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**Rulebook**

**2020**

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**2020**

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**General Rules**

**Maine Hunter Jumper Association (MeHJA)**

**Membership**

* Membership is open to all.
* The year is defined as December 1st to November 30th.
* A junior rider is defined as any rider 17yrs or younger. A junior's age is defined as the age of the junior on December 1st of the membership year.
* Membership types and fees are defined as Individual ($30), Family ($35), and Barn/Stable ($40).
* An *Individual* is defined as a junior, amateur, or professional rider. An *Individual* may register up to two horses per competition year.
* A *Family* is defined as up to two parents/guardians and all junior riders in the family. A *Family* may register up to two horses per competition year.
* A *Barn/Stable* is defined as a riding establishment along with its owner/trainer. There is an unlimited amount of horses that may be registered per competition year. (Riders who are not immediate family members will need to submit their own membership form.)

**Shows**

Any show in the state of Maine or in a contiguous bordering state may affiliate with the

MeHJA. Cost to affiliate will be $25. An affiliate show will receive a mailing list of all

MeHJA members, secretary sheets, judges’ cards, division specs and a rule book. Classes

recognized by the MeHJA will count toward year-end awards in the MeHJA.

Shows must apply for affiliation a minimum of 30 days in advance of the show date.

Shows must send a copy of the class list to the MeHJA secretary for approval a minimum

of 30 days in advance of the show.

Shows affiliated with the MeHJA must supply proof of insurance in the amount of

$1,000,000 General Liability, which includes spectators on or about the grounds, and

must name MeHJA as additional insured. This proof of insurance must be received by the

MeHJA secretary at least two weeks prior to show.

The show must also send a complete copy of the results for all classes regardless of whether they were held or whether MeHJA recognizes them to the MeHJA secretary within two

weeks of the completion of said show. If the show results are not received by three weeks

from the completion of the show, a $20 fine will be assessed. If not received by four

weeks from the completion of the show, the fine will be $50 and the hosting facility will

not be allowed to affiliate any other competitions until the results are received and the

fine is paid. Shows already affiliated that have not yet happened will be subject to losing their affiliation until fine is paid and complete results received.

It is required that shows hire carded judges, NEHC or USEF carded judges are

recommended.

 MeHJA will offer year-end awards in two separate divisions:

 **Division I** will be for member riders who are also residents of the state of Maine and

who are showing in USEF-rated shows, and these shows can be held in state or out of

state. For a rider to earn a year-end award in this division, the rider must earn points in a

minimum of two shows in his/her respected division. If a rider is showing in USEF

shows, and wishes to compete for year-end awards through the MeHJA, the rider needs to

request from the MeHJA a show log. At each show, in each class, the rider is responsible

for recording the class, division, and placing, and having the log signed by the show

secretary.

 **Division II** will be for member riders showing in MeHJA affiliated shows. All divisions/

classes listed in this document will be eligible for year-end awards. A rider must earn

points in a minimum of 3 affiliated shows held at a minimum of two different locations to

be eligible for year-end awards. A rider must compete in either the MEHJA Summer Classic or the MEHJA Fall Hunter Final as one of their three shows, or volunteer at an MEHJA show or event. Points from a maximum of 6 shows in the season can be accrued toward year-end points. If the participant shows in more than 6 shows, the points from the highest placed divisions in 6 shows will be used.

For both Div. I and Div. II points will be counted as follows:

 For classes with greater than four horses, the points for first place will be equal to the

number of horses in the class, and for each successive place it will be one less.

Therefore, if x= number of horses, 1st place will be x, second place will be x-1, third

place x-2, fourth place x-3, fifth place x-4, sixth place x-5.

For classes with four or fewer horses, points will be as follows: 1st place 4 points, 2nd,

place 3 points, third place 2 points, and fourth place 1 point. Champion = 6 points.

Reserve Champion = 4 points.

 **Year End Awards** will be as follows: for lead-line, and walk-trot, awards will be given

through 6th place. For all other classes limited to junior riders awards will be given

through 4th place. For all other divisions, champion and reserve will be awarded.

MeHJA encourages donations of challenge and perpetual trophies. However, they do

need to be approved by the board. As of 2011, February 1st will be the deadline by which

application will need to be submitted.

In order for the horse’s points to count, the owner of the horse must be a member of

MeHJA in performance (hunter and pleasure). Year end award will go to the horse. In classes

where the rider is judged (equitation), the rider must be a member of MeHJA. Year end award

will go to the rider.

For a leased horse, the leasee will be considered the owner for point-counting purposes.

The lease must be recorded with the MeHJA.

