

# WISCONSIN HUNTER & JUMPER ASSOCIATION

## RULES & REGULATIONS

Updated January 2020

The Wisconsin Hunter and Jumper Association (WHJA) has adopted USEF rules and regulations to govern its horse shows. These rules shall govern to the extent that they depart from USEF rules, but USEF rules will govern with respect to any matters not addressed in these rules. In cases of dispute, the WHJA will follow USEF rules, regulations, and dispute-resolution procedures. In the case of disputes not involving USEF rules and regulations, the WHJA Board of Directors make the final determination.

To obtain recognition, all classes, courses, and fences are to be conducted, judged, designed, and constructed in accordance with the rules and specifications of the current USEF rule book, unless specific exceptions are contained herein. Current Rules and Regulations may be found on the website: [www.usef.org](http://www.usef.org)

### **Show Dates, Fees and Prize Lists**

The current WHJA show season extends December 1 through November 30.

In order to be recognized as a WHJA “A” or “Local Member” show, the horse show prize list and dates must have prior approval by WHJA.

WHJA horse show dates must be applied for in writing to the Board of Directors at least 30 days prior to the start of the horse show.

There is a horse show fee for both the WHJA “A” and “Local Member” shows, which is to be paid upon receiving points from the show.

A complete listing of required divisions/classes and recommendations for optional divisions/classes is to be found in Appendices I (“A” shows) and II (“Local Member” shows).

Show management must submit, on the registration form provided, date, name and location, indication of “A” or “Local Member” rating, name(s) of the sponsor(s), show manager, secretary, judge(s), and steward to the WHJA Board of Directors.

## **Judges**

All “A” shows on the WHJA circuit must employ a senior judge with a USEF “r” rating. All judges at “Local Member” shows following the USHJA Outreach Competitions must follow the applicable requirements for such competitions. A judge may only judge at two “Local Member” shows per year without the prior approval of the WHJA Board of Directors. Under no circumstances may a judge adjudicate at consecutive “Local Member” shows without the prior approval of the WHJA Board of Directors, except at back-to-back “Local Member” shows held at the same facility within two days. In this case, judges will be required to switch rings daily. Judging at back-to-back shows is considered two separate shows and will prohibit the use of that judge by any other horse show for the duration of the season.

## **Show Results**

Show secretary will submit the results of the show, in an appropriate electronic format, to the Points Chairperson of the WHJA within ten (10) days of the show. The show secretary will state the name of the rider and place awarded in the equitation divisions. In all other divisions, the name of the horse, rider, owner of the horse, and place awarded in a given class will be submitted.

Show results will stand as published by the show secretary unless specifically revised by the show manager or the show committee. Show secretary for WHJA managed horse shows will transfer possession of all entry fees for said shows to the Treasurer of the WHJA at the conclusion of the show, to be deposited by the Treasurer within 5 business days of the horse show. All records for any such show will be placed into the WHJA's central storage location within 10 business days of the conclusion of the horse show.

## **Awarding of Points**

WHJA will award points for end-of-year awards to WHJA members in good standing. Riders may sign up for WHJA points at any time. Points will not be counted until a registration form with appropriate fees has been received by the membership chairman or by the show secretary by the Monday after the show. Points will be retroactive from December 1 to March 31. No retroactive points will be accepted after April 1.

In order for points to be awarded in any class, a minimum of three horses must be entered and complete the class. It is suggested that in cases where fewer than three

horses are entered in a class, show management combine comparable classes as necessary. In these cases, all riders/horses who place will receive points awarded in their respective divisions. No points will be issued toward year-end championships for any class or division where fewer than three horses or ponies competed except where compatible divisions are combined as described above.

Points and year-end awards will be awarded only to eligible horses and riders. The horse/rider combination must receive a minimum of six points in a particular division/class for a "Local Member" or "A" Circuit year-end award.

Points will be awarded as follows:

First Place: 10 points

Second Place: 6 points

Third Place: 4 points

Fourth Place: 2 points

Fifth Place: 1 point

Sixth Place: ½ point

No modification of points awarded can be made unless pre-approved by the WHJA Board of Directors.

Members must declare on the registration form, whether circuit points are to be tabulated for the A circuit or Local member circuit.

