Georgia Hunter Jumper Association

2026 Rule Book

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GEORGIA HUNTER JUMPER ASSOCIATION, INC.

2026 Rule Book

This book supersedes all previous editions.

December 1, 2025

The Georgia Hunter Jumper Association (GHJA), an affiliate of the United States Equestrian Federation and the United States Hunter Jumper Association, shall provide oversight to all GHJA sanctioned shows and will facilitate fairness in competition. It is the mission of the organization to advance the hunter and jumper disciplines, promote the welfare and safety of the horse and rider and act for the common good of all GHJA members.

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Georgia Hunter Jumper Association, Inc.

Charitable Organization (501-C-3IRS)

BY-LAWS

Article I. As hereinafter employed in these By-Laws, the term "Horse Show" shall include any organized horse show whether functioning as a corporation, an unincorporated association, or under individual sponsorship**.**

Article II. Objects

Section 2.1 The object of the Georgia Hunter Jumper Association shall be to promote and standardize all recognized hunter/jumper shows and other equestrian activities within the State of Georgia and contiguous states and to act for the common good of exhibitors, sponsors, spectators and management.

Article III. Membership

Section 3.1 Membership year: The membership year shall run from December 1 to November 30.

Section 3.2 Show Membership:

A. Show membership shall be bestowed only upon corporations, organizations, associations and others who are members of horse shows recognized at the discretion of the Board of Directors. Only one member of any such horse show, who shall be designated by such horse show, may hold show membership in the Association. This member must be an individual Senior member. To be eligible to be recognized by the Board of Directors, a Horse Show must have filed with the Executive Secretary of this Association the name of its representative to represent its show membership. A written statement that said show will abide by the rules and regulations prescribed by this Association for holding and continuing horse shows and will hold its shows at such date or dates as may be assigned to it by this Association shall be on file before dates are granted.

B. Any show member may voluntarily resign from this Association at any time after thirty days written notice to the Secretary. Upon resignation, such show member shall forfeit any dues which it may have paid. When by two-thirds vote by the Board of Directors it is determined that a Horse Show recognized by the Board has failed to observe its agreement to abide by the rules and regulations of this Association for holding and conducting horse shows, or has failed to hold its show at the date or dates assigned by this Association, the membership of the show member from such Show shall stand revoked, and any dues paid by such show member shall be forfeited.

Section 3.3 Individual Membership: Individual membership, senior and junior, shall be issued to such persons as apply and are accepted by the Board of Directors at its discretion. Senior members are those persons who are eighteen years or older. Junior members are those persons who have not yet reached their 18th birthday. For horse show purposes, the age of an individual on December 1st shall be maintained throughout the entire show year. Persons born on December 1st shall assume the greater age on that date. Individual junior and senior members may attend membership meetings. Senior members shall be eligible for election to any of the offices or to the Board of Directors of the Association. Junior members are not eligible to be elected to any office of the Association or to vote at any annual or special meeting. A junior member retains his junior status during the entire year that he becomes eighteen (18).

Article IV. Membership Meetings

Section 4.1 Annual Meeting: The annual meeting of the members of the Georgia Hunter Jumper Association, Inc. (hereinafter the "Association") shall be held between January 1 and January 31 at the call of the Board of Directors at such time as designated in the notice. This meeting shall be held for the purpose of electing directors and for the transaction of other such business as may

properly be brought before the meeting. In the event that such meeting is not held within the time prescribed, through oversight or otherwise, the Board of Directors shall call a meeting in lieu thereof to be held as soon as may be convenient thereafter; any business transacted or elections held at such meetings shall be as valid as if transacted or held at the annual meeting. Such subsequent meetings shall be called in the same manner as provided for special membership meetings. At the annual meeting of the members, the order of business shall be as determined by the chairman of the meeting. The GHJA shall publish a calendar with dates of general meetings, Board Meetings, Junior and other committee meetings.

Section 4.2 Additional meetings of the general membership may be held during the year, at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

Section 4.3 Special Meetings: Special meetings of the members may be called by the President or a group of three or more of the Board of Directors. A special meeting of the members may also be called at the request of not less than twenty senior members.

Section 4.4 Place of Meeting: Membership meetings shall be at such other place as is designated in the notice of the meeting.

Section 4.5 Notice Requirements: Written notice stating the place, day and hour of the meeting and, in the case of a special meeting, the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called shall be delivered by or at the discretion of the President, or the person or persons calling the meeting ***to*** the last known post office address or to the last known e-mail address filed with the GHJA office of each member entitled to vote at the meeting. Such notice shall be delivered not less than fifteen (15) days before the date of the meeting. If mailed, such notice shall be deemed to be delivered when deposited in the United States mail addressed to the member at his last known post office address as it appears in the records of the Association, with first class postage thereon prepaid. In addition, a notice will be placed on the official GHJA website conveying the same information and shall be posted not less than fifteen (15) days before the date of the meeting.