MeHJA will recognize Downeast Medal Participants. MeHJA will give gold, silver

and bronze awards to the members receiving the highest number of points in qualifying

classes throughout the year in each category (walk/trot rails, short, long,

modified junior, mini, junior, modified adult, and adult medals) of the Downeast Hunter/

Jumper Medal. Points will be based on the Downeast Medals point scoring/record

keeping. Riders who contest final results for the DMF classes will need to contact the

DMF directly.

MeHJA a will award two sets of points for double-judged shows; points for each

placing under each judge. However, the show will count as only one show, not as two

shows, for the purpose of the minimum number of shows that must be attended for points

to count toward year-ends.

Shows should have a measuring stick available in case of protest or question regarding

the height measurement of ponies.

Protests must be made to the show manager by an exhibitor, agent, trainer, participant,

or by the parent of a junior exhibitor for any violation of these rules. The protest must be

submitted in writing and sent to the secretary of the MeHJA via the show manager

within 7 days of the alleged violation. This must be accompanied by a deposit of $50

payable to MeHJA. The protest must state the full name and address of the accused, the

full name and address of the protestor, and must state fully with supporting details the

facts that constitute the violation. The protestor must be prepared to substantiate the

protest or charge at a hearing by personal testimony, sworn statements, witnesses, or

other evidence.

 **Non-protestable decision -** Soundness of a horse determined by a judge or by a

veterinarian is non-protestable. A judge’s decision, representing his individual

preference, is not protestable unless it is alleged to be in violation of the rules. A protest

with regards to the height of a pony must be made at the show to the show manager and

the pony is to be measured at the show immediately. The decision of the show officials

with regards to height is not protestable.

 **Hearings -** Anyone who has had a protest filed against them will have a hearing. There

will be at least two week’s notification of such hearing, and the accused may attend the

hearing and bring witnesses, sworn statements, or other evidence in their own behalf to

the hearing. The board of directors, at this time, will conduct the hearings. If the board

upholds the protest, the $50 fee will be refunded. If the board fails to uphold the protest,

the $50 will be forfeited. The board of directors will determine the penalty for the

violation if the protest is upheld.

 **Martingales** - Martingales are not allowed in flat or under saddle classes.

 **Helmet** **Usage** - **It is compulsory for all persons at MeHJA when mounted anywhere on the competition grounds, to wear properly fastened protective headgear which meets or exceeds ASTM/SEI standards for equestrian use and carries the SEI tag. It must be properly fitted with harness secured. A Show Committee must bar riders without protective headgear from entering the ring if not suitably presented to appear before an audience.**

 **Rules -** All specifications not covered in these Regulations shall be in accordance with Rules of the United States Equestrian Federation. At any show affiliated with USEF, the rules of that organization shall prevail over these Regulations. At all shows not affiliated with USEF, USEF Local Show Rules shall apply if the situation is not covered by MeHJA Rules. No show that is not affiliated with MeHJA shall state in their prize list, catalogue, or social media post that they run under the rules of this organization nor make any other statement that could be interpreted to indicate affiliation with this organization.

**Class specifications**

**Hunter Breeding Horses**

 To be judged on conformation, way of moving, quality, substance, soundness, and

 suitability. Weanlings may wear halters; yearlings and older horses must show in a bridle.

 Weanlings and broodmares to show at a walk, all other at the walk and trot.

**Hunter Breeding Ponies**

 To be judged on conformation, way of moving, quality, substance, soundness, and

 suitability. Weanlings may wear halters; yearlings and older horses must show in a bridle.

Weanlings and broodmares to show at a walk, all other at the walk and trot. Open to all ponies 14.2H and under.

**Lead-Line Equitation**

 ***Lead-line Equitation, 7 and under***

 To be shown at a walk and trot on an attached lead, demonstrating the riders control of

 the horse or pony. Rider may be asked to halt and/or turn to the left or right. Other

 commands at the discretion of the judge.

 ***Lead-line Equitation Championship***

 To be shown at a walk and trot on an attached lead, demonstrating the riders control of

 the horse or pony. Rider may be asked to halt and/or turn to the left or right. Other

 commands at the discretion of the judge. To be eligible must have shown in above.

**Lead-Line Pleasure**

 ***Lead-line Pleasure, 7 and under***

 To be judged at the walk and trot as a pleasure class, with manners and suitability of the

 mount to be emphasized.

 ***Lead-Line Pleasure Championship***

 To be judged at the walk and trot as a pleasure class, with manners and suitability of the

 mount to be emphasized. To be eligible must have shown in above.