EXAMPLE 1: Owner with 2 horses could choose Horse 1 to accumulate “A” Circuit Hunter Points, Horse 2 to accumulate “B” Circuit Hunter Points and Owner could then choose “A” or “B” for their Equitation Point.

EXAMPLE 2: Owner chooses to accumulate “B” Circuit Equitation Points and their Horse accumulates “A” Circuit Hunter Points

Points will not count toward any horse/rider combination until the proper form and fees are submitted to the point Chairperson, the horse show secretary, or online prior to showing. Horse/Rider combination may change their declaration one time during the season, but all points prior to the change of circuits are forfeited and points on the new circuit accrue from the date of the change. Members seeking to change their declaration must do so in writing. Such declaration MUST include the owners name, horses name and the date. For the purpose of recording points will be dependent on the postmark, or email date stamp, the date received by the Points Chairperson or Horse Show Secretary.

### **Championship Requirements**

In order to award championships in a division, there must be a minimum of two classes over fences and one class under saddle in the hunter and equitation divisions and a minimum of three over fences classes in the jumper divisions. Horses must be entered in the entire division in order for under saddle points to count. The Champion and Reserve Champion titles shall be awarded to two of the horses or ponies which have acquired the most points performing over fences. In case of a tie, the Championship or Reserve shall be awarded to the horse that has accumulated the most points over

fences. If the horses have an equal number of points over fences and no points under saddle, the tied horses shall be shown at a walk, trot and canter. This competition shall be judged as an independent Hunter Under Saddle Class.

The following point system is used to determine Champion and Reserve Champion.

1st: 10 points

2nd: 6 points

3rd: 4 points

4th: 2 points

5th: 1 point

6th: 1/2 point

No additional points for year-end awards will be given for being champion or reserve champion in a division.

## **Awards**

It is recommended to place each class first through eighth but a minimum of six ribbons must be given in each class.

- 1st Blue
- 2nd Red
- 3rd Yellow
- 4th White

- 5th Pink
- 6th Green
- 7th Purple
- 8th Brown

## **“A” Horse Shows**

### **APPENDIX I**

An “A” show must be a USEF Regular Member show, Premier, National, or Regional rated with all the rated divisions and fence heights conforming to the USEF rules. It is recommended that an “A” show offer a USEF Junior Medal, an ASPCA Medal, a USEF Pony Medal, and a USET Young Rider Jumper Class.

### **Hunter Division**

The WHJA gives year-end awards in the following USEF rated divisions. Current USEF rules apply.

- Baby Green Hunter 2’6”
- Green Hunter 3’-3’3” (Pre-Green)
- Green Hunter 3’6”(First Year Green)
- Green Hunter 3’9” (Second Year Green)
- Performance Hunter 3’3”
- Performance Hunter 3’6”

- High Performance Hunter 4' (Regular Working Hunter)
- Small Junior Hunter – 16 hands and under
- Large Junior Hunter – over 16 hands
- 3'3" Junior Hunter
- Amateur Owner Hunter 18-35
- Amateur Owner Hunter 36+
- Amateur Owner 3'3" Hunter
- Green Pony Hunter
- Small Pony Hunter
- Medium Pony Hunter
- Large Pony Hunter
- Children's Hunter
- Adult Amateur Hunter 18 -35
- Adult Amateur Hunter 36+
- Children's Hunter Pony-current zone 6 rules apply

The following divisions are not recognized by the USEF but shows are encouraged to have them, and WHJA year-end awards are given.

Baby Green Working Hunter – 2'6" Horses in their first year of showing. Horses may not have shown over Fences at any USEF "A" show of any height prior to December 1 of the current show year. Horses that jump higher than 2'6" are no longer eligible for this division. No combinations or bending lines.

Novice Children's Working Hunter – Open to riders under the age of 18 who have not won six blue ribbons at 2'9" or higher on a horse at a USEF Regular Member show.

Riders who meet this eligibility rule at the first show of the year in which they compete will be eligible for this section for the entire show season. Any rider that cross-enters into other jumping classes at 3' are no longer eligible to compete in this division. To be judged on performance and soundness, with an emphasis on manners. Fences 2'6" – 2'9".

