



Rulebook

Alabama Hunter Jumper Association
P.O. Box 44
Chelsea, AL 35043
(205) 242-8183

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. GENERAL RULES	1
1.1 Definitions	1
1.1.1 Competition Year	1
1.1.2 Age of Competitor	1
1.1.3 Amateur/Professional Status.....	1
1.1.4 Show Management	1
1.2 Non-Member Participation	2
1.3 Disputes and Protests	2
1.4 Conduct and Drug Use	2
1.5 Compliance	3
1.6 Non-Payment	3
1.7 USEF Affiliation	3
1.8 Stallions	4
2. LOCAL-RATED SHOWS	3
2.1 Scheduling	4
2.1.1 Sanctioning of Show Dates	4
2.1.2 Sanctioning Eligibility.....	4
2.1.3 Sanctioning Limitations	5
2.1.4 Two-Day Shows	5
2.1.5 Show Date Additions	5
2.1.6 Cancelled Show Dates.....	6
2.1.7 Swapping Show Dates	6
2.1.8 Purchasing Show Dates.....	6
2.1.9 Dual Recognition.....	6
2.1.10 Show Management by Proxy	6
2.1.11 Show Fee	7
2.1.12 Approval Authority.....	7
2.1.13 Mileage Restrictions	7
2.2 Minimum Show Requirements	7
2.2.1 General Facility Requirements	7
2.2.2 Services.....	8
2.2.3 Show Staff.....	8
2.2.4 Show Secretary Responsibilities	8
2.2.5 Pony Measurement.....	9
2.3 Course and Jump Requirements	9
2.3.1 General Requirements.....	9
2.3.2 Jump Cups.....	9
2.3.3 Hunters	9
2.3.4 Equitation	9
2.3.5 Jumpers.....	10
2.3.6 Guidelines for Pony Distances	10
2.4 Attire	10
2.4.1 Back Numbers	10
2.4.2 Hunter/Equitation	10

2.4.3	Jumpers	10
2.5	Judging	11
2.5.1	Judge Selection	11
2.5.2	Judge’s Course Discretion	11
2.5.3	Showing Un-Judged	11
2.6	Event Insurance	11
2.6.1	Insurance Requirements.....	11
2.6.2	Proof of Insurance	11
3.	PRIZE LIST	12
3.1	Prize List Information	12
3.2	Minimum Division Requirements Per Show	12
3.3	Modifications	13
3.4	Class Restrictions	13
4.	POINTS AND PLACING	13
4.1	Individual Eligibility	13
4.2	Placing	13
4.3	Point Structure	13
4.4	One Rider Per Class Rule	14
4.5	Division Champion	14
4.6	Splitting Classes	14
4.6.1	Crosspole Exception.....	14
4.7	Hunter Under Saddle Points	15
4.8	Exceptions	15
5.	PENALTY SYSTEM	15
5.1	Penalty Types and Amounts	15
5.1.1	Critical Violations.....	15
5.1.2	Major Violations.....	15
5.1.3	Minor Violations	16
5.2	Bad Payments	16
5.2.1	Checks.....	16
5.2.2	Credit Cards.....	16
6.	END OF YEAR AWARDS	16
6.1	Eligibility	16
6.2	Separate Circuits	14
6.3	Year-End Award Calculation	14
6.3.1	Local-Rated	17
6.3.2	AHJA Kick-Off and Year-End Shows	17
6.3.3	Regular-Rated	17
6.4	Perpetual Awards	17
6.5	Division/Class Recognition	17
6.6	Tie Break	17
7.	AHJA ADMINISTERED SHOWS	18
7.1	Kick-Off Show	18
7.1.1	Show Date.....	18
7.1.2	Eligibility	18

7.2	End of Year Show	19
7.2.1	Show Date.....	19
7.2.2	Eligibility	19
7.2.3	Equitation Medal Classes	19
7.2.4	Additional Classes.....	19
8.	LOCAL-RATED HEIGHTS AND DEFINITIONS	19
8.1	Hunters and Equitation	20
8.1.1	Hunter Divisions	20
8.1.2	Equitation Divisions	22
8.2	Jumpers	25
8.2.1	General Rules	25
8.2.2	Start and Finish of Course	25
8.2.3	Jump Offs	25
8.2.4	Fences and Courses	25
8.2.5	Time	25
8.2.6	Faults	26
8.2.7	Jumper Judge.....	26
8.2.8	Jumper Divisions.....	26
9.	REGULAR-RATED (USEF) HEIGHTS AND DEFINITIONS	27
9.1	Hunter Divisions	27
9.2	Jumper Divisions	28
9.3	Cross Circuit Participation and Restrictions	28

1. GENERAL RULES

The rules contained in the ALABAMA HUNTER-JUMPER ASSOCIATION (AHJA) Show Packet are to be taken as general guidelines for Show Management to consider when requesting recognition of a show by the AHJA as well as a guideline to AHJA members in good standing. We realize that there are several ways to provide safe and enjoyable shows for everyone. The AHJA Show Committee is empowered to adjust the Show Packet relative to a specific show and issue.

The Board of Directors reserve the right to interpret and issue rulings on any “gray area” or disputed rules contained within this document. All disputes will be heard by the Hearing Committee, and all rulings issued by the same will be final. [Dec 2011]

Starting with the 2011 show season, the AHJA recognizes two separate circuits; Local-Rated and Regular-Rated (USEF rated). Each show must indicate which circuit their points will count for. Points can only count for one circuit or the other, and may not count for both. [Dec 2010]

1.1 Definitions

1.1.1 Competition Year

The Alabama Hunter Jumper Association (AHJA) competition year begins December 1st and ends on November 30th of the following year.

1.1.2 Age of Competitor

The age of an individual on December 1st of the show year will be maintained throughout the entire competition year. Persons born on December 1st of the show year will assume the greater age on that date.

1.1.3 Amateur/Professional Status

The AHJA follows USEF rules regarding Amateur status. An Amateur Rider is a non-professional who is 18 years of age or older as of the start of the competition year. An Amateur Rider may not receive ANY monetary compensation for riding, training, hauling, grooming, giving lessons, or showing (even showing in-hand). An Amateur Rider may be reimbursed exact amounts for expenses. Please reference

USEF-03 General Rules, Subchapter 13-B Amateurs and Professionals, sections GR1306 and GR1308 for specific requirements and definitions for Amateur and Professional status.

If a rider shows in AHJA shows as a professional, or commits any actions which the USEF would deem constitute professional behavior, that rider shall be classed as a professional and not eligible for AHJA Amateur classes. If a rider wishes to regain AHJA Amateur status, the following must be submitted to the AHJA Board **by the October meeting of that competition year**:

- A letter from the rider detailing cessation of all activities that classify said rider as a professional-
-those activities must have ceased at least 6 months prior to submission of letter--and stating desire to return to Amateur status
- 2 letters from senior AHJA members that corroborate that claim

The AHJA Board will meet and vote on rider's return to Amateur status. If granted, that status will become activated the following competition year. Note that the AHJA limits a return to Amateur

status ONCE in the competitor's lifetime. If said rider declares as a professional, or acts in a manner that constitutes professional behavior, a SECOND time, there is no petitioning for Amateur status again. [added Feb 2010]

1.1.4 Show Management

Duties include, but not limited to: organization of show, hiring of stewards, judges, announcers, in-gate staff and jump crew. Duties should also include purchasing of prizes and ribbons along with putting together a prize list to be approved by the Show Committee. [March 2017]

1.2 Non-Member Participation

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 eligibilities that apply to AHJA members. Non-members are not entitled to earn points toward year-end awards. Additionally, a non-member fee will be assessed per rider not showing in Academy classes at every horse show. [March 2017]