Section 4.6 Waiver of Notice: Attendance of a member at a meeting shall constitute waiver of notice and of all objections to the place, time or manner of call or convention of the meeting, except when a member attends solely for the purpose of stating any such objection at the beginning of the meeting. Whenever the members are authorized to take any action after notice, such action may be taken without notice to some or all of them without the lapse of such period of time if at any time before or after such notice is completed each person not receiving notice, submits a signed waiver of notice.

Section 4.7 Quorum: Twenty-five (25) voting members, excluding the officers of the Board of Directors, shall constitute a quorum at all meetings of the Association. When a quorum is once present to organize a meeting, it is not broken by the subsequent withdrawal of any of those present. A meeting may be adjourned despite the absence of a quorum.

Section 4.8 Voting: Classes of membership and voting power. The membership of this Association shall consist of show members and individual members. The voting power at meetings of the Association shall be lodged solely in the senior individual members. Individual senior members shall have one (1) vote. A senior member must be a member in good standing as of July 1 preceding any membership meeting or election of officers and shall not be represented at any regular or special meeting of the Association by attorney, agent or proxy.

Article V. Directors

Section 5.1 Membership:

A. The affairs and business of the Association shall be managed by its Board of Directors, consisting of the four (4) officers and sixteen (16) senior members. Two members shall be from areas sixty (60) miles or more outside of Alpharetta GA; this distance shall be measured from the Alpharetta City Hall. Each director shall be elected to serve a term of three (3) years, one-third (1/3) of the directors shall be elected each year. No director shall receive any remuneration for his services as a member of the Board. The Executive Secretary shall chair the election of the Board of Directors at the General Membership meeting. The Executive Secretary shall also chair the election of officers at the subsequent Board meeting.

B. All members of the active Board of Directors shall be elected from the voting membership and by the voting members of the Association at the annual meeting. Nominations to the Board must be submitted to the membership at least two weeks prior to the annual meeting. A nominee to the Board must have been a member of GHJA since July 1st of the year preceding the election. Directors shall serve until the election their duly qualified successors provided, however, that if the membership of any officer or director is terminated as specified in article V, 5.2 of these By-Laws, or otherwise, his or her seat on the Board of Directors shall forthwith become vacant and shall be filled by election by the remaining directors.

C. Horse show chairman and/or co-chairman become Directors of the Board for the period of time they serve as chairman and/or co-chairman of the annual charity horse show.

Section 5.2 The Board of Directors by vote of two-thirds of its entire membership, may after a hearing censure, suspend, and/or expel any officer, any member of any committee, or any member of the Association whose conduct shall be found to be prejudicial to the best interests of the Association or in violation of its By-Laws or rules, provided however, such member shall first be notified by the Secretary of the nature of the prejudicial conduct charged, and shall be given a reasonable opportunity to defend such charges before the Board of Directors.

Section 5.3 A member of the Board of Directors cannot miss two consecutive board meetings without a valid reason and still maintain his/her membership on the Board.

Section 5.4 In the event the President of the Association is not re-elected by the Board of Directors, he/she shall continue as a Director of the Association for one year and shall have all the voting and other powers of the regularly elected directors.

Section 5.5 In the years when an ex-president becomes a director under 5.4 above, the Board for that year shall consist of 21 members (see Article V, Sec. 5.2).

Section 5.6 The Directors may from time to time elect Honorary Officers and Directors to the Board of Directors in recognition of distinguished service rendered to the Association. An Honorary Officer or Director shall serve for life but without vote and shall be exempt from payment of dues. Such Officers and Directors shall not at any given time exceed two in number.

Section 5.7 Vacancies: In case one or more vacancies shall occur in the Board of Directors by reason of death, resignation, increase in number of directors, or otherwise, except insofar as otherwise provided in the case of a vacancy or vacancies occurring by reason of removal by the members, the remaining directors, although less than a quorum, may by a majority vote elect a successor or successors for the unexpired term or terms. If the vacancy has not been so filled, then at any meeting of the members, the members at such meeting may fill such vacancy.