Novice Adult Working Hunter – Open to amateur riders 18 years of age or over who have not won six blue ribbons at 2'9" or higher at a USEF Regular Member show. Riders who meet this eligibility rule at the first show of the year in which they compete will be eligible for this section for the entire show season. Any rider that cross-enters into other jumping classes at 3' are no longer eligible to compete in this division. To be judged on performance and soundness, with an emphasis on manners. Fences 2'6" – 2'9".

Short Stirrup Hunter – This division is open to horses or ponies ridden by a junior, 11 years of age and under who is a beginner rider. Riders in this division may cross enter into 11 & Under Equitation flat class, Short Stirrup Equitation, and USHJA 2' hunter. They may not cross enter into any other WHJA year-end award class at the same show. Fences 1'6" - 2'3".

Long Stirrup Hunter – This division is open to horses or ponies ridden by a junior, 12 years of age and up and adult amateurs who are beginner riders. Riders in this division may cross enter into age group equitation, Long Stirrup Equitation, and USHJA 2' hunter. They may not cross enter into any other WHJA year-end award class at the same show. Fences 1'6" - 2'3".

Modified Children's Hunter – Open to riders under the age of 18. No restrictions.

Modified Children's Hunter points can be counted toward Novice Children's Hunter division if it is not offered at the show. The WHJA board must be notified prior to the end of the horse show. Fence height 2'6".

Modified Adult Hunter – Open to amateur riders 18 years of age or over. No restrictions.

Modified Adult Hunter points can be counted toward Novice Adult Hunter division if it is not offered at the show. The WHJA board must be notified prior to the end of the horse show. Fence heights 2'6".

#### Hunter Seat Equitation Division

The WHJA gives year-end awards in the following USEF rated divisions. Current USEF rules apply.

- Hunter Seat Equitation 11 years and under
- Hunter Seat Equitation 12-14 years
- Horse Hunter Seat Equitation 15-17 years
- Adult Equitation
- Children's Hunter Pony Seat Equitation
- USEF Pony Medal – Current USEF rules apply

See USEF rule book for age restrictions and specifications.

\*Points earned in these divisions are combined. Fence heights are different.

The following divisions are not recognized by the USEF but shows are encouraged to have them, and WHJA year-end awards are given.

Short Stirrup Equitation – This division is open to horses or ponies ridden by a junior, 11 years of age and under who is a beginner rider. Riders in this division may cross enter into 11 & Under Equitation flat class, Short Stirrup Hunter, and USHJA 2' hunter. They may not cross enter into any other WHJA year-end award class at the same show.

Long Stirrup Equitation – This division is open to horses or ponies ridden by a junior, 12 years of age and up and adult amateurs who are beginner riders. Riders in this division may cross enter into age group equitation flat class, Long Stirrup Hunter, and USHJA 2' hunter. They may not cross enter into any other WHJA year-end award class at the same show. Fences 1'6".

### **Jumper Division**

The WHJA gives year-end awards for the following USEF divisions. Current USEF rules apply.

- Junior Jumper
- Amateur Jumper
- Children's Jumper
- Adult Jumper

The following divisions are not recognized by the USEF but the WHJA does give year-end awards. Specifications as written in prize lists.

- Training Jumper (unrestricted classes with fences 1.0 meters and below)
- Schooling Jumper (unrestricted classes with fences between 1.05 and 1.20 meters)
- Modified/Open/Grand Prix Jumper (for unrestricted classes with fences 1.25 meters and above)
- Low Children's/Adult Amateur Jumper
- Modified Children's/Adult Jumper
- Puddle Jumper
- Baby Green Jumper

## **Appendix II**

### **Local Member Horse Shows**

The WHJA encourages multiple day shows, referred to as "Local Member" shows. Horses shown on the local member circuit must follow the rules with respect to green and novice status within USEF or USHJA. Per USHJA Rules such shows must be able to offer a minimum of 25 stalls to "outside" competitors. Local member shows must be recognized as USHJA Outreach Competitions. Combining like divisions will be accepted by the WHJA.

Horse shows must offer a minimum of 15 WHJA Year-End Award Divisions to qualify for WHJA Points. Any class offered in the prize list must be held if there are 3 or more

entries at the time of the class. WHJA Medal Classes must be held if there are 3 or more entries at the time of the class. WHJA Medal classes must have 3 riders complete the course in order to qualify for Finals.

