and Under	3 rd Place

12. Perpetual Awards

- a. Final point standings for all perpetual awards will be determined by the total number of points accumulated at all AHJA Local-Rated shows. These awards will not be capped by the number of shows participated in.
- b. Starting in 2023 any perpetual award won by the same horse, rider, trainer, or horse/rider combination 3 years in a row will be retired.

- i. Retired trophies will either be given back to the person who donated the trophy, the last winner, the person who won the most, or to the AHJA.
- ii. The trophy committee will be responsible for retiring, maintaining, collecting, repairing, and allowing new trophies to be added.

13. Tie Break – Overall Year End Awards

- a. Year End Award point ties will not be broken. Only 10 ribbons will be awarded for walk trot and crosspole classes while 6 ribbons will be awarded for all other divisions. For example, if there is a tie for champion, two champion ribbons will be awarded but there will be no reserve.

Association Rules & Guidelines

1. Failure to comply with AHJA rules and/or class specifications may result in disqualification of points and/or a fine.
2. **Non-Member Participation**
 - a. Non-members may participate in any AHJA recognized horse show. Non-members must abide by all AHJA By-Laws and the AHJA Rulebook. Non-members are subject to the same penalties, sanctions, and eligibility that apply to AHJA members. Non-members are not entitled to earn points toward year-end awards. Additionally, a non-member fee will not be assessed to riders showing in Academy classes.
3. **Disputes & Protest Procedures**
 - a. Anyone can protest a or dispute an event or ruling at an AHJA rated or USEF rated show with AHJA affiliation.
 - i. Procedure or a Protest
 1. Protester will submit a written protest (emailed to AHJAPresident@gmail.com) along with a \$100 protest fee (check made out to the AHJA).
 2. Protest will be presented to the board of directors for consideration and then the Hearing Committee will be the deciding group on the resolution. The board will hear the full case, but the hearing committee will make the final decision.
 3. The aggrieved party will only plead their case before the hearing committee at a separate agreed upon time (this can be prior to or post to any board meeting).
 4. The hearing committee has full range to determine what actions they deem appropriate regarding the protest.
 5. If the protest is valid and upheld the protest fee will be refunded.
4. **Conduct**
 - a. At the discretion of Show Management, any act of discourtesy towards a Judge, show staff member, family member, or rider on the part of any participant, including any trainer, trainer's employee, owner, rider, or parent/guardian and/or other family member, may disqualify any horse with which the participants are associated and all entry fees may be forfeited.
 - b. The AHJA is dedicated to the health, welfare and safety of both its members and associated equine athletes, and as such:
 - i. The human use of illegal drugs or gratuitous foul language will not be tolerated at any time and may also result in a disqualification and loss of entry fees. Smoking cigarettes, nicotine, vape pens, or other smoking devices are also strongly discouraged. Show Management has discretion to ask any participant, trainer, trainer's employee, owner, parent/guardian or other family member to leave the show grounds.

- ii. The AHJA reserves the right to cancel an individual's AHJA membership, which will result in the forfeiture of end of year points and membership dues, for repeated continued violations of the above -referenced standards or, other standards listed in the rulebook, at any AHJA-sanctioned show. Revoking an individual's membership can only be done by the hearing committee and can apply to any situation that the committee deems appropriate.

5. AHJA Drug Policy

- a. The AHJA prohibits the use of sedatives or tranquilizers on equine athletes during an AHJA recognized show and adopts by reference as a guideline the current "USEF Drugs and Medication Rules" drawn up by the United States Equestrian Federation to assist its hearing committee in determining what constitutes a banned sedative or tranquilizer.
- b. The AHJA also discourages the off-label use of any prescription or over the counter medication on equine athletes. The AHJA acknowledges that some situations warrant legitimate, therapeutic treatment in connection with competition. Drugs and medications should never be a substitute for good horsemanship.
- c. By entering an AHJA recognized/affiliated/sanctioned show, trainers, riders, owners, and parents/legal guardians agree not to use sedatives or tranquilizers of any kind on an equine athlete within 24 hours of the show or during the show day. The above-mentioned parties also agree to use prescription and over the counter medication only for their labeled uses as recommended by a veterinarian. No injectable substances may be administered to any horse or pony competing in an AHJA recognized/affiliated/sanctioned show after 12:01 am on horse show day prior to competing unless prescribed by a veterinarian and with pre-approval in writing by the show steward.
- d. Any horse or pony on the grounds of an AHJA recognized/affiliated/sanctioned show is subject to being drug tested at any time.
- e. Drug Violation Penalty Structure
 - i. First Offense – Max \$500 fine and/or 3-month suspension of trainer and/or rider and /or horse and/or associated parties.
 - ii. Second Offense – Max \$1000 Fine and/or 6-month suspension of trainer and/or rider and/or associated parties.
 - iii. Third Offense – Min \$2000 – Max \$5000 Fine and/or 1 year suspension of trainer and/or rider and/or associated parties.
 - iv. Any fines due must be paid within 48 hours of notification from the hearing committee. Suspension will begin immediately following notification from the hearing committee.
 - v. Offenses and consequences will be recorded by the hearing committee and the hearing committee will investigate in accordance with the AHJA's by-laws and rulebook. Offenses must be reported in writing to the show steward or secretary within 24 hours of the offense or incident. Any offenses not timely reported to the show steward or show secretary via written eyewitness statement will be thrown out.