**Walk-Trot Equitation, 10 & Under**

Open to riders 10 years of age and under. Riders may not compete in any class at this show in which rider is required to canter or lope. No child entered may compete in any other class requiring entries to canter or lope at any previous show. Stallions are prohibited.

 ***Walk-Trot Equitation, 10 and under***

 To be shown at the walk and trot both ways of the ring and judged on hands, seat, and

control.

 ***Walk-Trot Equitation Championship***

 To be shown at the walk and trot both ways of the ring and judged on hands, seat, and

 control. To be eligible must have shown in qualifying class.

**Walk-Trot Equitation, 11 Years & Over**

This division is for riders who do not canter/lope in shows or other competitive disciplines. May be mounted on horses or ponies. A show may divide the class by age 11-17 years and 18 & over OR may be held as 11 & Over. If divided, both age groups must be offered. It is recommended that a class having 16 or more entries be divided. No tests will be called. Points will go to the rider. All classes accrue to one award. Open to Junior and Amateur Adult riders 11 years of age and older who have not cantered/loped in any show or other competitive discipline, recognized or not, in the past three years. No person entered may compete in any other class requiring entries to canter or lope during the current show year. (They may enter other classes that do not require a canter/lope.) Once a rider has cantered/loped in any show or other competitive discipline on any horse/pony, that individual is no longer eligible for this division.

***Walk-Trot Equitation, 11 Years & Over***

To be shown at a walk, trot both ways of the ring. Will be asked to reverse at the walk. To be judged on basic principles of horsemanship.

***Walk-Trot Equitation Championship, 11 Years & Over***

To be eligible, rider must have been entered, shown and judged in a qualifying class. To be shown at a walk, trot both ways of the ring. Will be asked to reverse at the walk. To be judged on basic principles of horsemanship.

**Walk-Trot Pleasure, 10 & Under**

Open to riders 10 years of age and under. Riders in this class are not eligible for classes requiring entries to canter or lope. No child entered may compete in any other class requiring entries to canter or lope at any previous show. Stallions are prohibited.

 ***Walk-Trot Pleasure, 10 and under***

 To be shown both ways of the ring at the walk and trot. To be judged on manners,

 suitability and performance.

 ***Walk-Trot Pleasure Championship, 10 & Under***

 To be shown both ways of the ring at the walk and trot. To be judged on manners,

suitability of horse or pony to rider and performance. To be eligible must have shown in qualifying class.

**Walk-Trot Pleasure, 11 Years *& Over***

This division is for horse (pony)/rider combinations who do not canter/lope in shows or other competitive disciplines. No limitation as to status of rider. Horse/pony may canter/lope with a different rider; rider may canter/lope on a different horse/pony. Horse (pony)/rider combinations in this division may not compete in any class at any show/competitive discipline (recognized or not) during the current show season requiring a canter or lope. Doing so, will nullify points for the season. Points shall go to the combination. Combinations in this division may show in other classes that do not require a canter/lope. A show may divide the class by age 11-17 years and 18 & over OR may be had as 11 & Over. If divided, both age groups must be offered. It is recommended that a class having 16 or more entries be divided. All classes accrue to one award.

 ***Walk-Trot Pleasure Horse/Pony, 11 Years & Over***

To be shown at a walk and trot only both ways of the ring. To be judged on manners, suitability of horse/pony to rider, and performance. Must reverse at a walk.

***Walk-Trot Pleasure Championship, 11 Years & Over***

To be eligible, combination must have been entered, shown and judged in a qualifying class. To be shown at a walk and trot only both ways of the ring. To be judged on manners, suitability of horse/pony to rider, and performance. Must reverse at a walk.

**Short Stirrup Equitation**

Open to riders 12 years of age or under. Both classes accrue to one award. Rider may not compete in any other hunter seat equitation class at any show and must not have competed in a jumping class exceeding 18” in height.

 ***Short Stirrup Equitation on the flat***

 To be judged at a walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring. May be asked to halt and

 back.

 ***Short Stirrup Equitation over fences***

 To be shown over a minimum of 4 and a maximum of 8 fences not exceeding 18” in

 height. Fences may be taken at either a trot or a canter at the option of the rider. No oxers

 or combinations.

 ***Short Stirrup Equitation Over Fences Championship***

 To be shown over a minimum of 4 and a maximum of 8 fences not exceeding 18” in

 height. Fences may be taken at either a trot or a canter at the option of the rider. No oxers

 or combinations. To be eligible must have shown in qualifying class.

**Short Stirrup Hunter**

Open to riders aged 12 years and under. To be judged on manners, suitability, and performance. Rider may not compete in any other class where fences exceed 18” in height. Fences shall be cross rails or verticals with no combinations. Riders may take the fences in trot or canter. Simple changes of lead through the trot are acceptable.