Section 5.8 Meetings: Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at such place as may from time to time be fixed by resolution of the Board of Directors, including virtual meeting platform, or as may be specified in the notice of the meeting. Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at such times as may from time to time be fixed by resolution of the Board of Directors, although the Board of Directors must meet at least three times per year. Special meetings may be held at any time upon the call of the president or the chairman of the Board or the secretary or any two directors or not less than twenty percent (20%) of the membership by oral telegraphic, e-mail notice to the last known e-mail address filed with the GHJA office, or written notice of the time and place of such meeting, duly served on or sent by mail to each director not less than fifteen (15) days before the meeting. A meeting of the Board of Directors may be held

without notice immediately after the annual meeting of members. Notice need not be given of regular meetings of the Board of Directors held at times fixed by resolution of the Board of Directors. No notice of any meeting need be given to any director who attends such meeting, states any objection or objections to the place or time of the meeting, to the manner in which it has been called or convened, or to the transaction business. Nor shall notice be required to be given any director who at any time before or after the meeting waives notice of the meeting in writing.

Section 5.9 Quorum: Ten (10) of the directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, and unless otherwise specifically required by statue or by charter of the Association or these By-Laws, the act of a majority of such directors present in a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Board of Directors, and if at any meeting of the Board of Directors there shall be less than a quorum present, a majority of those present may adjourn the meeting, without further notice, until a quorum shall have been obtained.

Section 5.10 General Powers: In addition to the power and authority conferred upon the Board of Directors by these By-Laws, the Board may exercise all such powers of the Association and do all such lawful acts and things as are not by statute, by any legal agreement among the members, by the Articles of Incorporation, by the rules, or by these By-Laws directed or required to be exercised or done by the membership.

Section 5.11 Express Powers: Without restricting the general powers conferred by the two preceding sections and otherwise by these By-Laws, or by the Articles of Incorporation or statute or other law, it is hereby expressly declared that the Board of Directors shall have the following powers:

- **A.** to make full decisions on any question pertaining to the rules or any other matter of business of this Association, and to employ such personnel as it deems necessary to conduct the business of this Association properly.
- **B.** from time to time to make and change any rules and regulations not inconsistent with these By-Laws for the management of the Association's business and affairs.
- **C.** to create and appoint any and all officers of the corporation and to define their duties and powers, provided no such action shall be inconsistent with these By-Laws.
- **D.** to appoint and at its discretion remove or suspend such subordinate officers, agents, or servants, permanently or temporarily, as it deems fit, to determine their duties, to fix and from time to time change their salaries or emoluments, and require security in such instances and amounts as it thinks fit.
- **E.** to confer by resolution upon any appointed officer of the Association the power to choose, remove, or suspend such subordinates officers, agents, or servants.
- **F.** to determine who shall be authorized on behalf of the Association to sign bills, notes, receipts, acceptances, endorsements, checks, leases, releases, contracts, or other documents, and to discount or negotiate notes, drafts, or other commercial paper.

Section 5.12 Order of Business: The order of business at meetings of the Board of Directors shall be:

- **A.** reading and disposal of any unapproved minutes.
- **B.** report of officers and committees
- **C.** unfinished business
- **D.** action upon application for membership in the association
- **E.** new business
- **F.** adjournment.

Article VI. Officers

Section 6.1 Election: The Board of Directors, as soon as may be possible after the election thereon held in each year, shall by majority vote from the Board a president, vice-president, recording secretary, and a treasurer, and from time to time may appoint one or more vice presidents and such assistant secretaries, assistant treasurers, and such other officers, agents and employees as it deems proper. Any two or more offices may be held by the same person except the offices of president and recording secretary.

Section 6.2 Term and Removal: All officers except the Executive Secretary shall be elected by and serve at the discretion of the Board of Directors, and any officer except the executive secretary may be removed from office, either with or without cause, at any time, by the affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Board of Directors then in office. The office of the President shall

be limited to three consecutive one year terms. A vacancy in any office arising from any cause may be filled for the unexpired portion of the term by the Board of Directors.

Section 6.3 Powers and Duties: The officers of the Association shall have all of the official powers and shall perform any such duties as may be assigned to them from time to time by the Board. Without restricting the general powers conferred by the two preceding sections and otherwise by these By-Laws, or by the Article of Incorporation or statute or other law, it is hereby expressly declared that the officers shall have the following powers and duties:

- **A.** President. The president shall preside at all meetings of the Directors and shall sign all contracts of the Association. He shall appoint the chairman of all committees. He shall serve as an ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee and the Hearing Committee.
- **B.** Vice President. In the absence of the president, the vice president shall perform the duties of the president.
- **C.** Recording Secretary. The recording secretary shall have the following duties: keeping the minutes of the meetings of the membership, the Board of Directors and the Executive Committees; co-signing with the president all contracts for the Association; notifying the Board of all decisions and actions of the Executive Committee: receiving and filing all reports of the officers and committee heads; furnishing copies of minutes of all meetings and committee reports to the executive secretary; assisting the executive secretary with mailings and auditing points for end of the year standings.
- **D.** Treasurer. The treasurer shall have the following duties: to have the authority and responsibility for the safekeeping of the funds of the Association; to sign all transactions involving the Association up to $500; to co-sign with the president, vice-president or executive secretary all transactions involving the Association which involve over $500.
- **E.** Executive Secretary. The executive secretary shall be employed by the Board of Directors. The executive secretary shall have no voting privileges, but may function as an advisor on standing committees at the invitation of a majority of the committee. A contract shall exist between the Association and the executive secretary, which shall specify salary. This contract shall be renegotiated every two years by the Board of Directors. The executive secretary shall have the following duties: to act as custodian of the seal of the Association; to act as custodian of all files and records of the Association; to maintain the office of the Association; to attend Board meetings; to conduct all official correspondence as directed by the Board of Directors; to prepare and mail all notices of all meetings of both the membership and the Board of Directors, of whatever description; to coordinate all approved horse shows; and to communicate to the membership, by letter and/or notice on the Association web site, every three months as to current points, scheduled horse shows, persons or organizations not in good standing, rule changes, recommendations, and such other information as may be deemed includable by majority vote of the Board of Directors.
- **F.** Assistant Secretaries and Assistant Treasurers. The assistant secretaries and assistant treasurers shall perform any of or all of the duties of the secretary or treasurer, as the case may be, and such other duties as may be assigned to them from time to time.

Article VII. Amendments

Section 7.1 The By-Laws of the Association may be repealed or amended by new By-Laws adopted by a vote of the majority of the Directors present at any regular or special meeting called for that purpose, or by a vote conducted by the Executive Secretary via e-mail when it is not convenient for the Board to assemble in person, provided the proposed change has been presented for discussion and notice of the proposed changes thereof have been given to all members of GHJA at least 15 days in advance of such vote. Written notice may be sent to the last known post office address or an e-mail notice sent to the last known e-mail address filed with the GHJA office of each active member. In addition, a notice will be placed on the official GHJA website conveying the same information and shall be posted not less than fifteen (15) days before the date of the meeting. The resulting By-Laws may contain any provision for the regulation and management of the business of the corporation not inconsistent with law and the articles of Incorporation. Any

amendment of the articles of Incorporation inconsistent with these By-Laws shall operate to amend the By-Laws pro-tanto, and those By-Laws or part of By-Laws which merely summarize or restate the provisions of the Articles of Incorporation so amended.

Article VIII. Committees

Section 8.1 Designation of Committees: The Board of Directors may, by resolution or resolutions passed by a majority of the whole Board, designate a Rules and Regulations Committee, a Show Standards Committee, a Stewards' Committee, a Nominating Committee, an Education Committee, a Sponsorship Committee, ~~a Judges Committee~~, and other standing committees. Each of these committees may act by a majority of its members. Each committee shall have such powers and responsibilities as are provided for herein below. Provided, however, notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, the Executive Committee and all other committees established by the Board shall not have the power (1) to amend the articles of Incorporation, the By-Laws, or the Rules and Regulations of the Association; (2) to adopt a plan of merger or consolidation; or (3) to voluntarily resolve or revoke a voluntary dissolution of the Association. The rules promulgated by these By-Laws with respect to meetings shall be applicable to meetings of all committees, unless these By-Laws specifically and explicitly provide otherwise.

Section 8.2 Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall consist of the president, vice-president, recording secretary, treasurer, and any two of the active directors. The Executive Committee shall act on matters, which require attention of the Board of Directors, which occur, between regular meetings of the Board of Directors. The Executive Committee must submit a written report of all actions taken to all members of the Board of Directors. Such action will stand unless opposed within two (2) weeks of the mailing of such notice by a member of the Board. If a member of the Board of Directors objects to an action of the Executive Committee, a meeting of the Board of Directors must be called.

Section 8.3 Hearing Committee. A Hearing Committee consisting of five (5) members, one of who shall be a steward, shall be elected by the membership at the annual meeting for a term of two years. The terms of office shall be staggered so that three members shall be elected in the odd numbered years and two members in the even numbered years. It shall be the duty of the Hearing Committee to hear protests and charges in connection with alleged violations of the Rules, consider the evidence, render final decisions thereon and impose penalties at its discretion and perform such other duties as may be required by the rules. In the event any member of the Committee is disqualified from hearing a particular protest or charge, the President may appoint a qualified member to hear the protest or charge. All decisions of the Committee shall be in writing and recorded in the minutes, which shall be presented to the Board of Directors at their next meeting.

