



Ohio Hunter Jumper Association



ASSOCIATION RULEBOOK

2026

Pictured: 2025 OHJA Horse of the Year, Top Shelf, owned and shown by Lorien Parry Luehrs

Association Profile

About

At the Ohio Hunter Jumper Association (OHJA), our mission is to champion the dynamic growth of the hunter/jumper discipline throughout Ohio. We achieve this by approving and supporting horse shows at both local and rated levels, facilitating point systems for year-end awards, and promoting educational opportunities within the equestrian community.

Driven by a profound commitment to horsemanship and sportsmanship, OHJA is dedicated to nurturing a thriving and inclusive community of riders. We aspire to elevate the standards of horsemanship, instill a love for the equestrian sports, and create a supportive environment for riders of all levels.

In addition to our competitive focus, we actively contribute to the education of our members by providing scholarships and grants. These investments not only foster individual growth, but also contribute to the collective development of the hunter/jumper community.

As stewards of the equestrian spirit, OHJA is steadfast in its dedication to promoting fair play, respect, and camaraderie among our members. By upholding these values, we aim to create an enduring legacy that enriches the lives of our riders, strengthens the bonds within our community, and advances the noble traditions of the hunter/jumper discipline in Ohio.

Ethics Policy

As members of OHJA, we recognize our role in furthering the hunter and jumper sport by holding ourselves to the highest ethical standards. We further agree:

- To adhere to the rules and standards set forth by OHJA, USHJA and USEF and to work to further their goals and objectives.
- To ensure that the welfare of the horse is the foremost consideration and that every horse is treated humanely, with dignity and compassion.
- To conduct all business affairs with transparency and accuracy, to promote confidence among all equestrians and the public in the hunter/jumper industry.

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Pictured: 2026 OHJA Medal Finals Champion, Ainsley Russell

Association Contacts

2026 Board of Directors & Staff

President:	Maureen Fagan (Class B)	P: (614) 332-2074 E: limericklanefarms@gmail.com
Vice President:	Jamie Mills (Class A)	P: (614) 537-0067 E: empressvalleyfarm@yahoo.com
Secretary:	Sarah Painter, (Class B)	P: (614) 332-5879 E: sarah_m_painter@yahoo.com
Treasurer:	Judy Brentlinger (Class A)	P: (614) 885-9475 E: jbrentlinger@mac.com
Directors:	Heather Pinnick (Class B)	P: (513) 255-4863 E: burrahe@miamioh.edu
	Sarah Ash (Class B)	P: (614) 206-5452 E: badash7070@gmail.com
	Scott Dehelian (Class A)	P: (614) 371-0454 E: scottdehelian@aol.com
	Allison McBreen (Class A)	P: (630) 269-6182 E: alm03@aol.com
	Noelle Mumpower-Davis (Class A)	P: (937) 875-2375 E: mumpy67@gmail.com
	Kristi Carlin (Class B)	P: (614) 595-6781 E: kscarlin@gmail.com
Executive Secretary:	Lorien Parry Luehrs	P: (312) 315-9191 E: ohiohunterjumperassoc@gmail.com

2026 Important Contacts

POINTS/MEMBERSHIP

Lorien Parry Luehrs
P: (312)315-9191
E: ohiohunterjumperassoc@gmail.com

HORSE SHOWS

Sarah Ash
P: (614)206-5452
E: badash7070@gmail.com

RULES

Scott Dehelian
P: (614)371-0454
E: scottdehelian@aol.com

2026 OHJA Horse Show Rules

The Ohio Hunter/Jumper Association invites your show to become a member for the 2026 show year (December 1, 2025, through November 30, 2026). We feel that the shows affiliated with our Association will benefit from increased revenue through the support our membership can give. The Association will also provide a more diversified show program which may prove more interesting to spectators.

To become a member show of the Ohio Hunter/Jumper Association, the following important rules should be followed:

I. Member Show Application & Approval

A. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS AND INFORMATION

1. The OHJA Board of Directors shall administrate the reservation and approval of show dates.
2. Multiple shows may be held on the same date only if they are more than 50 road miles apart from each other, unless the party holding the protected show date agrees to waive this restriction. The road mileage must be verified through MapQuest using the most direct route.
3. A show shall offer classes in at least six (6) OHJA divisions before it can be an approved show. There shall be at least three (3) exhibitors in a division at a show for points to be counted. As long as a minimum of three (3) entrants complete the first class, all subsequent classes in the division will count for horse show and high score awards regardless of how many complete and/or compete in the remaining classes. This rule also applies to all jumper divisions. Just going through the start timers will not count as completing the course. The first class determines the point value category. For an OHJA approved show to maintain its approval for year-end points, at least four (4) of the required six (6) divisions offered must fill.
4. The number of classes a show may offer:
 - a. One day horse show:
 - (1.) Hunter divisions: minimum of three (3) classes (two jumping, one under saddle) and a maximum of four (4) classes (three jumping, one under saddle) per division.
 - (2.) Jumper divisions: minimum of two (2) classes and a maximum of three (3) classes per division.
 - (3.) Equitation divisions (excluding Walk/Trot and Cross Rail): two (2) (one flat, one over fences) per division.
 - (a.) One OHJA Medal class may be held. If run as separate height sections, each section may be held only once.