 ***Short Stirrup Hunter Over Fences***

 To be judged on manners, suitability, and performance.

 ***Short Stirrup Hunter, Stake***

To be judged on manners, suitability, and performance. Rider must have competed in the qualifying class.

 ***Short Stirrup Hunter Under Saddle***

 To be judged on performance, soundness and manners. To be shown at a walk, trot and

 canter both ways of the ring. Only 8 entries to canter at a time.

**Long Stirrup Equitation**

Open to riders 13 years of age and over. Both classes accrue to one award. To be judged on seat, hands, and control of mount. Rider may not compete in any other hunter seat equitation class at any show and must not have competed in a jumping class exceeding 18” in height.

 ***Long Stirrup Equitation on the Flat***

 To be judged at a walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring. May be asked to

 halt and back. No more than 8 riders to canter at one time.

 ***Long Stirrup Equitation Over Fences***

 To be shown over a minimum of 4 and a maximum of 8 fences not exceeding 18” in

 height. No Combinations. Fences may be taken at either a trot or a canter at the option of the rider.

 ***Long Stirrup Equitation Over Fences, Championship***

 Rider must have shown in qualifying class. To be shown over a minimum of 4

 and a maximum of 8 fences not exceeding 18” in height. Fences may be taken at either a

 trot or a canter at the option of the rider.

**Easy Does It Hunter**

 Open to riders of any age with no restriction as to status. Horse/pony and rider

 combination may not enter any other class requiring horses to jump over 2’3” at the same

show. To be shown over a course of a minimum of 4 and a maximum of 8 fences not to exceed 18” in height. No combinations. May trot or canter over fences.

 ***Easy Does It Hunter Over Fences***

To be judged on manners, suitability, and performance. Simple changes of lead through the trot are acceptable.

 ***Easy Does It Hunter Stake***

To be judged on manners, suitability, and performance. Simple changes of lead through the trot are acceptable. Horse and rider combination must have competed in the qualifying class.

 ***Easy Does It Hunter Under Saddle***

 To be shown at a walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring. Light contact with

horse’s mouth is required. Horses should be obedient, alert, responsive, and move freely. To be judged on manners, performance, and soundness. They should not be eliminated for slight errors. No more than 8 horses will be asked to canter at one time.

**Schooling Equitation**

Open to Junior and Amateur Adult exhibitors who have not competed previously in a class with fence heights greater than 2’ 6”. Rider may not compete in any other equitation division at the show. If sufficient entries, class may be split into a junior section and an amateur section. Prize list must state if a class is to be held ON THE FLAT or OVER FENCES.

 ***Schooling Equitation Over Fences***

Riders to be judged on hands, seat, position, and control of mount. To be judged over a course of a minimum of 6 fences and a maximum of 8. Fence heights to be no greater than 2'3”. Combinations and oxers are acceptable.

 ***Schooling Equitation on the Flat***

Riders to show at the walk, trot, and canter both ways of the ring. Riders may be asked to halt and back. Riders to be judged on hands, seat, and position, and control of their mount.

 ***Schooling Equitation Championship***

To be shown over fences. To qualify, riders must have been entered, shown and judged in the required qualifying class. Fence heights shall be no higher than 2'3”. To be shown over a minimum of 6 fences and a maximum of 8 fences. Note: For points to count, championship must be held over fences.

**Pre-Green Hunter**

 Open to all riders regardless of status. Horse may not have shown in classes with heights greater than 2' 6”. Open to horses and ponies. Horse may not show in this division for more than two years. Simple changes of lead not to be penalized.

***Pre-green Hunter Over Fences***

To be shown over a course of a minimum of six fences with a minimum of one change of direction. Fences will be 2' to 2' 3” in height. Horse/pony to be judged on manners, performance, and suitability.

***Pre-green Hunter Stake***

To be shown over a course of a minimum of six fences with a minimum of one change of direction. Fences will be 2' to 2' 3” in height. Horse/pony to be judged on manners, performance, and suitability.

***Pre-green Hunter Under Saddle***

 To be shown at the walk, trot, and canter both ways of the ring, maintaining light contact with the horse's mouth. Horses should be obedient, alert, responsive, and move freely. They should not be eliminated for slight errors. Horses/ponies to be judged on performance and manners.

**Schooling Hunter**

Open to Junior and Amateur Adult riders who have not competed in a class with fence heights greater than 2’6”. The same horse/pony and rider combination cannot show in any other rated hunter or jumper division with fence heights greater than 2’6”. Open to horses and ponies to show over the same course. Fences will be 2’to 2’3” in height. Horse/Pony to be judged on manners, performance, and suitability.