1.3 Disputes and Protests

In the event of a dispute over an AHJA rule at an AHJA rated or USEF rated show with AHJA affiliations, sanctions or recognition, a written protest and a \$100 protest fee must be paid **to the AHJA** by the protestor. **The fee can be submitted to the** President of the AHJA or with a Show Committee member. If the protest is valid and upheld, this protest fee will be refunded. Unresolved protests must be presented to the Board of Directors for consideration, and will then lead to the Hearing Committee deciding on a resolution, which may include any action that the committee may deem appropriate. The AHJA President shall deliver a written report, signed by the chair of the Hearing Committee, to the board of directors at the next scheduled meeting unless an emergency meeting has been called. The board of directors will hear the full case, but the Hearing Committee will make the final ruling. The aggrieved party will only plead their case before the Hearing Committee at a separate agreed upon time (this can be prior or post to any board meeting.) After the decision of the hearing committee is made, this ruling will be final. [May 2019]

1.4 Conduct and Drug Use

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 trainer, trainer's employee, owner, rider, ~~or~~ parent/guardian and/or family member may disqualify any horse with which they are associated and all entry fees may be forfeited. Absolutely no illegal drugs or foul language will be tolerated at any time, and may also result in a disqualification and loss of entry fees. [March 2017]

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 continued violations at any AHJA-sanctioned show.

The AHJA is dedicated to the health, welfare and safety of both its members and associated equine athletes. Accordingly, the Association embraces the stated policies behind, and adopts by reference as guidelines for its members, trainers, owners, exhibitors and show management, the current "USEF Drugs and Medication Rules" promulgated by the United States Equestrian Federation, including the USEF's express acknowledgement, that while some situations warrant legitimate, therapeutic treatment in connection with competition, drugs and medications should *never* be a substitute for good horsemanship. The USEF Drugs and Medication Rules herein is purposed to provide only a general guideline for voluntary compliance and helpful informational reference for AHJA members. While the

AHJA strongly encourages voluntary compliance with the USEF Drugs and Medication Rules by all AHJA members, trainers, owners, exhibitors and show management, the AHJA does not perform drug tests or otherwise attempt to assure or enforce compliance with the USEF Drugs and Medication Rules.

Nothing in the foregoing stated policy of the AHJA regarding the USEF Drugs and Medication Rules should be construed as an affirmative duty on the part of the AHJA to regulate or to enforce equine drug and medication administration by its members, or otherwise confer liability or obligation on the part of the AHJA about same. 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 approval of the USEF Drugs and Medication Rules as a voluntary guideline for the Association, including without limitation, any damage or injury to any person, equine athlete, or property which may result by any compliance with, non-compliance with, or faulty compliance with, the USEF Drug Medication Rules, by any individual member, trainer, owner, exhibitor or show management, or any and all other acts and omissions in relation to the USEF Drugs and Medication Rules.

1.5 Compliance

Failure to comply with AHJA rules and/or class specifications may result in disqualification of points and/or a fine.

1.6 Non-Payment

Failure to make good on checks and credit cards to shows 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. [March 2017]

1.7 USEF Affiliation

The AHJA is a USEF affiliate. Local-rated shows will be governed by USEF rules and restrictions, unless superseded by AHJA rules and restrictions as defined in this rulebook. Regular-rated shows will be governed by USEF rules and restrictions and will not be superseded by AHJA rules and/or restrictions. However, all AHJA height restrictions, age restrictions and AHJA cross-entering restrictions will stand. [Dec 2010] [March 2017]

1.8 Stallions

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. Adults Amateurs and Professionals** may show stallions only with the prior approval of the show manager. [May 2019]

2. LOCAL-RATED SHOWS

2.1 Scheduling

2.1.1 Sanctioning of Show Dates

The sanctioning of show dates will be set at a meeting that will be held prior to the start of the show year and will be open to the general membership. All show management requesting the sanctioning of

their shows [Dec 2011] must appear **in person** at that meeting. An authorized representative may appear in the show manager's place with prior approval, in the form of an email or letter, from the President or Show Committee Chair. [March 2017]

All show management reserving a show date will be required to manage their own show in accordance with this rulebook. *Show Management by proxy will not be allowed.* See paragraph 2.1.10 Show Management by Proxy for additional guidance. [March 2017]

~~Show managers who held an approved AHJA sanctioned show the previous year will be allowed to reserve the same show dates as that previous year.~~ [March 2017]

All show management with reserved dates must submit their application(s), show fee(s), a signed Horse Show Management Guidelines form, and their membership application during the Show Manager's meeting. [Nov 2012] Show dates not paid for during this meeting WILL NOT be reserved, and will be open for other show's consideration (see paragraph 2.1.5 Show Date Additions.) [March 2017]

2.1.2 Sanctioning Eligibility

The following requirements must be met for a Show Manager to request sanctioning for a show date. The Show Manager MUST:

- Be an AHJA member for the show year in which their show is held. [Nov 2012]
- Be an AHJA member in good standing for the previous two (2) consecutive years
- Be a trainer, barn owner, charitable organization, running a training business, or [March 2017]
- Be a professional horse show management company who has been in business for the previous three (3) consecutive years.
- 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 ~~trainers~~ **parties** wishing to apply at least two (2) months prior to the Show Managers meeting. [May 2019]
- In the previous year, you must have attended either the Kick-Off Show or End-of-Year Show. Furthermore, you were also in attendance of a minimum of three (3) AHJA local sanctioned horse shows, *other than your own*, with either one (1) horse or one (1) student. [March 2017]

*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. [Dec 2011] [March 2017]

2.1.3 Sanctioning Limitations

The AHJA currently limits sanctioning per Show Manager* to only one of the following: [Nov 1012]

- 1 Hunter/Jumper show, OR
- 1 Hunter only and 1 Jumper only show, OR
- 2 Jumper only shows

~~Traditional dates or weekends of older, established shows will not be awarded to another show~~

~~without prior notice to the older show.~~ [March 2017]

*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) [Dec 2011]

Show managers holding their first AHJA recognized show will be allowed one date their 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. [March 2017]

2.1.4 Two-Day Shows

One horse show can be spread over a two-day period in one weekend. ~~During a two-day horse show, the only hunter divisions that can be repeated the second day are the Schooling Hunter, Schooling Pony Hunter and Starting Hunter Divisions.~~ Jumper classes/divisions may be repeated. Equitation Divisions may not be repeated. Show management MUST declare during the Show Managers Meeting if their show will be a one or two-day show. If show management decides after this meeting to add another day to their declared one-day show, it will be considered a show date addition and must follow the procedures in accordance with paragraph 2.1.5 Show Date Additions. [May 2019]

2.1.5 Show Date Additions

Additional sanctioning of shows may be added to the show schedule with the prior approval of the Show Committee. Requests for additional shows must be made at least 90 days prior to the requested date, and must be in writing. Emails will be acceptable. Requests must be sent to the Show Committee Chairperson. Show Managers MUST be present at the initial Show Date Meeting to add an AHJA sanctioned show during the show year. No first-time barn, stable, and/or show manager will be allowed to add a date during the show year. If approved, show management will have 7 calendar days upon notification to submit their application and fee. All requests must follow this procedure and timeline or the request will not be considered and deemed non-existent. Requestor (or requestor's organization/barn) must be an AHJA member in good standing **and meet all sanctioning eligibility requirements.** [May 2019]

2.1.6 Cancelled Show Dates

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 ~~the same~~ a show date for the following year.

