



Rulebook

2023

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Board of Directors

(*Effective 28 Aug 2023*)

President

Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

Directors

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2021 - 2024

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2022 - 2025

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2023 - 2026

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Organization Bylaws

Article I: Organization Name:

The name shall be “ME Hunter/Jumper Association”

Article II: Purpose of organization

To promote hunters, jumpers, and hunter seat equitation in ME, the breeding of horses and ponies suitable for hunters and jumpers in ME, education regarding hunters, jumpers and hunter seat equitation, and to provide rules for fair and equitable competition.

Article III: Membership:

Any person interested in Hunters and Jumpers may apply for membership. Membership will run from Dec. 1st to Nov. 30th. Only current paid members will be able to accrue points toward year-end awards, and member will not be entitled to any points accrued prior to the secretary receiving said dues. The age of the member on Dec. 1st shall be maintained throughout the year. In the event that the age of the member changes on Dec. 1st, the greater age shall apply. There will be three levels of membership; individual, family and barn. A family membership shall consist of husband, wife and any children age 17 and under.

Article IV: Directors and Officers

The organization shall be run by a board of directors consisting of 9 members. This board will be elected by vote of the general membership at the first annual meeting. To keep a balanced board no one barn/stable can represent more than one-third of the board. At this first annual meeting, 3 will be elected for a one year term, 3 will be elected for a 2 year term, and 3 will be elected for a three year term. Each year thereafter, as each term expires, the election will be for 3 years. Exception: If a director leaves mid-term, the board can appoint someone to fill that vacancy until the annual meeting, then at the annual meeting, that position will be voted to be filled for the remainder of that term only. From the board of directors, the directors will elect the following officers: president, vice president, secretary, point scoring secretary and treasurer. President is responsible for calling meetings and overseeing meetings. Vice president will take over president's duties if the president is not present or able. Secretary will be responsible for taking in memberships, editing prize lists, and acting as liason with the shows. Point Scoring secretary will be responsible for keeping track of points for year-end awards. Treasurer will be responsible for writing checks/paying bills, doing deposits, and keeping track of finances. If at any time during the year one of these officers resigns or is unable to continue his/her duties, the board may appoint another to fill the officer position. The board will elect officers each year immediately following the general election for the

board. The board will be responsible for running the organization, reviewing rules, and attending to the affairs of the organization. The president may call a meeting of the board of directors, or three directors may call a meeting of the board of directors. Notice of the meeting must be given in writing and/or via e-mail a minimum of two weeks prior to the meeting. A quorum shall consist of at least 5 members of the board of directors. If a director misses three consecutive meetings, the board may consider the director unable to continue his/her duties, and may appoint a replacement.

Article V: Rules of Order:

The board of directors shall be governed by Roberts Rules of Orders.

Article VI. Dissolution

If this organization is dissolved, any funds left after paying all outstanding legal obligations, shall be donated to a non-profit organization to be determined by the board of directors.

Article VII. Amendments of the by-laws.

The board of directors may amend any of these by-laws with a vote of not less than 2/3 of the directors.

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 17 yrs 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.)

- The Board reserves the right to refuse or revoke membership, at any time, without recourse.

Affiliated Shows

Any show in the state of Maine or in a contiguous bordering state may affiliate with the MeHJA. Cost to affiliate will be \$35. An affiliate show will receive a mailing list of all MeHJA members, and a rule book. If a show needs class cards or judges cards, please contact MeHJA Secretary. Classes recognized by the MeHJA will count toward year-end awards.

Shows must apply for affiliation a minimum of 30 days in advance of the show date and must send a copy of the class list to the MeHJA secretary for approval. Class list and entry form will be published on MeHJA website. If shows would like to be included in the MeHJA omnibus, shows must be affiliated before Jan 30th. Affiliations made after Jan 30th, will not be included in the omnibus but will be included on the website.