 ***Schooling Hunter Over Fences***

To be shown over a course of a minimum of 6 fences and a maximum of 8 fences with fence heights no greater than 2'3”. To be judged on performance and soundness. Manners shall be emphasized. Combinations and oxers are acceptable. Extreme speed shall be penalized.

 ***Schooling Hunter Stake***

To be shown over a course of a minimum of 6 fences and a maximum of 8 fences with fence heights no greater than 2'3”. To be judged on performance and soundness. Manners shall be emphasized. Combinations and oxers are acceptable. Extreme speed shall be penalized.

 ***Schooling Hunter Under Saddle***

To be shown at the walk, trot, and canter both ways of the ring, maintaining light contact with the horse’s mouth. Horses should be obedient, alert, responsive and move freely. They should not be eliminated for slight errors. At the discretion of the judge, no more than 8 horses/ponies may be asked to hand gallop collectively one way of the ring. Horses/Ponies to be judged on performance and manners.

**Special Working Hunter**

Open to horses and ponies. Open to all riders, regardless of status. Fences not to exceed 2’6”.

 ***Special Working Hunter Over Fences***

To be judged on manners, performance, and soundness. To be shown over a course of a minimum of 6 fences and a maximum of 8 fences, with at least one change of direction. Fence heights not to exceed 2'6”. Combinations and oxers are acceptable and encouraged.

 ***Special Working Hunter Stake***

To be judged on manners, suitability, and performance.To be shown over a course of a minimum of 6 fences and a maximum of 8 fences, with at least one change of direction. Fence heights not to exceed 2'6”. Combinations and oxers are acceptable and encouraged

 ***Special Working Hunter Under Saddle***

To be shown at a walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring maintaining light contact with horse’s mouth. Horses should be obedient, alert, responsive, and move freely. They should not be eliminated for slight errors. At the discretion of the judge, no more than 8 horses at a time may be asked to hand gallop collectively one way of the ring. To be judged on manners, performance and soundness.

**Pony Working Hunter**

 To be ridden by a Junior Exhibitors under 18 years of age. Show management may divide into Small-Medium Pony Hunter and Large Pony Hunter on the day of the show if there are sufficient entries

 Fences for ponies shall be as follows:

 **Small Ponies**, not exceeding 12.2 hands, fences to be 2'3”.

 **Medium Ponies**, over 12.2 hands but not exceeding 13.2 hands, fences to be 2’6”.

 **Large Ponies**, over 13.2 hands but not exceeding 14.2 hands, fences to be 2'9” to 3’.

 The suggested distance for an In and Out when used in a ring for Small Ponies is 20', Medium Ponies 22’, and Large Ponies 24’. The maximum allowable spread on any fence is as follows: Small Ponies 2’3”, Medium Ponies 2’6”, and Large Ponies 3’.

  ***Pony Working Hunter Over Fences***

 To be judged on performance and soundness. Manners and suitability of a pony for the rider shall be emphasized and extreme speed shall be penalized.

 ***Pony Working Handy Hunter***

 To be shown over a special course, obstacles simulating those found in trappy hunting country. Emphasis in judging to be placed on promptness and manners. Manners and suitability of a pony for the rider shall be emphasized and extreme speed shall be penalized.

 ***Pony Working Hunter Stake***

 To be judged on performance and soundness. Manners and suitability of a pony for the rider shall be emphasized and extreme speed shall be penalized.

 ***Pony Working Hunter Under Saddle***

To be shown at a walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring maintaining light contact with horse’s mouth. Horses should be obedient, alert, responsive and move freely. They should not be eliminated for slight errors. At the discretion of the judge, no more than 8 ponies at a time may be asked to hand gallop collectively one way of the ring. To be judged on performance and soundness. Manners and suitability of a pony for the rider shall be emphasized and extreme speed shall be penalized.

**Children’s Hunter**

Open to horses and ponies. To be shown by Junior Exhibitors. Junior Exhibitors 15 – 17 years of age, inclusive, must be eligible for Intermediate equitation over fences as of December 1st of the current show year. The same horse/pony and rider combination cannot show in any other rated hunter or jumper division at the same show with the exceptions of Equitation, Special Hunter, and Low Hunter divisions. Fences no higher than 2’6” for ponies and 3’ for horses. Horses and ponies to show over the same course.

 ***Children's Hunter Over Fences***

 To be judged on performance and soundness. Manners shall be emphasized and extreme speed shall be penalized.