Section 8.4 Rules and Regulations Committee. The Rules and Regulations Committee shall consist of five (5) members. The chairman shall be appointed annually by the president. Committee members are to be appointed by the Chairman with the President's approval. The Rules and Regulations Committee will meet as deemed necessary by the Committee Chair to review any rule changes that have been suggested. The Rules and Regulations Committee must present their recommendations about such changes to the Board of Directors.

Section 8.5 Show Standards Committee. There shall be a Show Standards Committee which shall consist of a minimum of five (5) members who shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the Board of Directors to two (2) year staggered terms. It shall be the duty of the Show Standards Committee to review and approve all applications for recognition by member shows and provide such assistance to member shows as may be prescribed by the Rules or as the Board may direct.

Section 8.6 Stewards Committee. There shall be a Stewards Committee appointed annually by the President, the duties of which shall be prescribed by the Rules.

Section 8.7 Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee shall consist of five (5) senior individual members appointed by the Board of Directors. Each member shall be appointed annually for a term of one (1) year. Any member may serve for two (2) consecutive terms. The Nominating Committee in identifying GHJA members to be nominated for board membership, should place emphasis on ensuring diversity in the membership of the Board so that all member

categories are appropriately represented – Local and Regular members, as well as Exhibitors, Trainers, Barn / Farm Representation, Show Managers, Show Officials, etc. Emphasis should be placed on matching the board make-up to the local and regular member membership percentages.

Section 8.8 Banquet Committee

Section 8.9 Sponsorship Committee

Section 10 Education Committee

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REGULAR MEMBER HORSE SHOW RULES

1. General Provisions

Affiliation: The Georgia Hunter Jumper Association, Inc. (the "GHJA"), is an affiliated Association of the U.S. Equestrian Federation (USEF). GHJA and its members shall be governed by the current rules of USEF unless the same are in conflict with current rules and regulations of GHJA.

1.1. Jurisdiction: In shows recognized by both USEF and GHJA, USEF rules shall govern. Where the rules of the USEF do not cover a particular class or situation covered by GHJA rules, GHJA rules shall apply. In those cases where GHJA rules impose a higher standard of conduct than is provided for by the applicable USEF rules, failure to comply with GHJA rules may result in a violation.

1.2. Show Membership Fees: The annual dues for each Regular Member Show, USEF Local Member Show and Regular Member Breeding Show shall be determined by the Board of Directors by September 1 for the upcoming competition year. A show may not have both Regular and Local recognition.

1.3. Annual Dues: Dues for the current year must accompany each application for membership and are payable on or before December 1st, as follows:

Senior Member	$60.00
Junior Member	$50.00
Lifetime Membership	$500.00
Sustaining (non-competing) Member	$35.00

1.3.1. Sustaining Member: A Sustaining Member is an adult member who does not compete in any GHJA-sanctioned horse shows, nor does he/she own a horse that is shown by another in any GHJA sanctioned horse shows. A Sustaining Member may qualify to be elected to the Board of Directors and may vote in general elections, per GHJA By Laws. Should a Sustaining Member become an active competitor during the membership year, he/she is required to upgrade to full Senior Member status by paying the difference in dues amounts; points will count upon receipt of payment of that difference, and will not be awarded retroactively. Senior Member status will not be converted or reversed to Sustaining Member status during the current competition year (December 1st to November 30th).

2. Registration of Horses

2.1. Certification and Fees: In order to garner points toward GHJA annual championship awards in any division, a horse must be registered by its owner with GHJA and a Registration Certificate be issued in evidence thereof. The lifetime registration fee is $40.00. It is the responsibility of the owner to ascertain that the Registration Certificate has been issued.

2.1.1. No points will be credited to a horse toward annual awards until the horse is registered and the owner is a member. An unregistered horse may be shown in any show, but the points won will not be counted toward GHJA annual awards.

2.1.2. The Executive Secretary of GHJA must be notified of any change in a horse's name. The fee for such re-registration is $15.00.

2.1.3. The Executive Secretary of GHJA must be notified of any change in ownership or lessee. The fee for such re-registration is $15.00.

3. Recognition of USEF Regular Member Shows and USEF Local Member Shows

3.1. Procedure

3.1.1. Application: Any show wishing to be sanctioned by GHJA as a USEF Regular Member Show for year-end GHJA awards must make written application to the Executive Secretary.

3.1.1.1. In order to reserve show dates, show management must submit an application with payment of $50 for the first show day and $25 for each additional day (example: 3 day shows would pay $50 for the first day plus $50 for the 2 additional days ($25 x 2) for a total of $100) by November 30. Senior shows maintain priority of pre-existing dates until December 1st, after which time other shows may apply to reserve these

dates. If two or more applications are made for the same dates by new shows, the application postmarked the earliest will be given priority.