~~That date will go back into the pool of open dates. If other existing barns do not reserve that date, the show manager may request it.~~ 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 Show Committee will determine if the reason for cancellation is considered an "act of god." [March 2017]

Cancelled show dates will go back into the pool of open dates. Refunds will not be made for cancelled show dates, regardless of circumstances. ~~Barns that have not exceeded their maximum amount of shows for that show year or~~ Barns desiring to swap their existing show date will be allowed to apply for the vacated date. Requests will be handled on a first-come, first-served basis. See paragraph 2.1.5 Show Date Additions for additional guidance. [March 2017]

Show managers that have complied to all show packet guidelines that are forced to cancel their show date because of an "act of God" (see 2.1.12), will be allowed to move their show date to the next available date that is no less than 4 weeks from the cancelled show date.

2.1.7 Swapping Show Dates

Show management desiring to swap show dates must make a written request to the Show Committee Chairperson at least eight (8) weeks prior to the earliest planned show date. Written requests may be in the form of an email. 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. Failure to abide by this rule will result in a major violation. See Section 5- Penalty System for additional information. [March 2017]

2.1.8 Purchasing Show Dates

Purchasing or taking other show management's unwanted or cancelled reserved dates is NOT allowed.

2.1.9 Dual Recognition

Dual recognition of AHJA shows will be at show management's discretion and will be allowed. Shows that are dual recognized must clearly indicate on the prize list, which divisions/classes are recognized by the AHJA. AHJA recognized divisions/classes must follow AHJA specifications and rules. Outside organizations wishing to add AHJA recognition must follow the same procedures for reserving/adding show dates as defined in this section.

2.1.10 Show Management by Proxy

~~Show management who reserved a show date will not be allowed relinquish their show management responsibilities to a different barn or stable. If a show manager is unable to fulfill their responsibilities to adequately run a horse show, their show date will be cancelled and open for other show's consideration (see paragraph 2.1.5 Show Date Additions). [March 2017]~~

Show management who reserved a show date will not be allowed to relinquish their show management responsibilities to a different barn or stable, see paragraph 1.1.4 Show Management for definition. 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 (see paragraph 2.1.5 Show Date Additions.) If show management by proxy is brought to the attention of the Board of Directors and they can delegate the decision to the Hearing Committee. If they decide show management by proxy took place, show management could obtain a critical violation. See paragraph 5.1 Penalty Types and Amounts for further information. [March 2017]

2.1.11 Show Fee

A non-refundable fee of **\$50.00 per day, per show**, must accompany the application. Two-day shows will be required to pay for the additional day for a total of **\$100.00** for that show. The fee must be paid by the show manager during the initial show date meeting. A recognized AHJA show should 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 \$50.00.** Should a Show Manager add a second day to their show after the initial show managers meeting, a \$75.00 fee will be assessed to said management. [March 2017]

2.1.12 Approval Authority

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, “act of god” determinations, and for 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. [Dec 2011]

2.1.13 Mileage Restrictions

The AHJA will not recognize separate Hunter or Jumper shows within a 40-mile radius on the same date.

2.2 Minimum Show Requirements

Show Management is subject to fines as described in “Section 5 – Penalty Structure” of this rulebook for failing to meet Minimum Show Requirements. [Nov 2012]

2.2.1 General Facility Requirements

- Show management should provide a fenced show ring large enough for at least eight (8) fences without endangering horse or rider. Additionally, a second fenced ring is required for hunter shows that should safely hold at least six (6) fences without endangering 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 one is used, should be presented for pre-show schooling or included in the warm-up round. [March 2017]
- Rings should have footing free of holes, deep areas, and large rocks and debris. [March 2017]
- Show management should 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. [March 2017]
- Drinking water suitable for human and animal consumption will be provided at all AHJA shows.
- Rest room facilities must also be furnished at all AHJA shows. Port-o-lets are acceptable.
- Provide clean water for hosing or washing horses
- Provide a telephone (may be cellular) on the show grounds.
- Provide a secretary's office or desk.
- If show is two (2) or more days in duration, adequate stabling facilities must be offered.
- Concessions are required at all AHJA sanctioned shows. [March 2017]
- 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. [Dec 2011]

2.2.2 Services

- Appropriate medical services are required to be on the grounds at AHJA sanctioned shows. An appointed AHJA Board of Directors member will make all 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. [March 2017]
- A farrier and veterinarian must be on-call with names and phone numbers readily available and posted. [Dec 2011]
- 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 stewards responsibilities include but are not limited to, having an AHJA Rulebook, making sure the crosspole split is handled appropriately in accordance to the AHJA Rulebook, handle any horse how shows in more than 8 over fences classes, show judges cards when necessary, approve courses before horse show, handle any complaints on show day, must be present for the durations of the entire horse show. Note* If show management anticipates more than 80 horses for their show, you are allowed to have more than 1 show steward.** [March 2017] [May 2019]

2.2.3 Show Staff

At a minimum, the following personnel should be available and present during the entire length of each show:

- Show Manager [March 2017]
- Trained gate-keeper for each gate
- Announcer
- Jump Crew (at least 1 dedicated individual per ring)
- **Show Steward [May 2019]**
- **Trained Awards Personnel [May 2019]**

Provisions should be made for adequate communication between show personnel. [Dec 2011]

2.2.4 Show Secretary Responsibilities

The following are the duties and responsibilities of the AHJA Show Secretary. At a minimum, the show secretary will:

- 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.
- Be present the day of the horse show, will 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 monies made. In addition, they will hold the official AHJA ~~yard stick~~ and measurement stick. [May 2019]
- 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.
- If ponies are measured at the show, the names of the ponies, owners and individuals conducting the measurement shall be filed as well.

2.2.5 Pony Measurement

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 ~~six (6)~~ eight (8) years of age. [March 2017]

2.3 Course and Jump Requirements

Show Management is subject to fines as described in “Section 5 – Penalty Structure” of this rulebook for failing to meet Course and Jump Requirements. [Nov 2012] **A single horse may not show in more than eight (8) jumping classes per an AHJA show day. (See section 3.4.1) [May 2019]**

2.3.1 General Requirements

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 should 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 (**Section 2.3.6**). Combinations are restricted on courses where jumps are lower than 2'6" except in Regular Pony division and the **.65 Jumper Division (see section 8.2.8)** where distances must be adjusted. [March 2017] **For riders competing in the .65 jumper division, you may not cross-enter into any other jumper divisions that show day. [May 2019]**

2.3.2 Jump Cups

Standards should have jump cups, not pegs. **Breakaway jump cups are highly encouraged. [May 2019]** Gates or planks should be held up by flat jump cups, unless covered by a rail. Cups that are not supporting a pole or other element will be removed from standards and located in a safe place. [Dec 2011]

2.3.3 Hunters

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 fillers 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 courses are not to exceed 8 fences per round. [May 2019]**

2.3.4 Equitation

Striped rails or brighter painted jumps are recommended. Equitation courses, except walk/trot, crosspole, ~~hopeful~~, and short and long stirrup ~~hunter~~, must have at least one change of direction. [May 2019]

2.3.5 Jumpers

Fences may be bright colors, and consist of a combination of any of the following: brush; gates; oxers; post and rail; water; liverpool; ditch; wall; banks; coops. Ground lines are optional. Safety to horse and rider is of utmost importance; **We highly encourage breakaway cups or flat cups.** Courses with combinations of two or three elements are allowed, as well as angled fences. [May 2019]

2.3.6 Guidelines for Pony Distances

For classes where horses and ponies compete together: ~~any lines measured at 72' or greater do not have to be readjusted for pony competitors~~ **any lines measured under 72' have to be readjusted for pony competitors [May 2019]**; 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.