 ***Children's Hunter Stake***

 To be judged on performance and soundness. Manners shall be emphasized and extreme speed shall be penalized.

 ***Children's Hunter Under Saddle***

 To be shown at a walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring maintaining light contact with horse’s mouth. Horses should be obedient, alert, responsive and move freely. They should not be eliminated for slight errors. At the discretion of the judge, no more than 8 horses at a time may be asked to hand gallop collectively, one way of the ring. To be judged on performance and soundness. Manners shall be emphasized and extreme speed shall be penalized.

**Adult Amateur Hunter**

 To be ridden by Amateurs who are no longer eligible to compete as Junior Exhibitors. Horse/rider combinations are not eligible for any other NEHC or USEF rated classes. Horses may be shown by a different rider in any other division or class at the same competition. Ponies may be ridden by adults, suitability to count. Fence heights not to exceed 3’. Spreads not to exceed height of fence.

 ***Adult Amateur Hunter Over Fences***

 To be judged on performance, soundness, manners, way of going, size of rider to mount and suitability as an Adult Hunter. Horses and ponies may be jogged for soundness at the judge’s discretion.

 ***Adult Amateur Hunter Stake***

 To be judged on performance, soundness, manners, way of going, size of rider to mount and suitability as an Adult Hunter. Horses and ponies may be jogged for soundness at the judge’s discretion.

 ***Adult Amateur Hunter Under Saddle***

 To be shown at a walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring maintaining light contact with horse’s mouth. Horses should be obedient, alert, responsive and move freely. They should not be eliminated for slight errors. At the discretion of the judge, no more than 8 horses at a time may be asked to hand gallop collectively, one way of the ring. To be judged on performance, soundness, manners, way of going, size of rider to mount and suitability as an Adult Hunter.

**Low Working Hunter**

 Open to horses and riders of any age with no restriction as to status. Conformation not to count.

 Fences not to exceed 3’ in height.

 ***Low Working Hunter Over Fences***

 To be judged on performance and soundness.

 ***Low Working Hunter Stake***

 To be judged on performance and soundness.

 ***Low Working Hunter Under Saddle***

 To be shown at a walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring maintaining light contact with horse’s mouth. Horses should be obedient, alert, responsive and move freely. They should not be eliminated for slight errors. At the discretion of the judge, no more than eight horses at a time may be asked to hand gallop collectively, one way of the ring. To be judged on performance and soundness.

**Junior Working Hunter**

 To be ridden by a Junior Exhibitor under 18 years of age. Open to horses only. Jumps to be no higher than 3’6”.

 ***Junior Working Hunter Over Fences***

 To be judged on manners, performance and soundness. Manners shall be emphasized and extreme speed shall be penalized.

 ***Junior Working Handy Hunter Over Fences***

 To be shown over a special course, obstacles simulating those found in trappy hunting country. Emphasis in judging to be placed on promptness and manners. Extreme speed shall be penalized.

 ***Junior Working Hunter Stake***

 To be judged on manners, performance and soundness. Manners shall be emphasized and extreme speed shall be penalized.

 ***Junior Working Hunter U*nder *Saddle***

 To be shown at a walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring, maintaining light contact with horse’s mouth. Horses should be obedient, alert, responsive and move freely. They should not be eliminated for slight errors. At the discretion of the judge, no more than 8 horses at a time may be asked to hand gallop collectively one way of the ring. To be judged on manners, performance and soundness. Manners shall be emphasized and extreme speed shall be penalized.

**Performance Working Hunter**

 Points will be awarded in the following classes only if the prize list does not specify conformation to count in the judging. The minimum and maximum height of the fences must be specified in each class. Height of the fences at the option of the show management but should be a minimum of 3’3”

 ***Performance Working Hunter Over Fences***

 To be judged on performance, manners, and suitability. To be shown over a minimum of 6 fences.

 ***Performance Working Hunter Stake***

 To be judged on performance and soundness. Must have competed in the qualifying class.

 ***Performance Working Hunter, Handy Round***

 To be shown over a special course, obstacles simulating those found in trappy hunting country. Emphasis on judging to be placed on promptness and manners.

 ***Performance Working Hunter Under Saddle***

 To be shown at a walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring maintaining light contact with horse’s mouth. Horses should be obedient, alert, responsive and move freely. They should not be eliminated for slight errors. At the discretion of the judge, no more than eight horses at a time may be asked to hand gallop collectively one way of the ring. To be judged on performance and soundness.