3.1.1.2. The minimum number of classes required for a show to be considered for recognition is at least four classes in any one recognized division or at least six classes in two recognized divisions of three classes each.

3.1.2. Refusal of Recognition:

3.1.2.1. No recognition will be given to any show indebted to GHJA or to any Exhibitor.

3.1.2.2. Recognition of a show may be refused when in the opinion of a majority of the Show Standards Committee such refusal is in the best interest of GHJA, the sport in general, fair competition or where the show fails or has failed to meet the minimum requirements provided by GHJA rules.

3.1.2.3. The decision of the Show Standards Committee denying recognition to a Member Show may be appealed to the Board of Directors, provided that the appeal is filed in writing with the Executive Secretary of GHJA within ten (10) days of the date of the Committee's decision. The appeal must state clearly and concisely why the decision of the Show Standards Committee should be reversed. The Board shall not reverse the decision of the Committee unless it finds the Committee acted in an arbitrary manner.

4. Conduct of Shows

4.1. Entries

4.1.1. Open Show Status - Entries must be open to all and not limited to any particular group, and Show Management must, by sending out a prize list or by other effective means, make known to prospective Exhibitors that it is an open show. The term "open show" excludes intra-stable, invitational, and other limited and handicapped competitions.

4.2. Minimum Requirements

4.2.1. Officials:

4.2.1.1. Every Judge employed at a Regular Member Show or USEF Local Member Show must be in possession of a valid USEF judge's license for the division(s) to be judged.

4.2.1.2. Show Management shall appoint a qualified USEF Steward.

4.2.1.3. Every Member Show must provide, on the show grounds, Qualified Medical Personnel with no other duties and suitable medical equipment, during scheduled schooling sessions over fences and during all scheduled performances. Qualified Medical Personnel is defined as a Medical Doctor, Registered Nurse or Mid-Level Provider (Nurse Practitioner or Physician's Assistant) who is trained in emergency treatment, or an EMT. An ambulance must be on the grounds or on-call.

4.2.1.4. It shall be the duty of the Show Secretary to:

- submit show result reports to the Executive Secretary of GHJA postmarked within ten (10) days of completion of the show. Results may alternatively be submitted via e-mail within (10) days of completion of the show to the Executive Secretary or the Points Secretary as her assistant. It is the responsibility of show management to make sure receipt is acknowledged.
- perform such other duties as are prescribed by USEF rules.

4.2.2. It shall be the duty of Show Management to eliminate, without waiting for a protest to be made, any competitor who has made an entry of a horse or rider that is ineligible.

4.3. Special Provisions - Regular Member Shows

The maiden, novice and limit status of a horse or rider shall be determined by the ribbons won at USEF and GHJA Regular Member Shows. Winning at Local Member Shows shall not affect the maiden, novice, limit or green status of any horse or rider.

5. Measurement

5.1. No animal may be shown in a pony hunter, pony jumper, or a junior hunter class unless the owner possesses a current measurement card issued by USEF.

5.2. Every animal must be measured each year until it reaches the age of six (6) at which time it will be issued a permanent measurement card.

5.3. Measurement procedure shall follow the procedure set forth in the current USEF Rule Book.

6. Classes and Divisions

6.1. Divisions:

6.1.1. Children's Hunter: Course heights and requirements are those currently adhered to by USHJA Zone 4. Please refer to GHJA Rule Book Appendix C or the USEF or USHJA website.

6.1.2. Short Stirrup Hunter: Open to riders 12 and under. Riders are not eligible to compete in this division for more than two (2) consecutive years regardless of age. Year is determined from first date a rider competes at a recognized GHJA/NCHJA/SCHJA show. Short Stirrup riders may hack a pony in an under saddle class for another Exhibitor who has more than one pony in said class. Short stirrup riders may be eligible for non-recognized divisions if fence heights do not exceed 2'6". A rider in Short Stirrup Hunter classes is eligible for Short Stirrup Equitation, age group equitation, maiden equitation, novice equitation and pleasure classes at the same show. Fence height 2'. Course to consist of 6 to 9 fences with no combinations permitted. To be judged on performance, manners, way of going and soundness. Suitability as a short stirrup mount to be stressed.

6.1.3. Short Stirrup Equitation: Open to riders 12 and under. Riders are not eligible to compete in this division for more than two years regardless of age. Year is determined from the first date a rider competes in a GHJA/NCHJA/SCHJA show. The rider is eligible for short stirrup hunter, age group equitation, maiden equitation, novice equitation and pleasure classes at the same show. Fence height 2'. Course to consist of 6 to 9 fences with no combinations permitted.