Shows affiliated with the MeHJA must supply proof of insurance in the amount of \$1,000,000.00 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 the 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 date of the show, a \$50 will be assessed and the hosting facility will not be allowed to affiliate any future 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. Any show results not returned within 3 weeks will be listed on the website for member awareness and any show results not returned within 4 weeks of the date of the competition will not count towards year-end awards.

Judges Cards: Judges cards and class results must be legible and easy to follow. If shows turn in cards that are illegible or unable to be understood, classes will not count for year-end awards. Show Secretaries are responsible for ensuring all judges cards/class results are legible and correct. If shows list their results in an online format, a link must be provided to the MeHJA secretary. If an issue/protest arises, show must be able to provide MeHJA Secretary an actual copy of the judges cards.

It is required that shows hire carded judges, NEHC or USEF carded judges are recommended for the hunter ring. Jumper ring may be timed by either the judge or an electronic timer.

JUMPER RING JUDGING: For jumper only shows or for classes held in a separate, jumper only ring with an electronic timer system, the timer technician, if over 21 years of age, may act as the judge.

Year End Awards

Division 1: MeHJA Affiliated Shows

MeHJA offers year-end awards for member riders showing at MeHJA affiliated shows. All divisions/classes listed in this document will be eligible for year-end awards. To be eligible/qualify for year-end awards, a rider and/or horses must:

- Earn points in a minimum of 3 affiliated shows.
 - To be eligible for year end awards, riders in Equitation divisions and horses in the hunter divisions must compete in the full division at each show - riders are not allowed to selectively show in just the undersaddle if they wish to have the points from that division count towards year-ends. Rider does not need to place in all classes of the division but must at least ride in the classes.
 - AND
 - Riders must compete in either the MeHJA Summer Classic or the MeHJA Fall Hunter Final as one of their three shows; ****Both of these shows are *DOUBLE* pointed****
- OR
- or volunteer at an MeHJA sponsored show or event (such as the Summer Classic or Fall Finals). Any volunteers must log their volunteer hours with the MeHJA Secretary within 2 weeks of the event or sign a volunteer sheet at the time of the event, to be submitted by the show secretary

Points from a maximum of 6 shows during the season will be accrued towards year-end points. If the participant shows in more than 6 shows, the points from the 6 highest pointed shows will be used.

Points will be calculated 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.

For shows that offer division championship awards, riders must compete in the entire division to be eligible for the division championship. Points will be awarded as follows:
Champion = 6 points. Reserve Champion = 4 points.

Year End Awards will be awarded as follows: for all junior divisions, awards will be given through 6th place. For all adult and open divisions, champion and reserve will be awarded. Adult and open divisions are open to sponsorship through 6th place.

MeHJA encourages donations of challenge and perpetual trophies. However, they do need to be approved by the board. As of 2023, February 1st will be the deadline by which trophy specifications 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.

If a horse/rider has a valid, current TIP or USHJA number, the number must be provided for every show on the entry form. We also ask that all TIP/USHJA numbers be provided on the MeHJA membership form, if possible.

For a leased horse, the leasee will be considered the owner for point-counting purposes. The lease must be recorded with the MeHJA prior to the rider's first show of the year. Leases can be recorded with the MeHJA Secretary by emailing the mainehjassn@gmail.com. If a lease occurs midseason, leasee must report lease to MeHJA Secretary.

MeHJA 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. Both sets of Judges cards/results must be submitted to MeHJA Secretary to qualify as for double-judged show.

Double Pointed Shows: if a show is double pointed (like the Summer Classic and MeHJA Finals), points will be doubled when counted. However, the show only counts as a single show.

Division 2: USEF Rated Shows

Division 2 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 respective 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.

Protests: 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 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 decisions -

Soundness - 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.