- (4.) Walk/Trot and Cross Rail Equitation divisions: minimum of three (3) classes (two jumping, one flat) and a maximum of four (4) classes (three jumping and one flat) per division.
- b. Multiple-day horse shows:
 - (1.) Hunter divisions: three (3) classes (two jumping, one under saddle) and a maximum of five (5) classes (four jumping, one under saddle) per division.
 - (2.) Jumper divisions: minimum of two (2) classes and a maximum of four (4) classes per division.
 - (3.) Equitation divisions (excluding Walk/Trot and Cross Rail): minimum of two (2) classes (one flat, one over fences) and a maximum of three (3) classes (one flat, two over fences) per division. Exception: shows approved by the USHJA Outreach Program may offer a maximum of four (4) classes (one flat, three over fences).
 - (a.) One OHJA Medal class may be held. If run as separate height sections, each section may be held only once.
 - (4.) Walk/Trot and Cross Rail Equitation divisions: minimum of three (3) classes (two jumping, one flat) and a maximum of five (5) classes (four jumping and one flat) per division.
- 5. The Association may revoke reserved or approved show dates whenever past rule violations warrant. Any extraordinary circumstances on the date approvals or changes will be handled by the OHJA Board of Directors.
- 6. Loss of points for failure to meet the general requirements/rules by the show management is THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE HORSE SHOW MANAGEMENT and does not lie with the OHJA.
- 7. Except for extraordinary changes, all rules in effect at the beginning of the show season (December 1) shall remain in effect until the end of the season (November 30).
- 8. Show management may not have multiple one-day horse shows within a seven (7) day period.

B. SHOW DATE RESERVATIONS

- 1. Previous year show dates will be temporarily protected so that a member show may renew their dates.
- 2. A protected date for a previous member show will only be held up to 120 days before that show date. If applications and dues have not been received by that time, the date will become open.
- 3. Any open show date may be reserved provided the application and fee are received at least 45 days in advance of that date.
- 4. Applications for show dates shall be sent in on the form provided by the Association.
- 5. A Member Show fee of \$55.00 for each local rated show and \$75.00 for each USEF rated show is to accompany the show date application. This date application is for that specific date only and is NOT REFUNDABLE. Date TRANSFER/RESCHEDULE will be on a case by case basis with Board approval.

6. The show date applicant must be a current member of the Association.
7. In the event of multiple requests for an open date, the OHJA Board of Directors shall award the date as fairly as possible in the best interests of the Association.
8. If a show manager reserves a show date and then cancels said show, that manager has the right of first refusal to reserve that date the following year. If that show manager reserves the date and cancels that date for a second consecutive year, then that date will become an open date. Any show manager may apply for that date for the next year, excluding the manager that canceled their shows.

C. PRIZE LIST AND SHOW APPROVAL

1. The prize list of a proposed member show must be received by the Association at least 30 days before the date of the show.
2. The prize list should include complete class specifications and indicate which classes are OHJA approved (or are not).
3. The show will receive final approval as an OHJA Member Show if the prize list concurs with current OHJA Show Rules. If changes to the prize list are required, the show is responsible for making them prior to making the prize list available. The prize list should contain a complete schedule for the entire show. Ring size and dimensions should be provided for the competition rings, schooling and lunging areas. There must be a schedule for each date shown on the front of the prize list. Deletions to the schedule may be made without prior notification to the OHJA Executive Secretary. NO additions may be made to the schedule without contacting (via e-mail, phone or regular mail) the OHJA Executive Secretary for approval. The new approved schedule must then be made available to all potential exhibitors.
4. The following statements are to be printed on all member show prize lists:
 - a. The _____ Horse Show is operated in accordance with the current rules of the Ohio Hunter/Jumper Association.
 - b. To be eligible for the Annual High Score Awards, the exhibitor and the owner must be members, and the horse or pony must be registered with the Association. Applications may be obtained from the Show Secretary.

II. Show Organization & Obligations

A. RULES

1. All shows shall be run in accordance with the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) rules whenever OHJA rules do not apply.

B. SHOW DAY DURATION

1. The show should restrict the number of classes so that the show ends at a reasonable time of day.

C. SHOW SECRETARY RESPONSIBILITIES

A Show Secretary who is appointed by the show shall be responsible to the OHJA for the following:

1. All show results must be sent to the OHJA Executive Secretary. They must also include the total number of horses that competed at the horse show whether shown in an OHJA/USEF rated or non- rated division. Results must be received via e-mail or postmarked within 10 days of the close of the show. Failure to comply will result in a \$100.00 fee for that show. Failure to send results within three (3) months will prevent next year's protected date approval. Results for any show held after November 15 must be received via e- mail or postmarked by December 2 for points to count or be fined \$100.00.
2. Show reports, evaluation sheets, membership applications and OHJA rules are available to download on the OHJA website. These forms shall be displayed and made available to anyone at that show. The Show Secretary will return completed forms to the OHJA.
3. The show secretary will be required to submit all results to the OHJA Executive Secretary in ShowPro electronic results format or in USEF electronic results format. Failure to submit the results in one of these formats will result in a \$75.00 fine for each offense.
4. Horse show management must enforce all rules of the Association from the time entries are submitted to the competition grounds until their departure from the grounds.