**Thoroughbred Hunter**

 Open to horses registered with the American Jockey Club. Proof of registration either via registration papers or TIP number required. The height of the fences not to exceed 2' 6”

 ***Thoroughbred Hunter Over Fences***

 To be judged on performance and soundness.

 ***Thoroughbred Hunter Stake***

 To be judged on performance and soundness. Must have competed in the qualifying class.

 ***Thoroughbred Hunter Under Saddle***

 To be shown at a walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring maintaining light contact with horse’s mouth. Horses should be obedient, alert, responsive and move freely. They should not be eliminated for slight errors. At the discretion of the judge, no more than 8 horses at a time may be asked to hand gallop collectively, one way of the ring. To be judged on performance and soundness.

**Non-Thoroughbred Hunter**

 Open to horses not registered with the American Jockey Club. The height of the fences not to exceed 2’6”.

 ***Non-Thoroughbred Hunter Over Fences***

 To be judged on performance and soundness.

 ***Non-Thoroughbred Hunter Stake***

 To be judged on performance and soundness. Must have competed in the qualifying class.

 ***Non-Thoroughbred Hunter Under Saddle***

 To be shown at a walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring maintaining light contact with horse’s mouth. Horses should be obedient, alert, responsive and move freely. They should not be eliminated for slight errors. At the discretion of the judge, no more than 8 horses at a time may be asked to hand gallop collectively, one way of the ring. To be judged on performance and soundness.

**Green Working Hunter**

A Green Hunter is a horse of any age that is in his first or second year of showing in any class at recognized MeHJA, MHA, NEHC and/or USEF shows requiring entries to jump (including equitation) 3’6” or higher. Horses showing over courses lower than 3’6” will not lose their green status. First year green horses to jump no higher than 3’6”. Second year green horses to jump no higher than 3’9”. It is recommended that all shows specify no higher than a difference of three inches in the height of jumps for the first and second year horses. Show management may divide into first year and second year on the day of the show if there are sufficient entries. Points will be awarded in the following classes only if the prize list does not specify conformation to count in the judging.

 ***Green Working Hunter Over Fences***

 To be judged on performance and soundness.

 ***Green Working Hunter Stake***

 To be judged on performance and soundness. Must have competed in the qualifying class.

 ***Green Working Hunter Under Saddle***

 To be shown at a walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring maintaining light contact with horse’s mouth. Horses should be obedient, alert, responsive and move freely. They should not be eliminated for slight errors. Will not be asked to hand gallop. To be judged on performance and soundness.

**Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation**

Open to junior riders 17yrs or younger as of December 1st of the competition year. Riders are to be judged on seat, hands, position, and control of mount. Shows may hold either the Flat or Over Fences or both. Championship classes may only be held with a qualifying corresponding class. NOTE: for points to count, championship must be held over fences. For year-end award purposes, only those qualifying for the championship in an age group class shall earn championship points.

 ***Hunter/Jumper Seat Equitation on the Flat***

To be judged at a walk, trot, and canter both ways of the ring. Judge may require additional tests.

 ***Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation Over Fences (specify age group; specify fence height “not to***

 ***exceed \_\_\_\_”)***

To be judged on the rider's performance. To be shown over a course of at least 6 fences. Fence height not to exceed 3'. All contestants must jump the same height. Wings are compulsory for classes under 15 years of age. In open classes and classes for 15-17 years of age, jumps are not to exceed 3’6” and wings are optional.

 ***Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation Over Fences Championship***

To be eligible, rider must have entered, shown, and judged in any other Hunter Seat Equitation class for riders under 18 years of age. To be held over fences not to exceed 3’6”. If wing standards are used, they shall be no wider than 30”. Judge may require additional tests.

**Adult Amateur Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation**

Open to competitors 18 years or older as of December 1st of the competition year that hold

amateur status according to USEF rules. Riders are to be judged on seat, hands, position, and control of mount. Shows may hold either the Flat, Over Fences, or both sections. Championship classes may only be held with a qualifying corresponding class. For points to count, championship class must be held over fences. NOTE: for year-end award purposes, only those qualifying for the championship in a regular (not a Medal class) amateur adult hunt seat equitation class shall earn championship points.

***Adult Amateur Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation on the Flat***

To be judged at a walk, trot, and canter both ways of the ring. Judge may require additional tests.

***Adult Amateur Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation Over Fences***

Fences not to exceed 3'. Wing standards are optional.

***Adult Amateur Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation Over Fences Championship***

To be eligible, rider must have been entered, shown and judged in any other Amateur Adult Hunter Seat Equitation class at this show. To be held over a course of fences not to exceed 3’.

