

2021 GHJA Rule Change Proposals

Item 1:

Category: changes to existing rules

Rule 14.1.1.1. Short Stirrup Hunter: Open to riders ages 12 years and under, on horses or ponies, in their first or second year of showing over fences higher than 18" in any horse show. NOTE: Participation in once around-twice around or beginner and crossrail classes will not count as part of these two years as long as the jump height does not exceed 18". Riders may show in Short Stirrup classes for two consecutive years. The two years of short stirrup eligibility are continuous show calendar years that cannot be separated or divided in any manner. If a rider ages out of Short Stirrup after one year of eligibility, the rider may compete in Long Stirrup Hunter and Equitation divisions for the next consecutive show year, concluding the continuous two years of eligibility for these divisions. Short and Long Stirrup eligibility are to be counted together: a rider may compete in Short and/or Long Stirrup Divisions for a total of two consecutive show years. Year will begin December 1st and end November 30th. Fence height 2'. Throughout the competition year in order for Short Stirrup eligibility to remain intact and in order for Short Stirrup riders to remain eligible to show in Short Stirrup classes at the year-end GHJA Finals horse show and to remain eligible for GHJA year-end awards in the Short Stirrup divisions:

(i) A Short Stirrup rider on a horse or pony MAY NOT cross-enter into any hunter or equitation classes or divisions, rated or unrated, in which fence heights exceed 2'; nor may a Short Stirrup rider cross-enter into any GHJA-rated Medal class.

~~(ii) A Short Stirrup rider on a pony MAY NOT cross-enter into: Pony Hunter, Open Hunter at any height, any GHJA-recognized medal classes, nor any non-recognized classes where fence heights exceed 2'6".~~

~~(iii) A Short Stirrup rider on a horse MAY cross-enter into: Pre-Children's Hunter (2'6"), age group equitation, and non-recognized classes where fence heights do not exceed 2'6".~~

~~(iv) A Short Stirrup rider on a horse MAY NOT cross-enter into: Open Hunter (not even 2'6" section), any GHJA medal classes, nor any non-recognized classes where fence heights exceed 2'6".~~

(ii) Short Stirrup riders may not enter "under saddle" or "flat" classes that do not fall within the parameters set forth above in (i) ~~for riders on a pony and in (iii) for riders on a horse.~~

Proponent: Anna Bomar, GHJA# 14872, annabomar@hotmail.com, (770)280-5032

Purpose for Proposal: To limit Short Stirrup to riders of that ability level, excluding those capable of jumping the larger fence heights. The inclusion of both equitation and hunter classes in Short Stirrup offers the full breadth of class types for these riders, and the other limiting parameters suggests that this is meant to be a division for riders who are not yet ready for more.

Rule 14.1.1.7. Long Stirrup Hunter: Open to Amateur and Junior riders, 13 years of age and older, on horses or ponies, in their first or second year of showing over fences higher than 18" in any horse show. NOTE: Participation in once around-twice around or beginner and crossrail classes will not count as part of these two years as long as the jump height does not exceed 18". Adult riders who are re-entering the show ring after an absence of 5 years or more may compete in this division. Riders may compete in this division no more than two consecutive years. The two years of Long Stirrup eligibility are continuous show calendar years that cannot be separated or divided in any manner. If a rider ages out of Short Stirrup after one year of eligibility, the rider may compete in Long Stirrup Hunter and Equitation divisions for the next consecutive show year, concluding the continuous two years of eligibility for these divisions. Short and Long Stirrup eligibility are to be counted together: a rider may compete in Short and/or Long

Stirrup Divisions for a total of two consecutive show years. Year begins December 1st and ends November 30th. Fence height 2'3". Throughout the competition year in order for Long Stirrup eligibility to remain intact and in order for Long Stirrup riders to remain eligible to show in Long Stirrup classes at the year-end GHJA Finals horse show and to remain eligible for GHJA year-end awards in the Long Stirrup divisions:

(i) Junior and Amateur Long Stirrup riders MAY NOT cross-enter into any hunter or equitation classes or divisions, rated or unrated, in which fence heights exceed 2'3"; nor may a Long Stirrup rider cross-enter into any GHJA-rated Medal class.