D. JUDGES

1. Show managers will be required to use judges with a USEF Recorded (R) or registered (r) status. Other qualified individuals may be selected, but the show manager should submit the name and qualifications of the prospective judge for approval from the OHJA Board of Directors at least 30 days prior to the show. Once a judge is approved, they will remain on the approved judges list for three (3) years. A judge may be removed from the list at any time by a majority vote of the OHJA Board of Directors. A name may be added at any point, without submission from a show manager with a majority vote of the OHJA Board of Directors.
2. It is strongly recommended that judges hold no more than four (4) judging cards open at one time during the horse show. Management may ask judges to keep more cards open if the entries make it feasible, but it is the judge's decision as to whether they are comfortable doing so.

E. SHOW MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Noridongon horse show grounds without an ASTM/SEI approved helmet.
2. Emergency facilities should be arranged for. An ambulance, emergency vehicle, EMT or nurse should be on the grounds at all times, or on call.
3. A veterinarian, blacksmith and doctor should be on call, if not on the grounds.
4. Stabling, if available, should be adequate and clean. Bedding should be available for purchase.
5. Adequate restrooms/port-a-lets should be provided and maintained during the horse show.
6. Water facilities and wash racks should be convenient.
7. Schooling and lunging areas should be of ample size, conveniently located to the show ring. Schooling areas should have a vertical fence and an oxer and be properly supervised. Proper lighting is to be available if the show is to have evening performances.
8. Food concessions should be available on schooling day and during the entire horse show, if possible.
9. The scheduled order of classes should not be changed without adequate notice to the exhibitors.
10. Judges should be furnished with cards, all OHJA class specifications and courses. Comfortable seating and shelter need to be provided.
11. If a question arises over a pony's height and it has no valid USEF measurement card, the pony will need to be measured by an OHJA Board Member and a veterinarian chosen by the board or a USEF steward. This will be done at a predetermined time and place as convenient as possible for all concerned. The owner of the pony must pay all fees associated with the measurement including but not limited to fees of the veterinarian or steward, travel fees and miscellaneous fees. After the measurement a letter will be issued by the OHJA Board of Directors to the owner as permanent proof of measurement for OHJA shows not sanctioned by USEF. If the pony is proven to not be the size stated, points will be surrendered from that horse show retroactive to the beginning of the horse show year.
12. A champion and reserve for each eligible OHJA division (all Equitation, Hunter and Jumper divisions) is to be determined after the last class for each division, provided that the minimum number of classes were held (see Rules I.A.4). The determination is to be done in a manner consistent with current USEF specifications. The number of entries in the first class over fences in a division will be used to determine the number of entries used for the year-end point calculations. The top four (4) horses or ponies from those receiving points over fences (points up to sixth place) also receive any points from the under saddle class. The top two (2) are then the show champion and reserve. Points are currently assigned in this manner: 1st=10, 2nd=6, 3rd=4, 4th=2, 5th=1, 6th=1/2.
13. Show management is required to provide safety cups for the back rail of all oxers in the show ring. Safety cups or regular cups with wooden dowel rods for pins must be provided for the standards used for oxers in the schooling area.

F. COURSE PLANNING

1. The fence height or the range of heights is to be specified for all classes in the prize list.
2. Courses should consist of at least six (6) to eight (8) fences, including oxers. It is recommended that oxers are not used in the Short Stirrup or Limit Rider divisions.
3. A ground line is recommended for all fences.
4. 50 percent or more of the fences are to be at least the stated height and none shall be more than 3" over or under. Any first fence, brush fence, ditch or bank is excluded from this requirement.
5. Course illustrations should be posted at least one (1) hour before class time.
6. Course design assistance may be acquired from the Association if a member show requests it.

III. Year-End Points & Awards

A. TERMS OF COMPETITION

Year-end points and awards will be made to horses and riders which earn the highest number of points in their division at shows recognized by OHJA from December 1 through November 30 under the following conditions:

1. Awards are restricted to members of the Association.
2. Horses and ponies must be recorded with OHJA, and the owner must be an OHJA member to receive points. The rider must be an OHJA member to receive points in the equitation divisions.
3. A division must have been offered (points accrued) in at least six (6) approved shows, and at least three (3) members shall have received points over fences in that division during the show year to be eligible for year-end awards. Divisions added by the Association mid year will begin accruing points the following year.
4. There shall be at least three (3) exhibitors in a division at a show for points to be counted for year-end points. As long as a minimum of three (3) entrants complete the first class over fences, all subsequent classes in the division will count for horse show and year-end points regardless of how many complete the remaining classes. The hunter under saddle and flat equitation classes may not run as the first class of the division.
5. Only classes that follow OHJA specifications will be counted.
6. Points accumulated toward Year-End Points and Awards by any horse found to have received a forbidden substance and penalized by USEF shall be nullified by OHJA for the year in which published by USEF.
7. The age of an individual on December 1 shall be maintained throughout the entire show year.