Horse Health - MeHJA strives to ensure the safety of all of the horses/ponies in our show circuit. Any horse deemed unfit to show due to horse weight, soundness or other health metrics (overuse, poor condition, signs of distress, etc) dismissed by a judge or by a veterinarian is non-protestable. If any show participants have concerns about the health/wellbeing of any horse at a show, they may register a complaint with either the show manager to be reviewed by the judge/onsite veterinarian. Any horses deemed to be unfit to show will be recorded by the show office and MeHJA board will be notified. MeHJA board reserves the right to follow up on any horse health complaints to decide on any assessed penalties.

Height - 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.

Class Splits - Any class split by the judge due to safety concerns over the size of the class may have each section judged and placed separately, and points will be awarded in each section. If the class is judged on the rider, no rider may ride in more than one section of the class. If the class is judged on the horse, no horse may show in more than one section of the class. (*e.g. Walk/Trot Eq - Rider can only show in one section. Walk/Trot Pleasure - Horse/pony can only show in one section*)

Hearings - Anyone who has had a protest filed against them will have a hearing. There will be at least two week's notice of such hearing, and the accused may attend the hearing and bring witnesses, sworn statements, or other evidence on 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 fee will be forfeited. The board of directors will determine the penalty for the violation if the protest is upheld.

Membership Decisions - MeHJA prides itself in providing a safe, professional, positive, and inclusive show community in Maine. In the event that a MeHJA member or show participant displays actions that are deemed unfit for the organization, the member or show participant will be penalized as follows.

Severity of Violation - If there is a flagrant or serious violation of the MeHJA bylaws/general rules of membership, MeHJA Board reserves the right to immediately revoke membership.

3 Strike Policy - MeHJA operates on a 3 strike policy that carries forward to future years. What is deemed a “strike” will be determined by all of the board members. Examples of strikes will be listed below however they are not limited to the following:

- If a member or participant is displaying signs of harassment at a show, any MeHJA affiliated event, outside of a show via text, email, cyber bullying, etc. and these actions have been brought to the attention of the board.
- Displaying poor horsemanship, showmanship, & sportsmanship to riders, spectators, show management and/or other MeHJA members.
 - Any forms of bullying or harassment will not be tolerated and will immediately be considered a strike.
- Reporting: If you would like to report an incident, please reach out to the show manager. If you would like to report anonymously/discreetly, please contact the MeHJA Board at mainehjassn@gmail.com

After a member or participant has received 3 strikes, the board will determine if the membership will be terminated or suspended and the duration thereof. This decision is not protestable.

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.

MeHJA Class Specifications

Hunter Breeding Horses Division

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 Division

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 Division

Open to riders 7 years of age and under. Riders may not compete in any class at this show in which a rider is off lead. No rider entered may compete in any other class requiring entries to ride independently. Riders must be led by an adult. Stallions are prohibited.

1. 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. Riders may be asked to halt and/or turn to the left or right. Other commands at the discretion of the judge.

2. 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. Riders 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 the qualifying class.

Lead-Line Pleasure Division

Open to riders 7 years of age and under. Riders may not compete in any class at this show in which a rider is off lead. No rider entered may compete in any other class requiring entries to

ride independently. Riders must be led by an adult. Division to be judged on manners and suitability of mount. Stallions are prohibited.

1. *Lead-line Pleasure, 7 & under*

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

2. *Lead-Line Pleasure, 7 & under 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 the qualifying class. .

Walk-Trot Equitation, 10 & Under Division

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

1. *Walk-Trot Equitation, 10 & under*

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

2. *Walk-Trot Poles Equitation, 10 & Under*

To be shown over 4 to 8 poles at a trot. To be judged as an equitation class.

3. *Walk-Trot Equitation Championship, 10 & Under*

To be shown at the walk and trot both ways of the ring and judged on hands, seat, and control. To be eligible, riders must have shown in the qualifying class.

Walk-Trot Equitation, 11 Years & Over Division

This division is 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. Riders 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 year-end award. If the class is split and qualifies for a year-end award, the division will be split and awarded for each age segment.