It is recommended that the class be split if there are more than 16 entries. Shows managed by the WHJA will have Beginner classes split at twelve (12) or more riders, and other children's or amateur classes split at sixteen (16) or more entries. Classes may be combined or split at show management discretion, provided USEF and WHJA rules are followed.

“Local Member” competitions held in Illinois and eligible for WHJA recognition through the reciprocity agreement between the WHJA and IHJA will be awarded full points December through April and 1/2 Points May through November.

### **POINT REQUIREMENTS for LOCAL MEMBER SHOWS**

Full (single) or 1/2 points will be awarded to WHJA approved Local Member competitions which follow the WHJA Rulebook, and otherwise comply with the minimum standards for USHJA Outreach Competitions. Approved Classics will only be awarded points if four (4) horses complete the Classic. This applies to both Hunter and Jumper Classics. In no case will double points be awarded for any classes at USHJA Local Member competition with the exception of the WHJA Fall Finals.

## Hunter Division

WHJA gives year end awards in the following divisions. Horses in these divisions will be judged on performance and soundness, with manners to be emphasized. Horses and ponies need not be jogged, but soundness must be taken into consideration by the judge when making his or her decision.

Hunters under saddle are 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. They should not be punished for slight errors. Horses may be asked to hand gallop one way of the ring at the discretion of the judge. Martingales of any type are prohibited.

**(1) Baby Green Hunter – 2'3"**; Open to all horses and ponies that have not shown over fences at a USHJA Outreach recognized show prior to December 1 of the current show season. A horse or pony may compete in this division for one year only. No combinations or bending lines.

**(2) Pre Green Hunter**; Open to horses of any age in their first or second year of showing at any USHJA Outreach or WHJA- recognized shows. Fences 2'6". Horses may be cross-entered into any other divisions with fence heights of 2'9" or below at any show. Any horse who enters any class with fence heights over 2'9" is NO LONGER ELIGIBLE to compete in this division and no further points will be awarded.

**(3) Green Working Hunter**; A horse of any age in its first or second year of showing over fences higher than 2'9".

**(4)** Performance Hunter; A horse of any age unrestricted by previous showing in any division. Fence heights for Performance Hunter at 3' to 3'3". Fence heights for High Performance Hunters to be set at 3'3" to 3'6".

**(5)** Junior/Amateur Divisions –

**(a)** Junior Working Hunter – 2'9" to 3'; Riders in this division shall not have reached their 18th birthday by Dec. 1st of the current season. In all classes, manners shall be emphasized and extreme speed shall be penalized.

**(b)** Amateur Hunter – 2'9" to 3'; Horses only to be ridden by an amateur who is no longer eligible to compete as a junior. In all classes, manners shall be emphasized and extreme speed shall be penalized.

**(6)** Pony Working Hunter; Open to riders who have not reached their 18th Birthday. Entries must be handled by a junior exhibitor in all phases of a class. No pony may be shown unless it possesses a current measurement card or valid measurement form issued by USEF. Manners and suitability of the pony for the rider shall be emphasized in all classes. Extreme speed shall be penalized. Classes may be split/combined if entries warrant.

**(a)** Small/Med Pony Working Hunter 2'; Small ponies are ponies not exceeding 12.2 hands. Fences 2'. Medium ponies are ponies over 12.2 hands but not exceeding 13.2 hands. Fences 2'.

**(b)** Large Pony Working Hunter 2'6"; Open to ponies over 13.2 hands but not exceeding 14.2 hands.

**(7)** Children's/ Adult Hunter – 2'6"; Open to Junior or Amateur riders on horses or ponies. Horse/Rider combination may not cross enter into divisions exceeding 2'6". Classes may be split if entries warrant.

**(8)** Beginner Rider Hunter – Crossrails. Open to riders in their first or second year of showing or riders who have not won 6 blue ribbons over fences (between Hunter and Equitation) at a USHJA Outreach or WHJA recognized show. Riders will retain their eligibility for the entire show year. Once riders enter classes with higher division jump specifications, riders are immediately ineligible for these divisions. Riders may only cross enter into Beginner Rider Equitation. Courses to be ridden over 4-8 fences with no changes of direction. (Riders who are competing in flat classes ONLY and not yet competing over fences may do the flat classes in the short stirrup/long stirrup/low adult amateur hunter division and the appropriate age-group equitation division. Once a rider competes over fences, they are no longer eligible to do the additional flat classes, except for their age group equitation flat class.)