- vi. Fines collected will be donated to a charitable organization specializing in horses or horse-related activities, chosen by the AHJA Board, and will not be kept by the Alabama Hunter Jumper Association.

6. Non-Payment & Bad Payments

- a. Failure to make good on checks and credit cards to shows, fines, show sanctioning fees or other monetary responsibilities to the AHJA will result in suspension of showing for horse and/or rider until the check is made good. Show management will notify the AHJA President and AHJA Treasurer of any such problems that occur.
- b. Checks - A returned check to any AHJA sanctioned event will result in suspension of membership, and the individual/barn will be banned from participating in AHJA sanctioned events until restitution is made, as well as being responsible for a \$50 returned check fee owed to the farm to which the original check was written. Two instances of returned checks are allowed before individual/barn is no longer able to show at an AHJA sanctioned event for the remainder of the current show year unless payment is made in the forms of cash or money order at each show attended.
- c. Credit Cards - A declined credit card to any AHJA sanctioned event will result in suspension of membership, and the individual/ barn will be banned from participating in AHJA sanctioned events until restitution is made, as well as being responsible for a \$50 processing fee owed to the farm to which the original card was processed. Upon the decline of any credit card payment, a check must be left with the show secretary. Two instances of declined credit cards are allowed before individual/barn is no longer able to show at an AHJA sanctioned event for the remainder of the current show year unless payment is made in the forms of cash or money order at each show attended.

7. Stallions

- a. Junior riders (under 18 years of age) are prohibited from showing stallions in any Hunter or Equitation class. Junior riders are permitted to show stallions in Jumper classes. Amateurs and Professionals may show stallions in hunter classes only with prior approval of the show manager.

8. Pony Measurement

- a. A Show Committee Member should be on call to measure ponies at all AHJA recognized shows. USEF and AHJA pony cards from that competition year, (unless the pony has been issued a permanent card with either the USEF or AHJA) will be accepted. Ponies may receive and use a permanent USEF measurement card once they turn eight (8) years of age.

Show Managers Rulebook & Guidelines

1. Sanctioning Eligibility

- a. The following requirements must be met for a Show Manager to request sanctioning for a show date. The Show Manager MUST:
 - i. Be an AHJA member for the show year in which their show is held.
 - ii. Be an AHJA member in good standing for the previous two (2) consecutive years, uninterrupted and no suspensions on record.
 - iii. Be a trainer, barn owner, charitable organization, running a training business, or be a professional horse show management company who has been in business for the previous three (3) consecutive years.
 - iv. Must have submitted your request for a horse show in the upcoming year via an "Intent to Apply." This form must be given to the AHJA President and conveys your interest in hosting an AHJA sanctioned horse show. The AHJA President will notify all appropriate parties should their request not be approved. Submission of this form should be done the month before the annual Show Managers meeting and will be available to all parties wishing to apply at least two (2) months prior to the Show Managers meeting. Intent to Apply must be filled out by November 1 of the show year prior to the year in which the shows will be held.
 - v. In the previous year, you must have attended either the Kick-Off Show or End-of-Year Show. Furthermore, you must have attended of a minimum of three (3) AHJA local sanctioned horse shows, other than your own, with either one (1) horse or one (1) student.
- b. NOTE: Please be aware that merely being a horse owner on record will not justify being given a show date. Proof of any of the above requirements may be requested and must be shown when requested prior to show date approval.
- c. The board of directors has the authority to limit the number of shows hosted during a show year.