The following is the recommended distances for pony classes:

	<u>Stride distance</u>	<u>In and Out Footage</u>	<u>2 Stride Footage</u>
Small pony:	10' stride	20' stride	29' stride
Medium pony:	10' 6" stride	21' stride	31'6" stride
Large pony:	11'3" stride	22'6" stride	34' stride

2.4 Attire

Appropriate attire is required in all classes. At a minimum, 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 [May 2019]**

2.4.1 Back Numbers

Riders must enter the show ring with the appropriate back number pertaining to their entry. Failure to do so can result in an unjudged round. [March 2017]

2.4.2 Hunter/Equitation

Formal riding attire is required for all AHJA rated classes and all classes offered at the Kick- Off Show and End- Of- Year Show. [May 2019]

- For Beginner classes (fences below 2')
 - Regular Shows: Riders must wear traditional, short or long-sleeved riding shirts with choker or tie or ~~polo shirt~~, **show coat**, breeches or jodhpurs, belt, tall boots or paddock boots with garters. Shirts must be tucked in. [May 2019]
 - Kick- Off Show and End-Of-Year Show: Riders must wear a traditional, short or long-sleeved riding shirt with choker or tie—polo shirts will not be allowed. Show coats are optional; however, riders will NOT receive any special advantage or consideration over riders not wearing coats. Shirts must be tucked in. [March 2017]
- For riders showing in classes with fences 2' or higher – Show coat, show shirt (with choker or tie), breeches or jodhpurs, belt, tall boots or paddock boots with garters.

2.4.3 Jumpers

- Regular Shows: 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.
- Kick-Off Show and End-Of-Year Show: Riders must wear show coat, traditional, short or

long-sleeved riding shirts with choker or tie or polo shirt in appropriate circumstances, belt, breeches or jodhpurs, tall boots or paddock boots with garters. [March 2017]

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. [Dec 2011] [March 2017]

2.5 Judging

2.5.1 Judge Selection

It is recommended that judges for a hunter show be selected from the AHJA Approved Judge List, (~~this list may be obtained from the Chairperson on the Show Committee~~ this list may be obtained from the AHJA ~~website~~ **President**) ~~or~~ and be approved by the Show Committee Chairperson at least ~~two~~ 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. [March 2017] **[May 2019]**

***Note: If you anticipate 70 or more entries, we recommend show management hire a USEF licensed r or R hunter judge(s).** **[May 2019]**

2.5.2 Judge's Course Discretion

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.

2.5.3 Showing Un-Judged

Showing un-judged is prohibited at any AHJA recognized show.

2.6 Event Insurance

2.6.1 Insurance Requirements

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.

2.6.2 Proof of Insurance

Proof of insurance that meets the requirements as defined in paragraph 2.6.1 must be submitted to the Show Committee Chair and emailed to the AHJA Administrator (ahja.assit@gmail.com) BY MARCH 1st of your show year. ~~at least two (2) weeks prior to your show date.~~ Shows without proof of insurance will lose AHJA sanctioning, and their show(s) will become available to another eligible barn. [Nov 2012] [March 2017]

3. PRIZE LIST

Show Management is subject to fines as described in “Section 5 – Penalty Structure” of this rulebook for failing to meet Prize List Requirements. [Nov 2012]

3.1 Prize List Information

The Prize List must be submitted for approval to the Show Committee Chair at least four (4) weeks before the show and contain the following information at a minimum [March 2017]:

- All associated fees, including but not limited to office, medic, classes and memberships.
- State the name of Judge(s), the Show Manager and Steward, farrier, vet and medical service. **Phone numbers for the farrier and veterinary service must be listed.** [May 2019]
- State that proof of a negative Coggins test within one (1) year is required before numbers are issued.
- State if schooling is available, and at what time. **Open** schooling will be un-judged and no end-of- year points will be given. [May 2019]
- AHJA recognized and non-recognized classes must be clearly marked and distinguishable.
- Specific tables and sections governing jumper classes must be stated in prize list.
- A statement that dogs must be kept on a leash.
- State what concessions will be provided.
- State whether stabling is available. If stabling is available, state the POC’s contact information and the cost.
- State that ASTM/SEI approved helmets are required for ALL riders (including adults) at ALL times when mounted, including schooling. No exceptions!
- State the appropriate riding attire.
- **State ring start times, ring schedules and appropriate schooling breaks.** [May 2019]
- **State the date and address for the horse show. Additionally, state closing date of entries and the link to Horse Shows online.** [May 2019]

3.2 Minimum Division Requirements Per Show

The following lists the minimum amount of divisions offered in order for a show to be recognized by AHJA:

- 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.
- Equitation: Equitation must offer a minimum of ~~two (2) hunt seat equitation classes (Divisions) on the flat, and two (2) equitation classes (Divisions) over fences.~~ Two (2) hunt seat equitation divisions consisting of one (1) flat and one (1) over fences classes. [March 2017]
- Jumpers: If jumper divisions are offered they require a minimum of two (2) classes per division. *NOTE: The prize list should be limited to 30-40 classes per ring, per day.

3.3 Modifications

~~Post all approved changes and corrections to the show bill prize list at least one hour before any schooling or classes are held at the show office and show rings. Post courses at least one (1) hour before the start of the class. Announce the name of the Manager of the Show and the Steward.~~
Any changes to the posted prizelist must be approved by the show committee and announced by noon the day before the schedule show. [March 2017] [May 2019]

3.4 Class Restrictions

The AHJA Board of Directors reserves the right to limit the number of classes to be held per day, per ring, at an AHJA recognized show.

3.4.1 Over Fences Class Restrictions

A single horse may not show in more than (8) eight over fences classes in an AHJA show day. Reference section 5.1.4 for penalties. [May 2019]

4. POINTS AND PLACING

4.1 Individual Eligibility

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.

4.2 Placing

A class or division is to be pinned (including Champion and Reserve Champion) even if there are fewer than three competitors in that division. Show management may combine similar divisions, (i.e. Long and Short Stirrup, Children's and Adult Hunters) for the sake of time conservation, though the classes and division will be pinned separately.

The AHJA recognizes places 1 through 5 6 in all classes and divisions with the following exception: **all** Walk/Trot Hunter classes, **all** Walk/Trot Equitation classes, **all** Crosspole Hunter classes and **all** Crosspole Equitation classes must be pinned 1st through 10th. Additional placing of riders is at Show Management's option. Trophies or prizes must be offered for all divisional championships. Prizes for 1st place are optional. [May 2019]

4.3 Cumulative Year End Award Point Structure

~~End of Year Points will be awarded for local rated shows based on the total number of entries for each class as per the USEF Rulebook, paragraph GR1131 – Hunter Divisions, “C” Rated, dated 2011. [Dec 2011][January 2018]~~
The method in which all AHJA cumulative award points earned at horse shows will be calculated. This method will also be used to calculated Banquet Awards. [May 2019]

Place	Number of Entries and Points Awarded					
	1-2*	3-8	9-15	16-25	26-35	35+
1 st	8	15	20	25	30	35
2 nd	5	10	15	20	25	30

3 rd	3	5	10	15	20	25
4 th		4	5	10	15	20
5 th		3	4	5	10	15
6 th		2	3	4	5	10
<i>*Note: Not in accordance with USEF, but added for AHJA purposes</i>						

Champion and Reserve at AHJA locally rated shows will be calculated based on the following chart. End of Year points will be awarded for Local rated shows based on the USEF Rulebook, paragraphs GR1131 & GR1132 and calculated off the “C” rated structure. [May 2019]

USEF Awards Based on Points: For calculating points, the number of entries for all classes in a hunter section is determined by the number of entries that compete in the first performance class of the section. In the under saddle classes points will be calculated on the number of horses entered. Points are calculated by adding the point value on the increment chart to the number of entries that competed in the first performance class of the section. For examples, in a “C” rated section with 5 entries in the first class, the value of a third-place ribbon will be 9 points. This is calculated by adding 4 points from the 3rd place ribbon in the “C” rated chart to 5, which is the number of entries that competed in the first class. If the first performance class of the hunter section has fewer than three entries that compete, points will be determined by the number of entries that competed in the second performance class of the section. [January 2018]

1 st	10
2 nd	6
3 rd	4
4 th	3
5 th	2
6 th	1.5

4.4 One Rider Per Class Rule

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: [Dec 2011]

- 75% and up = First Place
- 60-74% = Second Place
- 59% or less = Third Place

*Note: A rider will not earn any less than 3rd place, but will not automatically earn a 1st place due to the fact that they are the only rider in the class.