6.1.4. Children's Hunter Pony: Course heights and requirements are those currently adhered to by USHJA Zone 4. Please refer to GHJA Rule Book Appendix C or the USEF or USHJA website.

6.1.5. Adult Amateur Hunter: Course heights and requirements are those currently adhered to by USHJA Zone 4. Please refer to GHJA Rule Book Appendix C or the USEF or USHJA website.

6.1.6. Pre-Green Hunter: Course heights and requirements are those currently adhered to by USHJA Zone 4. Please refer to GHJA Rule Book Appendix C or the USEF or USHJA website.

6.1.7. Junior Jumper: Course heights and requirements are those currently adhered to by USEF Zone 4. Please refer to the USEF or USHJA website.

6.1.8. Amateur Jumper: Course heights and requirements are those currently adhered to by USEF Zone 4. Please refer to the USEF or USHJA website.

6.2. Fence heights by division

Fence heights for the following divisions will be determined by current year USEF regulations or USHJA Zone 4 Specifications or as noted: Fence heights must be stipulated in prize list

Performance Working Hunter
1st Year Green Working Hunter
2nd Year Green Working Hunter
Amateur-Owner Hunter 3'3"
Amateur Owner Hunter 3'6"
Adult Amateur Hunter
Small & Large Junior Hunter
Junior Hunter 3'3"
Children's Hunter
Pre-Green Hunter
Small Pony Hunter (up to 12.2 hh)
Med Pony Hunter (over 12.2 to 13.2 hh)
Large Pony Hunter (over 13.2 to 14.2 hh)
Green Pony Hunter
Children's Hunter Pony (14.2 & under)

Short Stirrup Hunter 2'
Long Stirrup Hunter 2'3"
Short Stirrup Equitation 2'
Long Stirrup Equitation 2'3"
Equitation (11 & under) 2'0"-2'6"
Equitation (12-14) 2'9"-3'
Equitation (15-17) 3'3"-3'6"
Equitation (Adult) 2'9"-3'3"
Junior Jumper 1.0m
Amateur Jumper 1.0m
Junior Jumper 1.10m
Amateur Jumper 1.10m
Junior/Amateur Jumper 1.20/1.30/1.40m (Low/High combined)
Pony Jumper

7. Championships and Annual Awards

7.1. Eligibility for Awards

7.1.1. 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. No hunter or jumper points for annual awards will be credited before the horse or pony is registered and its owner becomes an individual member of GHJA. For leased horses/ponies, per Section 2.1.3., 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.

7.1.2. To be eligible for annual equitation awards, a rider must be a member in good standing. No equitation points for annual awards will be credited before the rider becomes an individual member of GHJA.

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

7.2. Scoring

7.2.1. Points awarded:

For the purpose of calculating points, the following point system applies to all hunter, jumper, and equitation classes. Points are determined by adding one point for each entry to the base points listed below:

1st	30 points	4th	15 points
2nd	25 points	5th	14 points
3rd	20 points	6th	13 point

7.2.2. Championship Points Awarded: The following championship points apply to hunter divisions only. No championship points will be awarded by the GHJA for equitation divisions or classes. Division champions will be awarded 2.0 times the total 1st place point value of the first class in that section. Division reserve champions will be awarded 1.2 times the total 1st place value of the first class in that section.

7.2.3. Scoring of places won in each recognized class at a Regular Member Show shall be as follows:

7.2.3.1. A division must offer at least three unlimited classes before championship points can be awarded.

7.2.3.2. No points will be counted for ribbons awarded in classes with less than three entries completing the class, with the exception of Hunter Breeding.

7.2.3.3. Hunter Breeding points for purposes of GHJA End of Year awards will be recorded in accordance with the current USEF Hunter Breeding points scale, detailed in Appendix E.

7.2.3.4. Token ribbons, and ribbons given by the show when the course was not in fact completed, will not be counted.

7.2.3.5. Ribbons won in a limited class will not be counted toward any championship unless an offsetting class is offered.

7.2.3.6. When a show offers the required classes but does not award a championship on the basis of points won during the entire show, GHJA will name a champion and reserve champion for its own records, on the basis of points won during that show, and will credit the winning horses accordingly toward the annual championship awards.

7.2.3.7. In the case of a show which is not complete due to an Act of God, championships will be awarded on the basis of points won in the classes counting toward championships, when at least one-half of such classes have been held.