1. *Walk-Trot Equitation, 11 & 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.

2. *Walk-Trot Poles Equitation, 11 & Over*

To be shown over 4 to 8 poles at a trot. To be judged as an equitation class.

3. *Walk-Trot Equitation Championship, 11 & Over*

To be eligible, riders 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 Division

This division is for horse (pony)/rider combinations that do not canter/lope in shows or other competitive disciplines. Riders must be 10 yrs of age & under. Horse/pony may canter/lope with a different rider. 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. Stallions are prohibited.

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

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

Shall be shown at a walk and trot only, both ways of the ring. To be judged on horse/pony's manners, suitability of horse/pony to rider and performance. Must reverse at a walk. Must be entered, shown and judged in qualifying class to be eligible for championship class.

Walk-Trot Pleasure, 11 Years & Over Division

This division is for horse (pony)/rider combinations that 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 in the division accrue to one year-end award. If the class is split and qualifies for a year-end award, the division will be split and awarded for each age segment.

- 1. Walk-Trot Pleasure Horse/Pony, 11 Years & Over**
- 2. Walk-Trot Pleasure Championship, 11 Years & Over**

Shall be shown at a walk and trot only, both ways of the ring. To be judged on horse/pony's manners, suitability of horse/pony to rider and performance. Must reverse at a walk. Must be entered, shown and judged in qualifying class to be eligible for championship class.

Short Stirrup Equitation Division

Open to riders 12 years of age or under. All classes in division accrue to one year-end award. Riders 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. No more than 8 riders may canter at one time.

- 1. *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.

- 2. *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.

- 3. *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 the qualifying class.

Short Stirrup Hunter Division

Open to riders aged 12 years & under. To be judged on the mount's manners, suitability, and performance. Riders may not compete in any other class where fences exceed 18" in height.

- 1. *Short Stirrup Hunter Over Fences***

To be judged on manners, suitability, and performance. To be shown over a minimum of 4 fences and a maximum of 8. Fences shall be crossrails or verticals with no combinations. Riders may take the fences in trot or canter. Simple changes of lead through the trot are acceptable.

- 2. *Short Stirrup Hunter Stake***

To be judged on manners, suitability and performance. Horse must compete in the qualifying class to ride in the stake.

3. ***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 Division

Open to riders 13 years of age and over. All classes accrue to one year-end award. To be judged on seat, hands, and control of mount. Riders 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.

1. ***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.

2. ***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.

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

Rider must have shown in the 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 Division

Open to riders of any age with no restriction as to status. Horse/pony and rider combinations 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 jump combinations. May trot or canter over fences.

1. ***Easy Does It Hunter Over Fences***

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

2. ***Easy Does It Hunter Stake***

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

3. *Easy Does It Hunter Under Saddle*

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

Open to Junior and Amateur Adult exhibitors who have not competed previously in a class with fence heights greater than 2'6". Riders may not compete in any other equitation division at the show. If there are sufficient entries, the class may be split into a junior section and an amateur section.

1. *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.

2. *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.

3. *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.

Pre-Green Hunter Division

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

1. *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.

2. *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.

3. *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 Division

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.

1. *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.

2. *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. Horse must ride in the qualifying class to ride in the stake.

3. *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 Division

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

1. *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.

2. *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. Horse must compete in qualifying class to show in the stakes class.

3. *Special Working Hunter Under Saddle*

To be shown at a 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 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 Division

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'.

1. *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.

2. ***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.

3. ***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.

4. ***Pony Working Hunter Under Saddle***

To be shown at a walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring maintaining light contact with the horse's mouth. Pony 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 Division

Open to horses and ponies. To be shown by Junior Exhibitors. 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 3'. Horses and ponies to show over the same course.

1. ***Children's Hunter Over Fences***

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

2. ***Children's Hunter Stake***

To be judged on performance and soundness. Manners shall be emphasized and extreme speed shall be penalized. Horses must ride in the qualifying class to show in the stakes.