8. Year-End Points and Awards will be awarded for first (1st) through eighth (8th) places on the based on the exhibitor count shown in Point Table I. For the purpose of calculating points, the number of entries for all classes will be determined by the number of entries in the first performance class of the section. Points are calculated by adding the point value on the increment chart to the number of entries in the first performance class of the section. If the first performance class has fewer than three (3) entries that show and place, points will be determined by the number of entries in the second performance class of the section.

POINT TABLE I (for OHJA Year-End Points and Awards, Rule III.A.8)	
#Exh	3 and over
Place	Points
1st	40 + number of entrants
2nd	35 + number of entrants
3rd	30 + number of entrants
4th	25 + number of entrants
5th	24 + number of entrants
6th	23 + number of entrants
7th	22 + number of entrants
8th	21 + number of entrants

9. The divisional champion will be awarded 2.0 times the total first (1st) place point value of the first class in that section and reserve champion will be awarded 1.2 times the total first (1st) place value of the first class in that section Rule III.A.7, provided that the minimum number of classes as specified in Rule I.A.4 were held.

B. HIGH POINT AND PERPETUAL AWARDS

Each year, OHJA will award the following overall awards: High Point Junior Rider, High Point Amateur Rider, Open High Point, Trainer of the Year, Horse of the Year, Junior Sportsmanship, Amateur Sportsmanship, Trainer Sportsmanship, Most Improved Rider and Horse Show of the Year.

1. High Point Junior Rider: Awarded to the junior rider (under show age 18) who accumulates the most points in a single junior, children's, pony or short stirrup/limit or equivalent hunter or jumper division.
2. High Point Amateur Rider: Awarded to the amateur rider (non-professionals over show age 18) who accumulates the most points in a single adult, amateur or equivalent hunter or jumper division.
3. High Point Open Rider: Awarded to the rider who accumulates the most points in a single open, non-restricted or equivalent hunter or jumper division.
4. Trainer of the Year: The top 4 point earners, calculated by number of top 4 placings of themselves and clients across all OHJA divisions, will be nominated. All OHJA members will be permitted to cast one (1) vote. The trainer with the highest number of votes will receive the award.

5. **Horse of the Year:** The top 4 point earners, calculated by number of points in a single OHJA hunter or jumper division, will be nominated. All OHJA members will be permitted to cast one (1) vote. The horse with the highest number of votes will receive the award.
6. **Junior Sportsmanship:** All OHJA members will be permitted to nominate one (1) junior member for this award. The four (4) junior riders with the most nominations (plus any ties) will be placed on the ballot. All OHJA members will be permitted to cast one (1) vote. The junior rider with the highest number of votes will receive the award.
7. **Amateur Sportsmanship:** All OHJA members will be permitted to nominate one (1) amateur member for this award. The four (4) amateur riders with the most nominations (plus any ties) will be placed on the ballot. All OHJA members will be permitted to cast one (1) vote. The amateur rider with the highest number of votes will receive the award.
8. **Trainer Sportsmanship:** All OHJA members will be permitted to nominate one (1) trainer member for this award. The four (4) trainers with the most nominations (plus any ties) will be placed on the ballot. All OHJA members will be permitted to cast one (1) vote. The trainer with the highest number of votes will receive the award.
9. **Horse Show of the Year:** All OHJA members will be permitted to nominate one (1) member horse show for this award. The four (4) horse shows with the most nominations (plus any ties) will be placed on the ballot. All OHJA members will be permitted to cast one (1) vote. The horse show with the highest number of votes will receive the award.

IV. OHJA Divisions

A. HUNTER DIVISION SPECIFICATIONS

Open Hunter Divisions. Listed by descending fence height alphabetically.

1. **Performance Hunter:** Open to all horses. No restrictions by previous show history.
Fence Height: 3'3" to 3'6"
2. **Green Hunter:** This division is set at the following height options: 3'0", 3'3", 3'6", and 3'9" as defined by USEF. Only one OHJA year-end award will be given in this division. All four heights must be offered at horse shows, and the winners will be determined by all heights being judged together. *Fence Heights: 3'0", 3'3", 3'6" and 3'9"*
3. **Low Hunter:** Open to horses and ponies in any classification of showing. *Fence Height: 3'0"*
4. **Thoroughbred Hunter:** Open to 'Thoroughbred' horses that are in possession of Breed Registry papers. All horse shows must require riders to verify registration on the day of the horse show through one of the following methods: The Jockey Club Certificate of Foal Registration or lip tattoo with the 5-cross pedigree and a successful tattoo lookup from The Jockey Club's Tattoo Identification Services (located at www.registry.jockeyclub.com). If neither of the above is available, a letter from The Jockey Club verifying the horse's identity is acceptable. Cross- entry into other sections is allowed. *Fence Height: 2'6" or 3'0"*; spreads not to exceed fence height.
 - a. If a 2'6" and 3'0" section is offered for this division at the same show an individual horse may only accumulate points in one of the sections.