**Hunter Hack**

 ***Hunter Hack***

 To be shown at a walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring maintaining light contact with horse’s mouth. Horses should be obedient, alert, responsive and move freely. They should not be eliminated for slight errors. At the discretion of the judge, no more than eight horses at a time may be asked to hand gallop collectively one way of the ring. Horses are required to individually jump two fences 2’ to 2’6” in height. To be judged on performance and soundness.

 ***Hunter Hack Horse Championship***

 To be eligible horse must have been entered, shown and judged in Hunter Hack Horse class. To be shown at a walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring maintaining light contact with horse’s mouth. Horses should be obedient, alert, and responsive and move freely. They should not be eliminated for slight errors. At the discretion of the judge, no more than eight horses at a time may be asked to hand gallop collectively, one way of the ring. Horses are required to individually jump two fences 2’ to 2’6” in height. To be judged on performance and soundness.

**Hunter Pleasure**

Open to all horses of a hunter type ordinarily used for pleasure purposes with no limitations as to status of rider.

 ***Hunter Pleasure Horse***

 To be shown at a walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring maintaining light contact with horse’s mouth. To be judged on manners, performance, quality, presence, substance and soundness.

 ***Hunter Pleasure Horse Championship***

 To be eligible horse must have been entered, shown and judged in Hunter Pleasure Horse, Open class. To be shown at a walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring maintaining light contact with horse’s mouth. To be judged on manners, performance, quality, presence, substance, and soundness.

 **Jumpers Divisions**

All jumper classes to follow USEF rules.

  ***Puddle Jumpers***

Puddle Jumper division is for classes that are to 0.80m. All classes that fall in this height range will be eligible to count toward year end award in the puddle jumper category.

***Schooling Jumpers***

Schooling Jumper division is for classes that are greater than 0.80m in height, but not exceeding 1.00m in height. All classes that fall in this height range will be eligible to count toward year-end award in the schooling jumper category.

 ***Open Jumpers***

Open Jumper division is for classes that are greater than 1.00 m in height. All classes that fall in this height range will be eligible to count toward year end award in the open jumper category.

**MeHJA Medal Classes**

These classes will qualify riders to attend a final show held in the fall.  There is no rider minimum to hold these classes. Riders can be members or non-members and must accrue 10 points in their respective class in order to show at the finals.  Points will be awarded as follows: 1st place--8 points; 2cnd place--6 points; 3rd place--4 points; 4th place--3 points; 5th place--2 points; 6th place--1 point.  In addition, riders are encouraged to continue showing in the classes once they have qualified, and they will continue to accrue points toward a year-end award that will be given to the riders accumulating the most points in each class.

***MeHJA Short Stirrup Equitation Medal***

Open to junior competitors 12yrs and under as of December 1st of the competition year. To be judge on the rider's performance. To be shown over a minimum of 6 obstacles with fences no higher than 18” with at least one change of direction. No oxers or combinations permitted, but single fences and bending lines are encouraged. Course must contain at least one test of a halt or trot fence. May be combined with MeHJA Long Stirrup Medal.

***MeHJA Long Stirrup Equitation Medal***

Open to junior riders 13yrs and older as of December 1st of the competition year and Adult Amateurs. To be judged on the rider's performance. To be shown over a minimum of 6 obstacles with fences no higher than 18” with at least one change of direction. No oxers or combinations permitted, but single fences and bending lines are encouraged. Course must contain at least one test of a halt or trot fence. May be combined with MeHJA Short Stirrup Medal.

***MeHJA Modified Medal***

Open to junior riders 17yrs of age or under as of December 1st of the competition year and adult amateur riders. To be judged on the rider's performance. To be shown over a minimum of 6 obstacles with fences to be no higher than 2'3” with at least two changes of direction. Oxers, combinations, bending lines, and single fences are encouraged, but not required. Course must contain at least one test, such as a halt, trot fence, unrelated distance, or hand gallop.

***MeHJA Junior Medal***

Open to junior riders 17yrs of age or under as of December 1st of the competition year. To be judged on rider's performance. To be shown over a minimum of 6 obstacles with fences no higher than 2'9” with at least two changes of direction. Oxers, combinations, bending lines, and single fences are encouraged, but not required. Course must include one test such as a halt, trot fence, unrelated distance, or hand gallop.

***MeHJA Adult Amateur Medal***

Open to adult amateur riders as defined by USEF rules. To be judged on rider's performance. To be shown over a minimum of 6 obstacles with fence no higher than 2'9” with at least two changes of direction. Oxers, combinations, bending lines, and single fences are encouraged, but not required. Course must include one test such as a halt, trot fence, unrelated distance, or hand gallop.