3. ***Children's Hunter Under Saddle***

To be shown at a 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 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 Division

To be ridden by Adult Amateurs who are no longer eligible to compete as Junior Exhibitors. 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 the height of the fence.

1. *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.

2. *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. Horses must show in the qualifier to show in the stakes class.

3. *Adult Amateur Hunter Under Saddle*

To be shown at a 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 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 Division

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.

1. *Low Working Hunter Over Fences*

To be judged on performance and soundness.

2. *Low Working Hunter Stake*

To be judged on performance and soundness. Horses must compete in the qualifying class to ride in the stakes.

3. ***Low Working Hunter Under Saddle***

To be shown at a 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 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 Division

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

1. ***Junior Working Hunter Over Fences***

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

2. ***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.

3. ***Junior Working Hunter Stake***

To be judged on manners, performance and soundness. Manners shall be emphasized and extreme speed shall be penalized. Horses must ride in the qualifying class to ride in the stakes class.

4. ***Junior Working Hunter Under Saddle***

To be shown at a 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 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 Division

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".

1. ***Performance Working Hunter Over Fences***

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

2. ***Performance Working Hunter Stake***

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

3. ***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.

4. ***Performance Working Hunter Under Saddle***

To be shown at a 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 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 Division

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".

1. ***Thoroughbred Hunter Over Fences***

To be judged on performance and soundness.

2. ***Thoroughbred Hunter Stake***

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

3. ***Thoroughbred Hunter Under Saddle***

To be shown at a 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 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 Division

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 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.

1. *Green Working Hunter Over Fences*

To be judged on performance and soundness.

2. *Green Working Hunter Stake*

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

3. *Green Working Hunter Under Saddle*

To be shown at a 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. Will not be asked to hand gallop. To be judged on performance and soundness.

Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation Division

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.

1. *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.

2. *Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation Over Fences*

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.

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

To be eligible, riders 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 Division

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.

1. *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.

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

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

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

To be eligible, riders 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 Division

1. *Hunter Hack*

To be shown at a 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 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.

2. *Hunter Hack Horse Championship*

To be eligible, horses 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 the 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 Division

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

1. *Hunter Pleasure Horse*

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

2. *Hunter Pleasure Horse Championship*

To be eligible, horses 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 the horse's mouth. To be judged on manners, performance, quality, presence, substance, and soundness.

Jumpers Divisions

All jumper classes to follow USHJA rules.

JUMPER RING JUDGING: For jumper only shows or for classes held in a separate, jumper only ring with an electronic timer system, the timer technician, if over 21 years of age, may act as the judge.

1. *Puddle Jumpers*

Puddle Jumper division is for classes that are no higher than 0.80m. All classes that fall in this height range will be eligible to count toward year end awards in the puddle jumper division.

2. *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 awards in the schooling jumper division.

3. *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 division.

MeHJA Medal Classes

These classes will qualify riders to attend the MeHJA Finals held in the fall. There is no rider minimum to hold these classes. Riders can be members or non-members and must accrue 8 points in their respective division in order to show at the finals in the medal. Points will be awarded as follows: 1st place=8 points; 2nd place=6 points; 3rd place=4 points; 4th place=3 points; 5th place=2 points; 6th place=1 point. In addition, member 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 member riders accumulating the most points in each class.

MeHJA Walk-Trot Poles Equitation Medal

Open to all Walk-Trot riders. Riders may ride in this class for a maximum of 2 years and are not eligible to ride in the class once they have won the finals in this division. To be judged on the rider's performance. To be shown over 4 to 8 poles at a trot with a minimum of 1 change of direction. Must include at least one test of a halt or sitting trot.

MeHJA Short Stirrup Equitation Medal

Open to junior competitors 12yrs and under as of December 1st of the competition year. 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 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 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.