4.5 Division Champion

. The AHJA only awards championships to those that have completed at least one (1) over fences classes of that division. No championships will be given to horses who only competed in under saddle classes. In the event of a tie in the points for champion, the horse with the greatest number of points over fences will be determined the champion; **However, in the event that two horses share the same number of over fences points, the horse placing higher in Hunter 1 will be awarded champion.** [May 2017] [May 2019]

Division Champions will be determined using the following method [January 2018]:

- First Place 10 points
- Second Place 6 points

- Third Place 4 points
- Fourth Place 3 points
- Fifth Place 2 point
- Sixth Place 1.5 points

4.6 Splitting Classes

Show Management should use discretion for splitting under saddle or flat classes that contain a large number of riders. If a class is split for safety reasons, ~~and~~ only 1 set of ribbons (1st thru 10th or 1st thru 5th 6th depending upon the division) will be given. One set of points will be awarded based on the total number of entries before the split, regardless of extra ribbons given by show management. [Dec 2011] [March 2017]

4.6.1 Crosspole Exception

The only exception to the previous rule under ‘Splitting Classes’ will apply to the Crosspole Division. The decision to split will be decided by show management and can only be made if the class has 14 exhibitors or more. If there are less than 14 exhibitors, the crosspole classes will run as one division and pinned 1st - 10th. How to split: all riders will compete as one for a score. Once the judge has awarded the scores, the top two scores will be awarded first place, the next two top scores will be awarded second place, and so on. For safety, riders can be placed into smaller groups to demonstrate their walk, trot and canter but will in no way be showing exclusively against that “group.” [March 2017]

4.7 Hunter Under Saddle Points

In order for points to count towards both championships and end-of-year awards, a horse/rider or pony/rider combination must complete in at least one over fence class in that same division. This is not true for Equitation Flat classes—which are entities unto themselves, and any and all points won by a rider in those classes will count.

~~4.8 Exceptions~~

~~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 at least one (1) entry in all three classes at that show for points to count for end-of-year points.~~ [January 2018]

5. PENALTY SYSTEM

The AHJA has the responsibility to ~~the Association~~ **its membership** to monitor all AHJA recognized shows for compliance with rules as set forth in this rulebook. As such, the AHJA Show Committee 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 for final approval of all penalties that are not approved by the majority of the show committee. Sanctioning of future shows will be suspended until all fines have been paid in full. [Entire Section 5 added in Nov 2012] [March 2017] **[May 2019]**

5.1 Penalty Types and Amounts

First	Second	Third
-------	--------	-------

	<u>Offense</u>	<u>Offense</u>	<u>Offense</u>
Minor:	\$100.00	\$200.00	\$300.00
Major:	\$200.00	\$350.00	\$500.00
Critical:	\$300.00	\$500.00	\$500.00 + loss of future horse show sanctions.

Note: Sanctioning of future horse shows may be suspended for repeated Minor and Major Infractions

5.1.1 Critical Violations

The following rules violations may result in a Critical Fine:

- Selling or purchasing of show dates
- Show management by Proxy
- Cancellation of show date for other than an “act of god”
- Swapping show dates without approval of Show Committee
- **Over 8 Rule- third offense: The riders, parents, and trainer will receive another written warning. All horse/rider(s) combinations contributing to the violation will lose all points and no future points will be awarded for the remainder of the year. Trainer will be assessed a \$500 fine. Trainers will be banned from showing till all fines are paid in full.**

5.1.2 Major Violations

The following rules violations may result in a Major Fine:

- Draft of prize list not received by Show Committee Chair (4 weeks prior to show date) [March 2017]
- Changes to existing/posted prize list not received by Show Committee Chair (2 weeks prior to show date) [March 2017]
- Draft of prize list not received by AHJA Show Secretary two week prior to show date. [March 2017]
- Change of location without Notifying Show Committee Chair or President
- Dogs not on a leash. (It is the responsibility of each show manager to ensure all dogs are kept on a leash)
- Swapping show dates less than eight weeks prior to the earliest scheduled show date. [March 2017]
- **Over 8 Rule- second offense: The riders, parents, trainer will receive another written warning. All horse/rider combinations contributing to the violation will lose all points gained at that show and the trainer will be assessed a \$100 fine.**

5.1.3 Minor Violations

The following rules violations may result in a Minor Fine:

- Inaccuracies/Omissions in prize list as described in Sections 2.2, 2.3 and Section 3 of this Rulebook
- **Over 8 Rule- first offense: The riders, parents and trainer all will receive a written warning.**

5.2 Bad Payments

5.2.1 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. [March 2017]

5.2.2 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. [March 2017]

6. END OF YEAR AWARDS

6.1 Eligibility

AHJA members may accumulate points for placing in AHJA approved shows. The year-end awards are presented at the Annual Awards Banquet. Only those members current in their AHJA memberships at the time of competition may qualify for those awards. In order for points to count, both the rider and the owner of the horse or pony must be AHJA members. All horses or ponies pinned first through ~~fifth~~ **sixth** in over fences classes within a division are eligible for their points in flat classes.

6.2 Separate Circuits

Points will be accumulated separately for each circuit (Local and Regular). Divisions offered at each show will be eligible for points in one circuit only. Local-rated show points will count for Local-rated year end awards, and Regular-rated show points will count for Regular-rated year end awards. At no time can points count for both circuits. [Dec 2010]

Awards will be given out for each AHJA recognized circuit (Local-Rated and Regular-Rated). Individuals may participate in, accumulate points, and are eligible for year-end awards in both circuits. [Dec 2010]

6.3 Year-End Award Calculation

6.3.1 Regular-Rated

Final point standings for year-end awards will be determined by the total number of points accumulated at all AHJA rated shows for AHJA awards and at participating USEF shows for USEF. [May 2016]

6.4 Perpetual Awards

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 amount of shows participated in. [Dec 2011]

6.5 Division/Class Recognition

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.

6.6 Tie Break

End-of-year point ties will not be broken. In the event of a tie, awards will be administered in accordance with the following examples: [Dec 2011]

Example 1: (There is a tie for 1st. The AHJA will award 2 champions, but no reserve)

<u>Rider</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Award</u>
Rider 1	90	Champion
Rider 2	90	Champion
Rider 3	85	3rd
Rider 4	76	4th
Rider 5	65	5th
Rider 6	45	6th
Rider 7	43	No award

Example 2: (There is a tie for second. The AHJA will award 2 reserves, but no 3rd)

<u>Rider</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Award</u>
Rider 1	90	Champion
Rider 2	85	Reserve
Rider 3	85	Reserve
Rider 4	76	4th
Rider 5	65	5th
Rider 6	45	6th
Rider 7	43	No award

Example 3: (There is a tie for 6th in which case the AHJA will still award 2 6th places)

<u>Rider</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Award</u>
Rider 1	90	Champion
Rider 2	85	Reserve
Rider 3	76	3rd
Rider 4	65	4th
Rider 5	45	5th
Rider 6	40	6th
Rider 7	40	6th

Example 4: (There is a 3-way tie for 5th. In this case, the AHJA will award 3 5th places and no 6th place)

<u>Rider</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Award</u>
Rider 1	90	Champion
Rider 2	85	Reserve
Rider 3	80	3rd
Rider 4	76	4th
Rider 5	45	5th
Rider 6	45	5th
Rider 7	45	5th
Rider 8	40	No 6 th place award