**(9)** Limit Hunter – 2'3"; Open to Junior and Amateur riders. Horse/Rider combination cannot cross enter into any other division that exceeds 2'6".

**(10)** Short Stirrup Hunter – 2'; Open to horses or ponies ridden by a junior 12 yrs of age and under. Riders may only cross enter into short stirrup equitation and other classes or divisions with fence heights 2' or lower. Once a rider enters any class with over fence division specifications higher than 2', they are no longer eligible for this division.

Courses are required to have two changes of direction and no combinations or bending lines.

**(11)** Long Stirrup Hunter – 2'; Open to horses or ponies ridden by anyone 13 years of age and older. Riders may not cross enter into any other division at the same show except Long Stirrup Equitation and other classes or divisions with fence heights 2' or lower. Once a rider enters any class with over fence division specifications higher than 2', they are no longer eligible for this division. Courses are required to have two changes of direction and no combinations or bending lines.

**(12)** Low Working Hunter – 2'6"; Open to all horses not restricted by height regulations.

**(13)** Schooling Hunter – 2'; Open to all horses and riders.

### **WHJA Medal Classes**

Competitors wishing to receive points toward the National Award Program offered through the USHJA must have an affiliate membership with the USHJA. There is a separate application for this membership and program. Participation in USHJA National Award Programs is the sole responsibility of the competitor. Riders must complete 2 WHJA Medal Final Qualifiers in order to be eligible for WHJA Medal Finals. All WHJA Medal Classes prior to Medal Finals will be considered Qualifiers. The winner of Medal Finals shall be considered the Year End Medal Winner. \*Please note WHJA will no longer recognize cumulative points.

**(1)** WHJA Pony Medal - small/medium 2', large 2'6"; Course to be designed to resemble a USEF Pony Medal Class. To fill a class, three riders must complete the course. Tests 1-9 must be incorporated. Only one rider per pony. Medal and eight ribbons awarded.

**(2)** WHJA Limit Medal 2'3"; To be shown over a course of not less than six obstacles at 2'3" which must include two changes of direction and no combinations. Two or more tests of the top four riders may be requested at the judge's discretion; tests 1-9. Only one rider per horse. To fill a class, three riders must complete the course. Medal and eight ribbons awarded.

**(3)** WHJA Child/Adult Medal 2'6"; To be shown over a course of not less than six obstacles at 2'6" which must include two changes of direction. Two or more tests of the top four riders may be requested at the judge's discretion; tests 1-9. Only one rider per horse. To fill a class, three riders must complete the course. Medal and eight ribbons awarded.

**(4)** WHJA Junior/Amateur Medal 2'9"-3'; To be shown over a course of not less than six obstacles at 2'9"-3' which must include two changes of direction. Two or more tests of the top four riders maybe requested at the judge's discretion; tests 1-18. Only one rider per horse. To fill a class, three riders must complete the course. Medal and eight ribbons awarded.

## Hunter Seat Equitation

WHJA gives year end awards in the following Equitation Divisions. Equitation classes may be held as 2 or 3 class divisions at the horse show managers discretion. 3 class divisions will be eligible for champion and reserve.

**(1)** Limit Equitation; 1 or 2 O/F and 1 Flat Class. Fences 2'3". Open to Junior and Amateur riders. Riders cannot cross enter into any other division that exceeds 2'6".

**(2)** Child/Adult Equitation; 1 or 2 O/F and 1 Flat Class. Fences 2'6". Open to Junior or Amateur riders on horses or ponies. Riders may not cross enter into divisions exceeding 2'6". Classes may be split if entries warrant.

**(3)** JR/AM Equitation; 1 or 2 O/F and 1 Flat Class. Fences 2'9"-3'. Open to junior and amateur riders on horses or ponies.

**(4)** Beginner Rider Equitation; 1 O/F (cross rails), 1 walk/trot, & 1 walk/trot/canter class

Open to riders in their first or second year of showing or riders who have not won 6 blue ribbons over fences (between Hunter and Equitation) at a WHJA/USHJA Outreach Local Recognized show. Riders will retain their eligibility for the entire show year. Once riders enter classes with higher division jump specifications, riders are immediately ineligible for these divisions. Riders may only cross enter into Beginner Rider Hunter. Courses to be ridden over 4 to 8 fences with no changes of direction. (Riders who are competing in flat classes ONLY and not yet competing over fences may do the flat

classes in the short stirrup/long stirrup hunter and equitation divisions. Once a rider competes over fences, they are no longer eligible to do the additional flat classes.