2. Sanctioning Limitations

- a. The AHJA currently limits sanctioning per Show Manager* to only request one of the following (see section 3):
 - i. 1 Hunter Only Show
 - ii. 1 Hunter Only and 1 Jumper Only show.
 - iii. 1 Jumper Only Show
- b. NOTE: The Show Manager encompasses all those associated with that individual, which includes family members, employees, contractors, and clients (i.e. boarders, students, and family of students).

- c. Show managers holding their first AHJA recognized show will be allowed one date the first year and will be considered probationary. Once this show is held, the show committee will conduct a review of the show and upon approval, they will be allowed to hold another show the following show year and beyond, as sanctioning allows.
- d. Any new show managers are on a probationary status until the board votes them free from probation. Any show manager during their probationary years must have a co-show manager who assists with preparation and day of show operations. This co-show manager must have 5 years of show managing experience with the AHJA and be approved by the show committee.
- e. Purchasing or taking other show management's unwanted or cancelled reserved dates is NOT allowed.
- f. The AHJA will only recognize one local show per day.
- g. The association allows for 5 jumpers only shows and 14 hunter only shows per year. This does not include the Kickoff Show or Year End Show. The board of directors has the authority to alter these numbers as they see fit.

3. Jumper Show Sanctioning

- a. The AHJA allows 5 standalone jumper dates per year.
- b. Managers wishing to have a jumper date must submit a request 30 days prior to the show managers' meeting and must agree to the following procedures during their show.
 - i. Electronic jumper timers must be used with laser eyes.
 - ii. Jumper jumps must be used (colored rails with appropriate fill).
 - iii. Have a legitimate jumper course.
- c. All qualifying show managers will have their names pulled from a hat to see who receives a jumper show date. The executive board will determine if someone is granted a jumper only date.

4. Show Date Additions, Rescheduling, & Cancellations

- a. No shows can be added after the show managers' meeting held in December of the current show year.
- b. Show Rescheduling
 - i. Show management desiring to swap show dates must make a written request (email is accepted) to the Show Committee Chairperson via the AHJAPresident@gmail.com at least eight (8) weeks prior to the earliest planned show date.
 - ii. Swapping show dates may involve two or more existing dates, or one reserved date to an open date. If dates are being swapped between two or more reserved dates, each show manager affected by this swap must submit a written request. All swapping or changing of show dates must be approved by the show committee. Any swap that is not approved will lose sanctioning. No refund will be granted for the show fee paid at the show managers' meeting.
 - iii. Rescheduling/swapping of show dates for any reason will have a \$50 rescheduling fee. Any rescheduling is subject to approval by the Show Committee Chairperson and is contingent on available dates and staff availability.
- c. Show Cancellation

- i. Shows cancelled for any reason will pay a \$100 show cancelation fee. No refunds will be made for show fees paid during the show manager meeting.
 - ii. Show managers who cancel their show date for reasons other than an “act of god” (i.e. weather, illness, disasters, etc.) will not be allowed to reserve a show date for the following year. Probationary (first-time) show managers who cancel their show date for reasons other than an “act of god”, will not be allowed to reserve a date for the following show year. The Executive Board will determine if the reason for cancellation is considered an “act of god.” All decisions regarding cancellations must be made no later than 5pm the day prior to the start of the show.
 - d. Show Management by Proxy
 - i. Show management who reserved a show date will not be allowed to relinquish their show management responsibilities to a different barn or stable. If the show manager, who requested the show date, is unable to fulfill their responsibilities to adequately run the horse show, their show date will be cancelled and open for other shows’ consideration. If show management by proxy is brought to the attention of the Board of Directors, the Board of Directors can the delegate, the decision to the Hearing Committee. If the Hearing Committee determines that show management by proxy took place, show management could lose all further show dates.

5. Show Fees

- a. Show fees are non-refundable and must be paid during the show managers’ meeting.
 - i. Hunter Show - \$100
 - ii. Jumper Show - \$75

6. 12 Hour Rule

- a. A recognized AHJA show will not exceed 12 hours. If an AHJA show does exceed 12 hours, show management will be responsible for paying for another day of showing at a cost of \$100.00.

7. Event Insurance

- a. All AHJA recognized shows MUST have liability insurance for each event. Each show must have at least \$1 million in coverage. Additionally, the AHJA as an organization MUST be listed as a co-insured.
- b. Proof of Insurance
 - i. Proof of insurance that meets the requirements must be submitted to the Show Committee Chair and emailed to the AHJA president (AHJApresident@gmail.com) by MARCH 1st of the current show year. Shows without proof of insurance will lose AHJA sanctioning, and their show(s) will become available to another eligible barn.