5. **Baby Green Hunter:** Open to horses or ponies of any age in their first or second year of showing at 2'6", who have never competed over fences higher than 2'6". A horse is eligible for year-end awards for either or both of two consecutive years. Once a horse has shown in the Green Hunter division, it may no longer compete in the Baby Green Hunter division. [Fence Height: 2'6"](#)
6. **Special Hunter:** Open to all horses and ponies. [Fence Height: 2'6"](#)
7. **Open Hunter:** Open to all horses and ponies. [Fence Height: 2'3"](#)
8. **Very Low Hunter:** Open to all horses and riders. [Fence Height: 2'0"](#)
9. **Future Hunter:** Open to riders of any age riding beginner horses or ponies that have never shown over fences higher than 2'0". Simple changes are not to be penalized. [Fence Height: 1'6" to 2'0"](#)

Amateur and Junior Hunter Divisions. Listed by descending fence height alphabetically.

10. **Amateur-Owner Hunter:** Open to horses ridden by an amateur owner or an amateur member of the owner's family, 18 years of age and older. [Fence Height: 3'3" to 3'6"](#)
11. **Junior Hunter 3'6":** Open to horses ridden by a junior exhibitor. [Fence Height: 3'6"](#)
 - a. May be combined with Junior Hunter 3'3", if entries warrant. If divisions are combined, and no fence height is reported, points earned will be awarded towards year-end standings in the Junior Hunter 3'3" division.
12. **Junior Hunter 3'3":** Open to horses ridden by a junior exhibitor. [Fence Height: 3'3"](#)
 - a. May be combined with Junior Hunter 3'6", if entries warrant. If divisions are combined, and no fence height is reported, points earned will be awarded towards year-end standings in the Junior Hunter 3'3" division.
13. **Adult Amateur Hunter:** To be ridden by Amateurs who are no longer eligible to compete as Junior Exhibitors. Riders may not compete in any other classes at the same competition where fences exceed 3'3", except the Adult Amateur Jumper and Amateur Owner Hunter. Any rider showing in the Amateur Owner Hunter division may compete with one (1) different horse in the Adult Amateur Hunter division and must own or have a USEF registered lease of said horse. Ponies may be shown by adults, suitability to count. Entries need not be jogged for soundness. [Fence Height: 2'9" to 3'0"](#); spreads not to exceed fence height.
14. **Children's Hunter Horse:** To be ridden by exhibitors who have not reached their 18th birthday by December 1 of the current competition year. Riders entered in Children's Hunter Horse sections may not cross-enter in any other class in which the obstacles exceed 3'5" at the same competition (exception: Equitation classes up to 3'9", Jumper classes 1.20m and lower, Junior Hunter sections, USHJA National Hunter Derby Classic and USHJA International Hunter Derby). A Children's Hunter Horse rider may only compete with one different horse in the Junior Hunter sections. A Junior Hunter rider may only compete with one different horse in the Children's Hunter Horse section. Horses entered in Children's Hunter classes may not cross-enter Junior Hunter sections at the same competition. Riders entered in the Children's Hunter Horse section may only compete on one Children's Hunter Pony at the same competition. [Fence Height: 3'0"](#)

15. **Modified Children's/Adult Hunter:** Riders may not cross-enter any class where fences exceed 3'0" (except equitation) at the same show. In-and-outs optional. [Fence Height: 2'9"](#)
16. **Low Adult Hunter:** Open to exhibitors who have reached their 18th birthday as of December 1 of the current competition year. Riders may not cross-enter any class or section at the same competition where fences exceed 3'0". [Fence Height: 2'6"](#)
- a. Low Adult Amateur Hunter Combining/Dividing Sections: The Low Adult Amateur Hunter and Low Children's Hunter sections may be combined if there are fewer than four (4) entries in either section.
17. **Low Children's Hunter:** Open to exhibitors who have not yet reached their 18th birthday as of December 1 of the current competition year. Riders may not cross-enter at the same competition into the Children's Hunter, Pony Hunter or any class/section where fences exceed 3'0". [Fence Height: 2'6"](#)
- a. Low Children's Hunter Combining/Dividing Sections: The Low Children's Hunter section and the Low Adult Amateur Hunter sections may be combined if there are fewer than four (4) entries in either section.
18. **Limit Rider Hunter:** Open to horses and ponies ridden by exhibitors 12 years of age and over. Limited to riders who have never shown over fences 2'6" or higher or in any pony hunter/ jumper division. [Fence Height: 1'6" to 2'3"](#)
19. **Short Stirrup Hunter:** Open to horses and ponies ridden by junior exhibitors 11 years of age and under. Limited to riders who have never shown over fences 2'6" or higher or in any pony hunter/jumper division. [Fence Height: 1'6" to 2'3"](#)

Pony Hunter Divisions. Listed alphabetically.