(ii) Junior or Amateur Long Stirrup riders MAY NOT cross-enter into: Green Hunter (not even 2'3" section).

~~(iii) Junior Long Stirrup riders MAY cross-enter into: Schooling Pony (2' or 2'6"), Pre-Children's Hunter (2'6"), age group equitation (Equitation 12-14 "flat" class and fences at 2'6" only, Equitation 15-17 "flat" class only), and non-recognized **hunter and equitation** classes where fence heights do not exceed 2'6".~~

~~(iv) Junior Long Stirrup riders MAY NOT cross-enter into: Pony Hunter, Open Hunter (not even 2'6" section), any GHJA-recognized medal classes, nor any non-recognized classes where fence heights exceed 2'6".~~

(iii) Long Stirrup riders may not enter "under saddle" or "flat" classes that do not fall within the parameters set forth above in (i) **and (ii)** for Amateur riders and in (iii) for Junior riders.

Item 2:

Additional Proposal For Short & Long Stirrup

(As above with the addition of the following limitation to eligibility)

14.1.1.1

(iii) A Short Stirrup rider on a pony or horse may not enter any jumper classes, rated or unrated, at any height.

14.1.1.7

(iv) A Long Stirrup Rider on a pony or horse may not enter any jumper classes, rated or unrated, regardless of height.

Proponent: Debby Bandy GHJA #10027 dbatlanta@aol.com 770-939-1646 cell 770-939-1646

Purpose of the Proposal: Similar to the above proposal. Short and Long Stirrup were intended to give riders of limited experience divisions in which were designed for their ability level and designed to keep them from having to show against riders of more advanced ability. This proposal was presented by Ms. Bandy after, in her experience as a steward, she has been repeatedly approached with concerns about the fairness of Short Stirrup riders (in particular) being allowed to show in jumper classes over more technical courses awarded on speed.

Item 3:

Category: Amendment to existing rule

17.1 Eligibility For Awards

17.1.1. To be eligible for annual hunter or jumper awards, a horse or pony must be registered with GHJA and its registered owner must be a member in good standing. **The trainer listed on the entry blank at each show for which the horse seeks points must also be a member in good standing.** No hunter or jumper points for annual awards will be credited before the horse or pony is registered and its owner **and trainer** becomes an individual members of GHJA. For leased horses/ponies, per section 10.1.3., the Executive Secretary of GHJA must be notified of any change in ownership or lessee. For the avoidance of doubt, the owner of record designated on the entry blank must be a member in good standing.

17.1.2. To be eligible for annual equitation awards, a rider must be in good standing. **The trainer listed on the entry blank at each show for which the horse seeks points must also be a member in good standing.** No equitation points for annual awards will be credited before the rider **and trainer** becomes an individual members of GHJA.

17.1.3. No points for annual awards will be credited retroactively after payment of registration fees or membership dues.

17.1.3.1. At each GHJA Local Member Horse Show, any Exhibitor desiring points won to count toward year end awards must provide the Show Secretary with GHJA membership numbers for each horse, horse's owner, **trainer**, and rider. Exhibitors who have applied for one of these memberships within the previous thirty (30) days may provide the Show Secretary with an affidavit stating that membership has been "applied for". Failure to provide GHJA numbers as required will result in loss of points for that entire show.

17.1.3.2 (Unchanged)

Purpose of the proposal: Drive membership, increase professional activism within the organization, and offer new perks to professionals that drive our membership.