8. Approval Authority

- a. In addition to their roles and responsibilities as defined in the AHJA By-Laws, the Show Committee will be the final approval authority for adding, changing, swapping, and resolving all conflicts regarding show dates. The Show Committee will also be the final approval authority for probationary show acceptance and will determine the

probationary periods for current show management that have relinquished their good standing by not following AHJA rules and guidelines.

9. Show Requirements

a. Facility Requirements

- i. Show management should provide a fenced show ring large enough for at least eight (8) fences without endangering the horse or rider. Additionally, a second fenced ring is required for hunter shows that safely holds at least six (6) fences without endangering the horse or rider. Before the start of the show, courses do not need to be set exactly as they are to be jumped during the show. At least one of each type of fence to be used during the show, including an oxer and an 'in and out' if utilized, should be presented for pre-show schooling, or included in the warm-up round.
- ii. Rings should have footing free of holes, deep areas, large rocks and debris. Show rings must be fenced. Schooling areas do not require fencing, but it must be noted in the prize list if the schooling area is or is not fenced.
- iii. Show management must provide an adequate and safe schooling area, large enough for two (2) fences, to be available throughout the duration of the show. Fences should be a minimum of one (1) oxer and one (1) vertical with appropriate standards, poles, and jump cups with pins or key hold jump cups.
- iv. Drinking water suitable for human and animal consumption will be provided at all AHJA shows.
- v. Restroom facilities must also be furnished at all AHJA shows. Port-o-lets are acceptable.
- vi. Clean water for hosing or washing horses must be available.
- vii. A telephone (cellular is fine) must be provided
- viii. A secretary's office or desk with access to power must be provided.
- ix. If the show is two (2) or more days in duration, adequate stabling facilities must be offered.
- x. Concessions are required at all AHJA sanctioned shows.
- xi. The presence of dogs during a show should be discouraged, however, if they are present, they must be kept on a leash, no exceptions. Violators will be subject to a fine as determined by show management and/or Show Committee. There will be a minimum fine of \$50 per dog.

b. Services

- i. Appropriate medical services are required to be on the grounds at AHJA sanctioned shows. An appointed AHJA Board of Directors member will make arrangements unless otherwise noted. Medical service personnel must be present at the horse show no less than 10 minutes prior to the start time and remain for the duration of the show. Medical services are not required for schooling.
- ii. A farrier and veterinarian must be on-call with names and phone numbers readily available and posted.
- iii. A steward, approved by the AHJA Show Committee and knowledgeable of all AHJA rules, must be on site for the duration of the horse show. A show steward's

responsibilities include but are not limited to, having an AHJA Rulebook, handling any horse who shows in more than 8 over fences classes, present judges' cards for review, and manage any complaints on show day. Stewards must be present for the duration of the entire horse show. Stewards are required at hunter and jumper shows.

- iv. NOTE If show management anticipates more than 80 horses it is recommended to have more than 1 show steward.

c. Show Staff

- i. At a minimum, the following personnel should be available and present during the entire length of each show:
 - 1. Show Manager
 - 2. Trained in gatekeeper for each gate.
 - 3. Announcer
 - 4. Jump Crew (at least 1 dedicated individual per ring)
 - 5. Show Steward (Hunter and Jumper Shows).
 - 6. Trained Awards Personnel
- ii. Provisions should be made for adequate communication between show personnel.

d. Show Secretary Responsibilities

- i. The following are the duties and responsibilities of the AHJA Show Secretary. At a minimum, the show secretary will:
- ii. Verify that the Show Manager has a copy of the current Show Packet containing the Rules, Divisions, Judges List, and Board Members list, if requested.
- iii. Be present the day of the horse show, run the secretary's desk, compute points for championships, and provide the AHJA computer, printer and paper, membership applications, back numbers and string, class sheets for in-gate personnel and announcers, and a tally of all money collected. In addition, the show secretary will hold the official AHJA measurement stick.
- iv. Retain complete class sheets showing all entries, including post entries, scratches, eliminations, and results, signed Judges' card, and a completed Class Summary Sheet. Copies of the previously listed sheets and cards are acceptable, if the copies are clean, clear, and legible.
- v. If ponies are measured at the show, the names of the ponies, owners and individuals conducting the measurement will be filed as well.