**(5)** Short Stirrup Equitation; 1 or 2 O/F & 1 flat class. Fences 2'. Open to horses or ponies ridden by a junior 12 yrs of age and under. Riders may only cross enter into Short Stirrup hunter, Equitation 12 & under, and other classes or divisions with fence heights 2' or lower. Once a rider enters any class with over fence division specifications higher than 2', they are no longer eligible for this division. Courses to be a simple figure of 8 with two changes of direction, and no combinations or bending lines.

**(6)** Long Stirrup Equitation; 1 or 2 O/F & 1 flat class. Fences 2'. Open to horses or ponies ridden by anyone 13 years of age and older. Riders may not cross enter into any other division at the same show except Long Stirrup Hunter, other classes or divisions with fence heights 2' or lower. Once a rider enters any class with over fence division specifications higher than 2' they are no longer eligible for this division.

### **Jumper Classes**

**(1)** Puddle Jumper/USHJA OUTREACH JUMPER .70m; Open to any Junior or Amateur horse/rider combination. Riders may not cross enter into any class with fence heights exceeding .90m.

**(2)** Baby Green Jumper\* .70m; \*Suggested but not required class. No year-end award. Open to any rider. Open to all horses and ponies that have not shown over fences at a USEF recognized show prior to December 1 of the current show season. A horse or pony may compete in this division for one year only.

**(3)** Low Jumper/USHJA OUTREACH JUMPER .85m; Open to any rider, horse or pony.  
May only cross enter into classes not exceeding .90m.

**(4)** Children's/Adult Jumper/USHJA OUTREACH JUMPER .90-.95m; Open junior or amateur riders and any horse or pony.

**(5)** Modified Jumper 1.0-1.10m; Open to any rider, horse or pony.

## **Classics**

### **Hunter Classics**

To be judged as a hunter class. Four horses must complete the first round in order for points to be awarded, with the exception of Short Stirrup Hunter, Long Stirrup Hunter, and Pony Hunter where three horses must complete the first round. To be eligible, the horse must have entered at least two over fences classes in the hunter section (one of which may be the first round of the Classic). The Classic must be conducted in a two round class using an open numerical scoring system. Classic to contain a minimum of 8 fences in the second round. A minimum of the top 12 entries, if available, or 50% of the entries in the first round, whichever is greater, will return for the second round. If a horse or pony is eliminated in the first round of competition, they may not return for the second round.

## **Jumper Classics**

To compete, horse/rider combination must have completed at least two classes in the division. Four competitors must complete the course for points to count.

## **DERBIES**

To be judged as a hunter class. Four horses must complete the first round in order for points to be awarded. All horses and ponies that are entered in at least 2 other classes at the horse show are eligible. The Derby must be conducted in a two-round format; first round hunter (minimum of 9 jumps) with the top 12 horses called back for a second handy round (minimum of 9 jumps). If a horse or pony is eliminated in the first round of competition, they may not return for the second round. Fences to be set at 2', 2'3", 2'6", 2'9"-3' for both rounds. Fence heights offered will be the sole discretion of individual horse show management and must be posted in the prize list 30-days prior to the Derby. Riders **MUST SIGN** the Derby Declaration in the horse show office prior to the start of the class for **POINTS TO COUNT**.

Derby points will be counted as a single class and applied to the horse/rider combinations respective year-end hunter division. Prior to the start of the class each horse/rider combination must register on the Derby Declaration sign-up sheet in the horse show office.

**FOR EXAMPLE:** If a Long Stirrup horse participates with a junior or amateur in a 2' Derby, the Derby Points would count towards the year end Long Stirrup Hunter. If a

Long Stirrup horse participates with a Professional in a 2' Derby, the Derby Points would count towards the 2' Schooling Hunter.

## **SPECIAL CLASSES**

\*Each horse show is entitled to host "Special Classes". Special class specifications are the sole responsibility of each horse show. The WHJA does not recognize these classes.