20. **Children's Pony Hunter:** Open to ponies ridden by a Junior Exhibitor. Riders may not cross-enter any classes in which fences exceed 3'3" at the same show, except Medal classes, age group equitation classes and Children's Jumper classes. Ponies may not compete in the Children's section if also entered in the Pony Hunter division at the same show. The combination pony/rider is not eligible for USEF rated classes at the same show. To be judged on performance, soundness, manners, way of going, and suitability as a Children's Hunter Pony. Ponies need not be jogged for soundness. [Fence Heights: 2' \(for Small and Medium ponies\) and 2'6" \(for Large ponies\)](#); spreads not to exceed height of fence and no in-and-outs. Zone award will be presented annually as two sections: small/medium and large.
- a. If this division does not fill, it may be combined with the Children's Hunter horse.
21. **Green Pony Hunter:** Open to ponies not exceeding 14.2 hands. Ponies have 2 years green eligibility. [Fence Heights: 2'3"\(Small\), 2'6" \(Medium\) and 2'9" \(Large\).](#)
22. **Large Pony Hunter:** Large ponies over 13.2 hands, and not exceeding 14.2 hands. [Fence height 3"](#)
23. **Small Pony Hunter:** Small ponies not exceeding 12.2 hands. [Fence height: 2'3"](#)
24. **Medium Pony Hunter:** Medium ponies over 12.2 hands, and not exceeding 13.2 hands. [Fence height: 2'6"](#)

B. JUMPER DIVISION SPECIFICATIONS

Open Jumper Divisions. Listed by descending fence height alphabetically.

25. **Schooling/Training Jumper**: Open to horses and ponies. Table II-2b is recommended, but not required. For points to count, if a high and low section is offered for this division at the same show, an individual horse or pony may only compete in one of the sections.

Fence Height: .85m to 1.15m (approx. 2'9" to 3'9").

Amateur and Junior Jumper Divisions. Listed by descending fence height alphabetically.

Open to horses and ponies ridden by a junior or amateur rider. Horse/rider combinations may not cross-enter any **Junior or Amateur** Jumper section at the same show. Riders may cross-enter the **Junior or Amateur** Jumper section if ridden on a different horse at the same show. Sections may be divided by age of rider or by horse, if stated in the prize list. In order for points to count, if a high and low section is offered for this division at the same show, an individual horse/pony may only compete in one of the sections.

26. **Junior/Amateur Owner Jumper**: Fence Height: 1.15m to 1.35m (approx. 3'9" to 4'6").

27. **High Junior/Amateur Jumper**: Fence Height: 1.10m to 1.15m (approx. 3'6" to 3'9").

28. **Low Junior/Amateur Jumper**: Fence Height: 1.0m to 1.05m (approx. 3' to 3'6").
Riders may not compete above 1.30m (4'3") in any open class at the same show.

29. **Novice Junior/Amateur Jumper**: Open to horses and riders who qualify for the **junior** and **amateur** jumper divisions. Fence Height: .90m (approx. 3'0").

30. **Intermediate Junior/Amateur Jumper**: To be ridden by an intermediate **junior or amateur** rider as defined by the low/intermediate children's and adult hunter division. Cross-entering into the **Junior/Amateur Jumper** division on any horse at the same show is not allowed. Fence Height: .75m to .85m (approx. 2'6" to 2'9").

C. EQUITATION DIVISION SPECIFICATIONS

Age Equitation Divisions. Listed by descending fence height.

The age equitation divisions are split into the following age groups. Classes should be offered as specified below, but may be combined as needed if entries are limited.

- 31. **Adult Equitation:** For adults 18 years of age and over. [Fence Height: 3'0" or 3'6"](#)
- 32. **15-17 Years Equitation:** [Fence Height: 3'0" to 3'6"](#)
- 33. **12-14 Years Equitation:** [Fence Height: 2'6" or 3'0"](#). Exception: ponies may jump their respective fence height.
- 34. **11 Years and Under Equitation:** [Fence height: 2'0" to 2'6"](#); no combinations. Exception: ponies may jump their respective fence height.

Additional Equitation Divisions. Listed by descending fence height alphabetically.

- 35. **Adult Equitation:** Open to riders eligible for the Adult Hunter division. Riders may not cross-enter any divisions with fences higher than 3'3". [Fence Height: 3'0"](#)
- 36. **Children's Equitation:** Open to riders eligible for the Children's Hunter division. Riders may not cross-enter any divisions with fences higher than 3'3". [Fence Height: 3'0"](#)
 - a. May be combined with age equitation divisions at UNRATED horse shows only, if entries warrant.
- 37. **Low Adult Equitation:** Open to riders eligible for the Low Adult Hunter division. If this division is offered at the show, riders in this division may not cross-enter any other age group equitation division. Cannot be combined with any other age group equitation. [Fence Height: 2'6"](#).
- 38. **Low Children's Equitation:** Open to riders eligible for the Low Children's Hunter division. If this division is offered at the show, riders in this division may only cross-enter other age group equitation divisions that does not require them to jump 2'6" or higher. Cannot be combined with any other age group equitation. [Fence Height: 2'6"](#).
- 39. **Limit Rider Equitation:** Open to riders eligible for the Limit Rider Hunter division. [Fence height 1'6" to 2'3"](#); no combinations.
 - a. May be combined with Short Stirrup Equitations if entries warrant.
- 40. **Short Stirrup Equitation:** Open to riders eligible for the Short Stirrup Hunter division. Riders may cross-enter into the 11 and Under Equitation classes if it does not require them to jump 2'6" or higher. [Fence height: 1'6" to 2'3"](#); no combinations.
 - a. May be combined with Limit Rider Equitation if entries warrant.