10. Course & Jump Requirements

a. General Requirements & Restrictions

- i. Jumps should be sturdy and within the specifications of USEF. They should measure at least 18' wide inside single standards or have 10' minimum width fences with wings that are 30" wide and 12" higher than the highest element. Equitation and Jumper course fences can be the same, but a course may have one fence as narrow as 8' if it is safely placed in the course. The goal of the AHJA will be to have attractive, safe courses that are conducive to the best performance of the entries. All jumps should be in good repair. Stride distance should be set at approximately 12' with in-and-out distances being 24' for horses

and adjusted for ponies. Combinations are restricted on courses where jumps are lower than 2'6" except in the Regular Pony division where distances must be adjusted. Combinations are not allowed in the .65m jumpers. Lines set under 70' need to be adjusted for all pony divisions.

ii. Dividing Classes

1. When dividing classes all decisions are made by the show manager, judge, and steward. Only one set of ribbons, points, and prizes are to be awarded. Show managers are permitted to award additional ribbons beyond 1-6 and 1-10.
2. Undersaddle classes and equitation on the flat should be divided for the safety of all riders and equines alike. The need for dividing will be based on how many horses can safely show together in the show ring.
3. AHJA recommends dividing these classes at 8 or more horses.
4. The class should be divided into as many groups that are needed to safely walk, trot, and canter (if applicable). Only one group should be allowed in the ring at a time.
5. Judges will pin the class as one, regardless of how many groups are needed to show all horses.
6. Ingate personnel will be responsible for dividing all groups.

iii. Guidelines for Pony Distance

1. For classes where horses and ponies compete together: any lines measured under 70' must be readjusted for pony competitors and; distances of combinations should be adjusted for pony competitors. In pony classes, the height of the element may not be altered by the addition of any element, such as a rail. (Explanation: If small ponies jump a coop without a rail, large ponies must also jump the same fence without the rail.) It is suggested that the Show Committee Chairperson be consulted for questions concerning course design or safety.
2. The following is the recommended distances for pony classes:

Pony Size	Stride Distance	In & Out Footage	Two Stride Footage
Small	10' Stride	20' stride	29' stride
Medium	10' 6" Stride	21' stride	31' 6" stride
Large	11" 3" Stride	22' 6" stride	34' stride

b. The AHJA board has the right to limit the number of classes to be held per day, per ring, at an AHJA recognized show.

c. Jump Cups

- i. Standards should have jump cups, not pegs. Breakaway jump cups are highly encouraged. Gates or planks should be held up by flat jump cups, unless covered by a rail. Cups that do not support a pole or other element should be removed from standards and located in a safe place.

d. Hunter & Equitation Jumps

- i. Natural rails or plain painted fences are acceptable. All fences should be conservative, resemble those found in the hunt field. Ground lines should be

used along with fill to enhance the appearance of the jumps. If irregular shaped standards and/or striped poles are to be a part of a hunter course, schooling must be allowed over these standards and poles. Hunter & Equitation courses are not to exceed 8 fences per round.

e. Jumper Jumps

- i. Fences may be bright colors and consist of a combination of any of the following: brush; gates; oxers; post and rail; water; liverpool (where allowed); wall; banks; coops. Ground lines are optional. To ensure the safety of horses and rider is of utmost importance the use of breakaway cups or flat cups is highly encouraged. Courses with combinations of two or three elements are allowed, as well as angled fences. No more than 10 jumping elements per round and 7 jumping elements per jump off are permitted).

f. Course Posting

- i. Hunter and equitation courses must be posted 1 hour prior to the start of the first hunter or equitation classes.
- ii. Jumper courses and jump numbers must be posted 30 minutes prior to the start of the first class and after schooling is closed. The courses must be open to walk 30 minutes prior to the start of the first class.

11. Prize List

- a. The Prize List must be submitted for approval to the Show Committee Chair (via AHJAPresident@gmail.com) at least four (4) weeks before the show at minimum and contain the following information:
 - i. All associated fees, including but not limited to office, medic, classes, and memberships.
 - ii. State the name of the Judge(s), the Show Manager and Steward, the farrier, and vet, and that medical service are attending. Phone numbers for the farrier and veterinary service must be listed.
 - iii. State that proof of a negative Coggins test within one (1) year is required before back numbers are issued.
 - iv. State if schooling is available, and at what time. Open schooling will be unjudged, and no end-of-year points will be given.
 - v. AHJA recognized and non-recognized classes must be clearly marked and distinguishable.
 - vi. Specific tables and sections governing jumper classes must be stated in prize list.
 - vii. State that dogs must be kept on a leash.
 - viii. State what concessions will be provided.
 - ix. State whether stabling is available. If stabling is available, state the stabling manager's contact information and the cost.
 - x. State that ASTM/SEI approved helmets are required for ALL riders (including adults) at ALL times when mounted, including schooling. No exceptions!
 - xi. State the appropriate riding attire.
 - xii. State ring start times, ring schedules and appropriate schooling breaks.
 - xiii. State the date and address for the horse show as well as state closing date of entries and the link to Horse Shows Online.