7. AHJA ADMINISTERED SHOWS

7.1 Kick-Off Show

If held, the Kick-Off Show will be a Local-Rated show. Therefore, points acquired during this show will only count towards Local-rated year end awards, ~~and will not count towards the 12 show cap.~~[Dec 2011][March 2017]

If a Kick-Off Show for the Regular-Rated circuit is held, those points acquired during this show will only count towards Regular-Rated year end awards. [Dec 2011]

7.1.1 Show Date

The AHJA may host a Kick-Off Show each year and will be the first show of the AHJA show year. [Dec 2011]

7.1.2 Eligibility

If held, the AHJA Kick-Off Show will be open to everyone. However, only members in good standing will earn points toward year-end awards. **Additionally, rider(s) and horse owner(s) must be AHJA members for their points to count towards year-end awards.** [May 2019]

7.2 End of Year Show

The Year-End show will be a Local-Rated show. Therefore, points acquired during this show will only count towards Local-rated year end awards, ~~and will not count towards the 12 show cap~~ [Dec 2011]. Individuals who participate in the Regular-rated circuit may participate in the year end show in divisions in which they are eligible. [Dec 2010] [March 2017]

7.2.1 Show Date

The AHJA will host an End-of-Year show each year and will be the final show of the AHJA show year.

7.2.2 Eligibility

The AHJA End-of-Year Show will be open to everyone. However, only members in good standing will earn points toward year-end awards. **Additionally, rider(s) and horse owner(s) must be AHJA members for their points to count towards year-end awards.** [May 2019]

7.2.3 Equitation Medal Classes

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 points in that division in at least two shows during the competition year. 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:

- AHJA Pony Medal (small: 2'3", medium: 2'6", large: 2'9")
- AHJA Children's Pony Medal (small/medium: 2', large: 2'6") [Dec2011]
- AHJA Pre-Child/Pre-Adult Medal (2'6")
- AHJA Children's Medal (3')
- AHJA Adult Medal (3')
- AHJA Junior/Amateur Owner Medal (3'6")

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 tests 1---19).

7.2.4 Additional Classes

Additional classes, such as; Classic, Mini Prix, Derby, etc., may be added to the class list. If added, these additional classes will not count towards year-end points.

8. LOCAL-RATED HEIGHTS AND DEFINITIONS

The following heights are the ALABAMA HUNTER-JUMPER ASSOCIATION approved heights and are considered to be measured from the top of the top element to the ground directly below, at the center of the jump. 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. [March 2017] **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. [May 2019]**

8.1 Hunters and Equitation

8.1.1 Hunter Divisions

1. Walk/Trot Hunter 8 & Under – Open to horses or ponies, to be shown **only by riders 8 years of age or under** at the walk and trot. Over fence class courses shall be held over a course of four obstacles that consist of ~~three or four~~ one pole, each spaced ~~four to five~~ three feet apart from one other. The course shall be trotted once around. Anyone showing in this class/division is prohibited from showing in any other class, except Walk/Trot Equitation and Crosspole Hunter Divisions. Entering any other class/division other than Walk/Trot Equitation and Crosspole Hunter Divisions at any AHJA recognized show will result in the permanent loss of eligibility for the Walk/Trot Divisions. A rider may compete in this division for no more than two show years.

[March 2017] [May 2019]

2. Walk/Trot Hunter 9 & Over – Open to horses or ponies, to be shown ~~only~~ by riders 9 years of age or over at the walk and trot. Over fence class courses shall be held over a course of four obstacles that consist of ~~three or four~~ one pole, each spaced ~~four to five~~ three feet apart from one other. The course shall be trotted once around. Anyone showing in this class/division is prohibited from showing in any other class, except Walk/Trot Equitation and Crosspole Hunter Divisions. Entering any other class/division other than Walk/Trot Equitation and Crosspole Hunter Divisions at any AHJA recognized show will result in the permanent loss of eligibility for the Walk/Trot Divisions. A rider may compete in this division for no more than two show years. [March 2017] [May 2019]
3. Crosspole Hunter - Open to horses or ponies. Fences shall be set as cross poles (with no flowers or boxes) [Dec 2011] at a height of 12" at the cross and the course will be twice around the outside at the trot or canter, being two lines of at least two fences each line. The horse/rider or pony/rider combination cannot show in any other class or division, except the Walk/Trot Hunter and Equitation Divisions. See section 4.6.1. regarding Crosspole Split. [March 2017] [May 2019]
4. Hopeful Hunter – Open to a horse or pony, shown by a junior, amateur or professional rider, in its first year of showing in any recognized show by any Association. The horse or pony may not have ever shown in any class or division with any fences higher than 2'. Fences will be plain verticals (with no flowers or boxes) [Dec 2011] set at 18" – 2'; there will be no oxers. The course will be once around the outside, shown at a trot or a canter. The horse or pony cannot show in any other class or division, except Starting Hunter. The horse or pony may only show in this division for 1 show year.
5. Short Stirrup Hunter - Open to horses or ponies with junior [Dec 2010] riders 12 years old or under. The rider's age will be determined by that person's age as of December 1 of the current competition year, which begins December 1 and ends November 30 of the following year. The fence height shall be 18" to 2' with the course being either twice around the outside, a figure eight, or an inside/outside-outside/inside design, which may be trotted or cantered. No oxers are allowed. Riders may only cross-enter in Starting Hunter during the same year. [Dec 2010]
6. Long Stirrup Hunter - Open to horses or ponies with riders 13 years old or over. The rider's age will be determined by that person's age as of December 1 of the current competition year, which begins December 1 and ends November 30 of the following year. The fence height shall be 18" to 2' with the course being twice around the outside, a figure eight, or an inside/outside-outside/inside design, which may be trotted or cantered. No oxers are allowed. Riders may only cross-enter in Starting Hunter during the same year. [Dec 2010]
7. Starting Hunter - Open to horse or pony, fences shall be set on a regular hunter course at 2' in height. Course shall not include an in and out combination or any oxers, and the horse/rider combination cannot show in any over fence class with fences higher than 2'3" at the same show. A ~~small or medium~~ pony/rider combination may show in Schooling Pony Hunter Division, but may not show in Regular Pony Hunter Division or Children's Ponies at the same show. [March 2017]
8. Schooling Pony Hunter – Open to ponies only. The fence height shall be 2' for all ponies regardless of size. ~~Stride distance in combinations to be adjusted to 20' for small, and 22' for~~

~~medium~~. Pony/Rider combination may only cross-enter into the Children's Pony Hunter division or the Regular Pony Hunter division or Starting Hunter. [modified Dec 2010] [March 2017]

9. Children's Pony Hunter - Small, measuring under 12.2 hands, and Medium, measuring 12.2 but under 13.2 hands; fences 2', ~~stride distance in combinations to be adjusted to 20' for small, and 22' for Medium~~. Large, measuring 13.2 hands but not exceeding 14.2 hands; fences 2'6". [added Feb 2010]. Pony/Rider combination may NOT cross-enter into the Regular Pony Hunter division. [Dec 2010]. [March 2017]
10. Regular Pony Hunter - Small, measuring under 12.2 hands; fences 2'3", stride distance in combinations to be adjusted to 20'. Medium, measuring 12.2 but under 13.2 hands; fences 2'6", stride distance in combinations to be adjusted to 22'. Large, measuring 13.2 hands but not exceeding 14.2 hands; fences 2'9" ~~3'~~. [Dec 2010]