Proponent: Megan Thiel, megan.o.thiel@gmail.com, 954.818.2226, GHJA# 14769

Item 4:

Category: New Rule

Chapter 17 (Suggest 17.6): **Points Appeal Process**

Members may file an appeal with the Executive Secretary to correct points that are not recorded properly due to an error on the electronic entry form. The appeal shall include the (i) show(s) believed to be subject to error (ii) the suspected error on the entry form for each show raised in the appeal, and (iii) the placings believed to be accurate for which the member is seeking correction. The appeal must be filed within thirty (30) days of the close of the show(s) which are subject of the appeal, and no later December 15th of the show year. If the information put forth in the appeal can be verified as accurate and there are no other barriers to the member receiving credit for those points, the points will be corrected accordingly.

Purpose of the proposal: When entering online, there is no way to confirm certain information that may result in incorrect recording of points, for example, owner/lease changes that communicate with GHJA vs USEF. If owner is not changed in USEF, it reports horse incorrectly when entering GHJA local shows, and then isn't consistent with regular member points.

Proponent: Megan Thiel, megan.o.thiel@gmail.com, 954.818.2226, GHJA# 14769

Item 5:

Category: Amendment to Current Rule

Chapter 11: Recognition of Local Member Shows

11.1.1.4: Show Management is limited to reserving dates for ~~twelve (12) shows per year in the state of Georgia, and twelve (12) shows per year in each of the adjacent states to include North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Alabama and Florida~~ **a total of twenty-four (24) shows per year with no more than eighteen (18) at any one location.** A GHJA horse show, once sanctioned for the given Show Year, may not change dates or Show Management without approval by the Show Standards Committee. A Show Management group canceling a reserved date will forfeit its application fee. If a show date must be changed, written notification must be mailed to and received by the entire GHJA membership at least seven (7) days prior to the original date. The only exception to this would be for cancellation resulting from Acts of God.

Purpose of the proposal: Allow the expansion of business to our show managers, increase membership, drive competition, and allow more selection into the market. Expansion specifically requested by members in area underserved by GHJA sanctioned shows.

Proponent: Megan Thiel, megan.o.thiel@gmail.com, 954.818.2226, GHJA# 14769

11.1.1.3. There must be a distance of 50 miles between Local Member Shows held on the same **day**. ***For purposes of this rule, the distance of miles is defined as the shortest driving distance on major highways between the two show venues.*** No Show Management group may have more than four (4) shows in a given month, nor may these shows occupy more than two (2) weekends **at the same location** in a given month. The four shows can be on the same extended weekend (Thursday through Sunday) or on separate weekends.

Item 6:

Category: Amendment to current Rule

17.4.1. GHJA offers annual high score awards in the following divisions:

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| 1. Short Stirrup Hunter | 14. Children's Hunter |
| 2. Short Stirrup Equitation | 15. Performance Hunter |
| 3. Schooling Pony Hunter | 16. Green Hunter |
| 4. Small Pony Hunter | 17. Equitation 11 and under |
| 5. Medium Pony Hunter | 18. Equitation 12-14 |
| 6. Large Pony Hunter | 19. Equitation 15-17 |
| 7. Long Stirrup Hunter | 20. Adult Amateur Equitation |
| 8. Long Stirrup Equitation | 21. .08 m (2'7") Jumper |
| 9. Pre-Children's Hunter | 22. Low Child/Adult Jumper .85 m (2'9") |
| 10. Pre-Adult Hunter | 23. .90 m (2'11") Jumper |
| 11. Modified Hunter | 24. Child/Adult Jumper .95 m (3'1") |
| 12. Open Hunter | 25. 1.00 m (3'3") Jumper |
| 13. Adult Amateur Hunter | 26. 1.10 m (3'7") Jumper |

Proponent: Meg Halloran, mhdonahue@bellsouth.net, 803.730.3978, GHJA#

Reason for Proposal: To be consistent with last year's addition of a recognized Green Hunter division. Green Hunter is still a relatively small division and not always offered but 17.4.2 and 17.4.3 establish further parameters for when a division is too small/infrequent to warrant a year end award.