12. Division Requirements Per Show

- a. Hunters: Minimum of five (5) hunter divisions, each consisting of at least three (3) hunter classes, two (2) of which must be over fences and one (1) under-saddle.
- b. Equitation: Equitation must offer a minimum of two (2) hunt seat equitation sections consisting of one (1) flat and one (1) over fences classes.
- c. Jumpers: If jumper divisions are offered, a minimum of two (2) classes per division is required.
- d. NOTE: The prize list should be limited to 30-40 classes per ring, per day.

13. Points & Awards

- a. The AHJA only awards points to riders placing 1st – 6th place.
- b. Walk Trot & Crosspole classes will pin 1-10. All other classes will pin 1-6. Additional ribbons are permitted but only points will be given to riders placing 1st – 6th.
- c. Trophies prizes, or awards must be offered for all division champions and 1st place finishers. Prizes should be relative to the entry fee per class.
- d. Horses and riders must compete in at least one over fences class for under saddle points to count towards champion, reserve champion, and overall year end points.
- e. Show managers must provide enough ribbons to support all classes offered at the show. Champion and reserve champion will be calculated off the following chart. Only hunter classes earn points towards champion and reserve champion.

<i>1st Place</i>	<i>10 Points</i>
<i>2nd Place</i>	<i>6 Points</i>
<i>3rd Place</i>	<i>4 Points</i>
<i>4th Place</i>	<i>3 Points</i>
<i>5th Place</i>	<i>2 Points</i>
<i>6th Place</i>	<i>1.5 Points</i>

14. Penalty System

- a. The AHJA has the responsibility to its membership to monitor all AHJA recognized shows for compliance with rules as set forth in this rulebook. As such, the AHJA Show Committee and AHJA President may recommend fines for rulebook infractions. The Show Committee will present their recommendations to the Hearing Committee, who then will present their ruling to the full AHJA Board of Directors via the AHJA President with a written ruling. Sanctioning of future shows will be suspended until all fines have been paid in full.
- b. Penalty Types & Guidelines
 - i. Cross Entry Violations – horses, ponies, or riders who violate a cross entry restriction will have their points revoked.
 - ii. Cancellation of Show Date - \$100 Cancellation Fee
 - iii. Rescheduling of Show Date - \$50 Reschedule Fee
 - iv. 12 Hour Violation - \$100 Fee
 - v. Over 8 Rule – 1st violation: riders, parents, and trainer will all receive a written warning of the violation, and all points will be revoked. 2nd Violation: rider and trainer will receive a written warning and be assessed a fee of \$100 each and all

points will be revoked. 3rd violation the rider, parent, and trainer will all receive a written warning and rider will be assessed a \$200 fine and the trainer will be assessed a \$500 fine. The rider and trainer will be denied entry to all future shows until the fine has been paid and all points associated with the violations will be revoked.

- vi. Prize List – if the prize list is not received by the show committee 4 weeks prior to the show day the show manager will be assessed a \$100 fine per week if it is not received.
 - vii. Dogs not on a leash – any dog not on a leash during a show day is assessed a \$50 fine per dog.
 - viii. Rulebook Violation – if there is any violation to this rulebook fines will be assessed as follows unless otherwise noted.
 - 1. 1st Offense - \$100
 - 2. 2nd Offense - \$200
 - 3. 3rd Offense - \$300
 - ix. The hearing committee has the full authority to decide penalties or fines in areas where the rulebook does not specifically cover an area. These penalties can include but are not limited to:
 - 1. Revoking Points
 - 2. Fines
 - 3. Removing or Requiring show sanctioning
 - 4. Moving Show Managers to the end of the show selection order
 - 5. Deeming a member to be no longer in good standing.
 - 6. Declaring eligibility (i.e. hopeful hunter, baby green hunter, walk trot, and crosspole).
15. If the AHJA rulebook does not cover an issue the AHJA hearing committee will use the USEF rulebook as a guideline for rules.
16. Proposed changes to the rulebook can be submitted via email to AHJApresident@gmail.com by December 1st of the competition year.
17. No Changes to the rulebook can be made during the competition year unless unanimously voted on by the board of directors.
18. Removing a class or division must be voted on and approved by the general membership.