Ponies: Adults cannot ride in Pony Hunter, Pony Equitation, or ~~Pony Jumper Divisions~~. For the purpose of showing, the small/medium and large ponies will show as one class with fences and stride distances adjusted for small, medium, and large. The top element of a fence may not be changed for the different heights; however, you may add a rail under the top rail in order to make the fences less airy. A USEF permanent measurement card or an AHJA measurement card must be presented for any pony before being issued an exhibitor's number when showing in Schooling Pony or Pony Hunter Divisions. Ponies without a USEF card will be measured by the AHJA at the beginning of each show year and that measurement will stand for that year. Any AHJA officer or any two members of the AHJA Board of Directors may request a pony be measured at any AHJA show. Refusal by any exhibitor to present their pony for measurement when requested by an AHJA representative will result in suspension from showing in any AHJA rated show until the pony is submitted for measurement. A USEF approved measuring stick will be used to measure ponies. When measuring shod ponies, the height of shoes measured at the heel will be subtracted from the measured height. [May 2019]

11. Schooling Hunter - Fences 2'3". Open to all horses and ponies, shown by juniors, amateurs or professionals.
12. Pre-Children/Pre-Adult Hunter – Fences 2'3" to 2'6". Open to horses and ponies to be ridden by junior or adult amateur exhibitors. A horse/rider combination may not cross-enter into any class where fences are 3' or higher.
13. Baby Green Hunter - Fences 2'6". Open to a horse or pony of any age in its first or second year of showing over fences that has not jumped higher than 3' in AHJA recognized shows, ~~excluding equitation~~. [January 2018] (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.) May be shown by juniors, amateurs or professionals. A horse or pony showing over fences higher than 3' is immediately ineligible to show baby green. May cross enter any other division at 3' or lower.
14. Modified Hunter – Fences 2'6". Open to horses or ponies. Maybe shown by juniors, amateurs, or professionals. [Jan 2013]
15. Low Hunter - Fences 2'9". Open to all horses and ponies. May be shown by juniors, amateurs or professionals.

16. ~~Pre-Green Hunters~~ - A horse of any age, in its first or second year of showing (need not be consecutive years), shown by a junior, amateur or professional. The horse may not show in any AHJA recognized classes that require a horse to jump 3'3" or higher, excluding equitation. (If an exhibitor chooses to enter a division requiring his/her horse to jump 3'3" or higher, except an equitation division, the horse will forfeit one green year.) 1st year horses show at 3'; 2nd year horses show at 3'3". [January 2018]
17. Children's Hunter - Fences 3'. Open to horses and ponies, ridden by those who have not reached their 18th birthday. The horse/rider combination may not cross-enter into the Junior Division at the same show.
18. Adult Amateur Hunter - Fences 3'. Open to horses and ponies, ridden by non-professionals aged 18 or older. The rider does not have to own the horse/pony being exhibited. The horse/rider or pony/rider combination may not cross-enter into the A/O division.
19. Junior/Amateur Owner Hunter - Fences 3'3". Open to horses or ponies shown by junior riders, or by an amateur owner rider (non-professional, 18 years old or older, who owns the horse/pony being exhibited). Horse/rider and pony/rider combinations may not cross enter into Children's Hunter or Adult Amateur Hunter at the same show.
20. Regular Working Hunter - Fences 3'3" to 3'6". Open to horses and ponies shown by a junior, amateur or professional rider. Cross-entering where eligible.

8.1.2 Equitation Divisions

Note: A rider may enter only one Equitation Division (1 flat class and 1 over fence class) at a Show. For Year-Ends Awards, points for the Flat and Over Fence classes within the same division will be combined. Awards will be based on total Flat and Over Fences points. [Dec 2010]

1. Walk/Trot Equitation Flat 8 & Under- Open to beginner, ~~adult~~ or a child **8 years of age or under**; to be shown at a walk and a trot. Anyone showing in this class/division is prohibited from showing in any other class or division, except the Walk/Trot Equitation Over Poles, Walk/Trot Hunter and Crosspole Hunter Divisions. Entering any class/division other than those divisions at any AHJA recognized show will result in permanent loss of eligibility for the Walk/Trot Divisions. A rider may compete in this division for no more than two show years. [March 2017] **[May 2019]**
2. Walk/Trot Equitation Flat 9 & Over- Open to beginner, ~~adult or a child~~ **9 years of age or over**; to be shown at a walk and a trot. Anyone showing in this class/division is prohibited from showing in any other class or division, except the Walk/Trot Equitation Over Poles, Walk/Trot Hunter and Crosspole Hunter Divisions. Entering any class/division other than those divisions at any AHJA recognized show will result in permanent loss of eligibility for the Walk/Trot Divisions. A rider may compete in this division for no more than two show years. [March 2017] **[May 2019]**
3. Walk/Trot Equitation Over Poles 8 & Under- Open to beginner, ~~adult~~ or child. Over fence classes will be limited to pole and the course shall be trotted once around the outside. Anyone showing in this class/division is prohibited from showing in any other class or division, except the Walk/Trot Equitation Flat, Walk/Trot Hunter and Crosspole Hunter Divisions. Entering any class/division other than those divisions at any AHJA recognized show will result in permanent loss of

eligibility for the Walk/Trot Divisions. A rider may compete in this division for no more than two show years. [March 2017]

4. Walk/Trot Equitation Over Poles 9 & Over- Open to beginner, adult or child. Over fence classes will be limited to pole and the course shall be trotted once around the outside. Anyone showing in this class/division is prohibited from showing in any other class or division, except the Walk/Trot Equitation Flat, Walk/Trot Hunter and Crosspole Hunter Divisions. Entering any class/division other than those divisions at any AHJA recognized show will result in permanent loss of eligibility for the Walk/Trot Divisions. A rider may compete in this division for no more than two show years. [March 2017]
5. Crosspole Equitation Flat–To be shown at a walk, trot and canter in both directions. The rider cannot show in any other class or division except Walk/Trot Hunter, Crosspole Hunter, and Crosspole Equitation Over Fences. See section 4.6.1 regarding Crosspole Split. [March 2017]
6. Crosspole Equitation Over Fences–Open to horse or pony; fences shall be set as cross-poles at a height of 12" at the cross and the course will be twice around the outside at the trot or canter, being two lines of at least two fences each line. The rider cannot show in any other class or division except Walk/Trot Hunter, Crosspole Hunter, and Crosspole Equitation Flat. See section 4.6.1 regarding Crosspole Split. [March 2017]
7. Short Stirrup Equitation Flat– Open to riders 12 years and under. Once a rider competes higher than 2' over fences in any other division/class of any AHJA recognized show, except the Starting Hunter Division, he/she may not ever again in the current year or future years compete in the Short Stirrup Hunter or Equitation division or classes.
8. Short Stirrup Equitation Over Fences– Open to riders 12 years and under; fences to be 18" to 2' with the course being either twice around the outside, a figure eight, or an inside/outside- outside/inside design. No oxers, rollbacks, or halts [Dec 2011] are allowed. Course may be trotted or cantered. Once a rider competes higher than 2' over fences in any other division/class of any AHJA recognized show, except the Starting Hunter Division, he/she may not ever again in the current year or future years compete in the Short Stirrup Hunter or Equitation division or classes.
9. Long Stirrup Equitation Flat– Open to riders 13 years and older. Once a rider competes higher than 2' over fences in any other division/class of any AHJA recognized show, except the Starting Hunter Division, he/she may not ever again in the current year or future years compete in the Long Stirrup Hunter or Equitation division or classes.
10. Long Stirrup Equitation Over Fences– Open to riders 13 years and over; fences to be 18" to 2' with the course being either twice around the outside, a figure eight, or an inside/outside-outside/inside design. No oxers, rollbacks, or halts [Dec 2011] are allowed. Course may be trotted or cantered. Once a rider competes higher than 2' over fences in any other division/class of any AHJA recognized show, except the Starting Hunter Division, he/she may not ever again in the current year or future years compete in the Long Stirrup Hunter or Equitation division or classes.
11. Pre-Children/Pre-Adult Equitation Flat- To be ridden by a junior or adult amateur exhibitor. **A**

rider may not cross-enter into any class where fences are 3' or higher.