6. **Cross Rail Equitation:** Open to riders of any age who have not shown at a canter over a course of fences higher than 18". Trotting is not penalized. Cantering is permitted on the flat in small groups (five or less) only. Showing in this division does not affect a rider's eligibility for Walk/Trot Equitation. Riders may cross-enter into Future Hunter division at the same show providing the fence height does not exceed 18".
7. **Walk/Trot Equitation:** Open to riders of any age who have never shown over fences or in a class requiring them to canter (except Cross-Rail Equitation). Ground pole trotting is permitted.

D. COMBINED DIVISIONS

The following may be initially offered as combined divisions:

1. Pony Hunter divisions: If there are less than three (3) entrants in either the Small, Medium or Large Pony Hunter divisions, these divisions should be combined to receive points.
2. Junior/Amateur-Owner Hunter divisions: If there are less than three (3) entrants in any of the Junior or Amateur-Owner Hunter sections, these divisions should be combined to receive points.
3. Short Stirrup/Limit Rider divisions: If there are less than three (3) entrants in either the Short Stirrup or Limit Rider Hunter sections, these divisions should be combined to receive points.
4. Low Adult Hunter and Low Children's Hunter divisions: If there are less than three (3) entrants in either the Low Adult or Low Children's Hunter sections, these divisions should be combined to receive points.
5. Children's Hunter and Adult Amateur Hunter divisions: If there are less than three (3) entrants in either the Children's or Adult Amateur Hunter sections, these divisions should be combined to receive points. These divisions may be split as specified below if there are three (3) or more exhibitors in each section. It is not recommended to split the division with only three (3) entrants. If these divisions are offered separately and the first class of the division has been completed and ribbons awarded with the minimum number of entrants, then it may not be combined with any other division.

E. SPLIT DIVISIONS

1. Divisions that are originally offered as combined divisions (i.e. Short Stirrup/Limit Rider) may be split into their respective divisions if there are at least three (3) in each of the new respective divisions. It is not recommended to split divisions with only three (3) entrants due to the risk factor of not all entries completing the class. Divisions that are originally offered as combined and do not meet the minimum number requirements to be split into separate divisions but have a minimum of 20 entries total can be split into sections via the California split system (recommended) or an A section/B section format.
2. Any division(s) (with the exception of the Walk/Trot and Cross Rail Equitation divisions) that has a minimum of 20 entrants can be split via the California split system or an A section/B section format. Any division(s) that has 50 or more entries **must** be split using either system. The Walk/Trot and Cross Rail Equitation divisions may be split if the number of entries exceed 12 entrants.
3. Once a division(s) has been split and the minimum number of entries have completed the course in the first class the division(s) they **may not** be combined again for the remainder of the competition.

4. To use the California split system, there needs to be a minimum of 20 entrants in the division. The California split system may not be used in any equitation class or division. Entries must be judged as a single class and split on the card by the Judge as follows:

CALIFORNIA SPLIT SYSTEM

Horse's Placing	Prize Awarded	Horse's Placing	Prize Awarded
1 st	1 st (section A)	9 th	5 th (section A)
2 nd	1 st (section B)	10 th	5 th (section B)
3 rd	2 nd (section A)	11 th	6 th (section A)
4 th	2 nd (section B)	12 th	6 th (section B)
5 th	3 rd (section A)	13 th	7 th (section A)*
6 th	3 rd (section B)	14 th	7 th (section B)*
7 th	4 th (section A)	15 th	8 th (section A)*
8 th	4 th (section B)	16 th	8 th (section B)*

** If 7th & 8th places are awarded at the show*

Note: points will be awarded based on the number of entries in each section after it has been divided.

F. OHJA HUNTER SEAT MEDAL CLASS

Member shows of OHJA may offer OHJA Medal classes provided they follow the qualifications stated below:

- Entrants must be members of the Association to accumulate points.
- Class to be shown over a course consisting of a minimum of eight (8) fences, with two (2) changes of direction. A maximum of 12 riders, if available, will be required to show at a walk, trot and canter following the jumping phase. To be judged on seat, hands, guidance and control of horse. Each phase of the class (over fences and on the flat) shall count 50 percent. A minimum of three (3) competitors must complete the course and ride on flat in order for the class to fill. Once the first exhibitor has competed over fences in the class, no additional entries to that class are allowed.
- Fence height varies with the rider's age/ability. See Rule IV.C.31-40 for specifications.
- If entries warrant, Management may split the class between the age/ability groups or between juniors and adults. If multiple OHJA Medal Classes are held at a show, they must be split so that no one age group can compete in more than one (1) OHJA Medal Class.
- Six (6) ribbons will be awarded in each class at individual horse shows.