12. Pre-Children/Pre-Adult Equitation over Fences – Fences 2'3" to 2'6". To be ridden by junior or adult amateur exhibitors. *A rider may not cross-enter into any class where fences are 3' or higher.*
13. Children's Pony Equitation Flat- Open only to ponies and junior riders ages 17 and under.
14. Children's Pony Equitation Over Fences- Open only to ponies and junior riders ages 17 and under. Fence heights shall be limited to those of the Children's Pony Hunter Division. See comments following Children's Pony Hunter.
15. Pony Equitation Flat – Open only to ponies and junior riders ages 17 and under.
16. Pony Equitation over Fences – Open only to ponies and junior riders ages 17 and under. Fence heights shall be limited to those of the Regular Pony Hunter Division. See comments following Regular Pony Hunter.
17. Children's Equitation Flat– Open only to Junior exhibitors. This division may be combined with Adult Amateur Equitation Flat if either division has fewer than three (3) exhibitors, though they will be pinned separately.
18. Children's Equitation Over Fences- Open only to Junior exhibitors; fences 3'. This division may be combined with Adult Amateur Equitation Over Fences if either division has fewer than three (3) exhibitors, though they will be pinned separately.
19. Adult Amateur Equitation Flat– Open to those non-professional competitors who are 18 years of age or older. This division may be combined with Children's Equitation Flat if either division has fewer than three (3) exhibitors, though they will be pinned separately.
20. Adult Amateur Equitation Over Fences– Open to those non-professional competitors who are 18 years of age or older; fences 3'. This division may be combined with Children's Equitation Over Fences if either division has fewer than three (3) exhibitors, though they will be pinned separately.
21. Junior/Amateur-Owner Medal- Open to non-professional riders; fences 3'6". **Riders MAY NOT cross-enter into any other equitation class or division at the same horse show.** This class will consist of an over fences round. The judge may call back at least four (4) riders for a test of their choice. ~~followed by a flat phase. The judge must call back at least 4 entries for the flat phase.~~ Testing on the flat at the judge's discretion; tests may include but are not limited to USEF Equitation Tests 1- 19. [March 2017]

8.2 Jumpers

8.2.1 General Rules

- USEF Jumper rules will be followed wherever AHJA rules do not cover an issue.
- Rules governing jumper classes must be stated in prize list.

- Riders may walk the course (on foot) prior to the first class, but riders may school over the course at show management's discretion.
- Classes will be held and judged in accordance with the current Tables published in the USEF Rule Book. The method of holding and judging of each class will be clearly stated in the description of the class (i.e. list which table the class will be run under, or provide additional instructions).

8.2.2 Start and Finish of Course

Both a starting line at least 12' before the first obstacle and a finishing line at least 24' beyond the last obstacle must be indicated by two markers at least 12' apart on each end of each line. Riders must cross the starting line between the markers--mounted upon their horses--and, to complete a course, they must cross the finishing line between the markers, headed in the proper direction and mounted upon their horses. Once the finish line has been crossed, a fall of horse or rider does not count.

8.2.3 Jump Offs

To be held over the original course; may include additional obstacles. In a jump-off, the sequence of obstacles may be in any order or direction. Obstacles may be raised (not past maximum class height), lowered, broadened or narrowed. Courses may be shortened.

8.2.4 Fences and Courses

- Fences may be bright colors, and consist of a combination of any of the following: brush; gates; oxers; post and rail; water; liverpool; ditch; wall; banks; coops. Ground lines are optional. Safety to horse and rider is of utmost importance.
- Combinations of two or three elements are allowed, as well as angled fences. Please be sure that the course has a smooth flow to it, otherwise, it will be difficult to ride

8.2.5 Time

Time shall be taken from the instant the horse's chest reaches the starting line until it reaches the finishing line; a bell or buzzer shall be sounded to tell the rider to start the course and to stop the rider on course should he/she be eliminated.

8.2.6 Faults

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| • Knockdown | 4 faults |
| • 1 st Refusal | 4 faults |
| • 2 nd Refusal | 4 faults |
| • 3 rd Refusal | elimination |
| • Fall of horse or rider | elimination |
| • Knockdown timers | elimination |
| • Off course | elimination |

8.2.7 Jumper Judge

Jumpers may be judged by a hunter judge, an AHJA approved judge, or a judge who has received prior approval by the Show Committee Chairperson. Judging at a Jumper show does not count towards the number of times a judge may officiate at a Hunter show.

8.2.8 Jumper Divisions

Where rules are unclear, then the AHJA jumper rules will be enforced according to outlines listed in the USEF Rule Book. All heights are open to horses and ponies, and to juniors, amateurs, and/or professionals. Horses/riders showing in the .65 meter classes **may not** cross-enter into any other *JUMPER* classes at that horse show. Hunter classes may be cross-entered accordingly.

0.65 meter division)	- Fences 2'(horses/riders may not cross-enter into any other jumper
0.75 meter	- Fences 2'5"
0.85 meter	- Fences 2'9"
0.95 meter	- Fences 3'1"
1.0 meter	- Fences 3'3"
1.05 meter	- Fences 3'5"
1.10 meter	- Fences 3'7"

9. REGULAR-RATED (USEF) HEIGHTS AND DEFINITIONS

All Regular-Rated divisions will follow USEF definitions and restrictions. The following divisions are recognized by the AHJA and are eligible for Year-End awards.

9.1 Hunter Divisions

1. ~~Children's Pony Hunter~~ - S/M 2', L 2'6
2. Green Pony Hunter - S 2'3, M 2'6, L 2'9. Points from the following divisions will be combined and recognized for this division: [March 2017]
 - Small/Medium Green Pony
 - Large Green Pony
3. Pony Hunter - S 2'3, M 2'6, L 3'. Points from the following divisions will be combined and recognized for this division:
 - Small Pony
 - Medium Pony
 - Large Pony
4. Children's Hunter - 3'. Points from the following divisions will be combined and recognized for this division:
 - Children's Hunter 14 & younger
 - Children's Hunter 15 – 17
5. Adult Amateur Hunter - 3'. Points from the following divisions will be combined and recognized for this division:
 - Adult Amateur Hunter 18-35
 - Adult Amateur Hunter 36+
 - Adult Amateur Hunter 36 - 45
 - Adult Amateur Hunter 46+
6. Junior Working Hunter – 3'3 and 3'6. Points from the following divisions will be combined and recognized for this division: [March 2017]

- **Small Junior Hunter**
 - Small Junior Hunter 15 & Younger
 - Small Junior Hunter 16 – 17
 - Small Junior Hunter 3’3
- **Large Junior Hunter**
 - Large Junior Hunter 15 & Younger
 - Large Junior Hunter 16 – 17
 - Large Junior Hunter 3’3

7. Amateur Owner Hunter – 3’3 and 3’6. Points from the following divisions will be combined and recognized for this division: [March 2017]
- Amateur Owner 18-35
 - Amateur Owner 36+
 - Amateur Owner 3’3

9.2 Jumper Divisions

- ~~8. Pony Jumper~~ [March 2017]
- 9. Low Children’s/Adult Jumper
- 10. High Children’s/Adult Jumper
- ~~11. Junior/Amateur Jumper~~ [March 2017]

9.3 Cross Circuit Participation and Restrictions

Regular-rated participation will count towards local-rated class restrictions. Example, if a rider participates in a regular-rated show in the children’s division (3’), that horse/rider may not participate in the pre-children’s division at local rated shows. [Dec 2010]