G. OHJA HUNTER SEAT MEDAL FINALS

- Qualification for the year-end OHJA Medal Finals will be based on accumulated points: 1st = 40; 2nd = 35; 3rd = 30; 4th = 25, 5th = 24, 6th = 23. Riders must earn 40 points to qualify.
- In addition to OHJA Medal classes, riders may use points from the following equitation classes at OHJA recognized shows toward qualifying: Short Stirrup, Limit, 11 & Under, 12-14, 15-17, Children's, Adult, Low Children's, Low Adult, ANY national Medal and WEC medals.

3. The qualification period ends the last Sunday in August. Points accrued from the last Sunday in August through November 30 will be applied to the following show year.
4. The following height sections will be offered at OHJA Medal Finals: 2', 2'3", 2'6", 3' 3'3" and 3'6". For the year-end Medal Finals, your yearly primary showing height is where you are expected to show. Any deviations from this may be allowed, but this should be approved in writing by the board.
5. In the Medal Finals the riders will compete over fences first and then a maximum of twelve (12) riders if available will be required to come back for the flat phase. Upon the completion of the flat phase all riders will be asked to leave the ring. Only the riders receiving awards will be asked to return to the ring for award presentation. All OHJA Medal Finals participants will receive a neck medal.

H. OHJA STIRRUP CUP AWARDS

OHJA will begin recognizing an additional category of riders. This will be a group of riders already competing in the traditional 3'0" Adult Hunters, 3'0" Children's Hunter, 2'6" Low Adult Hunters and the 2'6" Low Children's Hunter divisions. Any riders who typically ride in these four divisions will also have their points tabulated by only adding together the points from non-rated USEF shows. This will not add four new divisions to the OHJA Year-End Awards, it will just add an additional way of acknowledging a group of riders at our year-end awards banquet. Riders can accumulate points in both categories.

V. Protest

A. CIRCUMSTANCES

A protest may be made under the following circumstances:
Any board member in attendance at an OHJA recognized show shall and can act as an OHJA steward and shall be responsible for bringing to the attention of the horse show management any potential rule violations. That board member, in a timely manner, should discuss the dispute with at least one (1) other board member and then bring up the matter for further review at the next available board meeting. The board will decide at that time any course of action if necessary. **Any exhibitor wanting to file a protest must do so within seven (7) days of completion of the horse show in question to the OHJA Board of Directors. The protest must be either written in a letter or sent by e-mail to any member of the OHJA Board of Directors.**

B. RULE QUESTIONS

Any OHJA member is encouraged to bring any rule questions to the attending OHJA board member. These questions should be brought up at that particular horse show in order for any problems to be handled promptly.

C. YEAR-END POINTS DISPUTE

Any questions or disputes regarding year-end points must be received by the OHJA Executive Secretary in a timely manner. All points will be final 15 days after of the completion of the show year. The OHJA show year runs December 1 through November 30.

D. FORMAL PROTEST

Any adult member wishing to file a formal protest must submit a fee of \$50.00 at the time of submitting the formal protest.

VI. Horse Show Rule Change Procedure

A. POTENTIAL RULE CHANGES

Any possible rule changes must be discussed in an OHJA Board of Directors meeting. The minutes from all OHJA Board of Directors meetings will be published and put on the website within five (5) working days of the meeting. Members can then read the minutes and have 30 days from the point of publishing to submit any comments or suggestions. These suggestions will be sent to the appropriate board member via a form that will be available on the website. The board will review any suggestions received at the next scheduled board meeting and will take these suggestions into consideration before voting on the proposed rule change or new rule.

B. SUBJECT NOT ADDRESSED

When a subject is not addressed in these rules, it must be addressed by the OHJA Board of Directors, and their interpretation will stand as the rule until the next year when an appropriate rule change will be submitted.

C. RECLASSIFYING DIVISION ELIGIBILITY

Any OHJA member who wishes to reclassify their horse show division/class eligibility must submit their request to the OHJA Board of Directors current acting President in writing. At that time the OHJA Board of Directors will take the request under discussion. When a decision has been reached on the member's request, the member will then be notified in writing. At that time if division eligibility reclassification is granted, the OHJA member will be permitted to show in desired division/classes.

D. RECLASSIFYING AMATEUR STATUS

Any professional OhioHunter/JumperAssociation (OHJA) member who wishes to be re-classified as an amateur on the grounds that he/she no longer engages in the activities which made him/her a professional must notify the OHJA Board of Directors in writing. Please address this request to the current acting President of the OHJA Board of Directors. If the requesting OHJA member is also a member of the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF), the member must first petition the USEF for reclassification status. The ruling of the USEF on the member's reclassification must then be presented to the OHJA in writing and will be taken into consideration. At that time, the OHJA board of directors will discuss the written request and notify the requesting member of their decision on the member's OHJA Amateur reclassification.