7.2.3.8. A championship based on points won in a combination of conformation and working hunter classes may be awarded in the following divisions only: Amateur-Owner Hunter, Junior Hunter and Pony Hunter.

7.2.3.9. Only points won in equitation classes divided according to GHJA requirements will count toward high score awards.

7.2.4. In order for points won in a show to be counted toward annual championship awards, GHJA results showing six places won in each hunter, jumper, and hunt seat equitation class and the championship and reserve championship awards shall be filed within ten (10) days with the Executive Secretary of GHJA or his/her assistant, the Points Secretary. These records shall be kept in the office of the Executive Secretary and shall constitute the sole basis for computing scores. The scores of each horse shall be figured there from and GHJA shall not be liable for failure to file, for inaccuracies in the papers filed, or for anything except proper computation of the scores from the filings.

7.3. Rules for Determining Champion

7.3.1. Provided that the By-Laws and the rules and regulations of GHJA are complied with, the rules governing yearly championships and the awarding of championship trophies are:

7.3.1.1. Only points won in a GHJA Regular Member Show shall count toward an award in the Regular Member Show section; only points won in a GHJA Local Member Show shall count toward an award in the Local Member Show section.

7.3.1.2. In order to qualify for an annual championship award a division must be held and judged at five different recognized shows during the point year.

7.4. Awards offered for Regular Member Shows:

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

Performance Working Hunter	Equitation 11 and Under
First Year Green Working Hunter	Equitation 12-14
Second Year Green Working Hunter	Equitation 15-17
Amateur Owner Hunter 3'3"	Adult Amateur Equitation
Amateur Owner Hunter 3'6"	Short Stirrup Equitation
Adult Amateur Hunter	Long Stirrup Equitation
Small Junior Working Hunter	
Large Junior Working Hunter	Junior Jumper 1.0m
Junior Hunter 3'3"	Amateur Jumper 1.0m
Children's Hunter	Junior Jumper 1.10m
Pre-Green Hunter	Amateur Jumper 1.10m
Small Pony Hunter	Jr/Amateur Owner Jumper 1.20/1.30/1.40m (Low/High)
Medium Pony Hunter	Pony Jumper
Large Pony Hunter	
Green Pony Hunter	
Children's Hunter Pony	
Short Stirrup Hunter	
Long Stirrup Hunter	Hunter Breeding-Yearling
Pre Children's Hunter	Hunter Breeding-Two year old
Pre Adult Hunter	Hunter Breeding-Three year old

7.4.2. Where there are fewer than six known horses or ponies eligible for awards in a division, at the discretion of the GHJA Board of Directors, the division may be combined (if possible) or the award not given. Divisions which may be combined if necessary are as follows:

7.4.2.1. Performance, First, and Second Year Green Working Hunter or Performance and Second Year Green Working Hunter or First and Second Year Green Working Hunter
7.4.2.2. Small and Large Junior Working Hunter
7.4.2.3. Amateur Owner Hunter 3'3" and 3'6"
7.4.2.4. Hunter Breeding – Yearling, Two Year Old, and Three Year Old
7.4.2.5. Children's and Adult Jumper
7.4.2.6. Children's and Adult Amateur Hunter
7.4.2.7. Small, Medium, and Large Pony Hunter or Small and Medium Pony Hunter or Medium and Large Pony Hunters
7.4.2.8. Pre Children's and Pre Adult Hunter
7.4.2.9. Short and Long Stirrup Hunter
7.4.2.10. Junior / Amateur Jumper both heights (1.0m & 1.10m)

7.5. Perpetual/Year-end Trophies

7.5.1. Anyone wishing to provide a perpetual trophy or special year-end award in connection with Regular Member year-end awards should submit a written proposal to the Board of Directors before November 1st of the Show Year in which the award is given.

7.5.2. Once specifications for such awards are established, they may not be changed without permission of both the donor and GHJA Board of Directors.

8. Protests, Charges, and Hearings

8.1. Conduct of Hearings

8.1.1. The procedures set forth in the current USEF Rule Book shall govern all protests, charges and hearings that arise under the rules of GHJA except as herein provided.

8.1.2. The Hearing Committee shall meet within thirty (30) days of the receipt by the Executive Secretary of GHJA of a protest or an appeal from a decision of a show committee.

8.1.3. At shows recognized jointly by USEF and GHJA, any protest or charge arising exclusively out of GHJA rules or which involves points awarded under GHJA rules shall fall under the jurisdiction of the GHJA Hearing Committee.

8.2. Violations and Penalties

8.2.1. The Hearing Committee shall have jurisdiction over violations of the rules of GHJA or, as adopted, the rules of USEF and may impose such penalties as set forth in the current USEF Rule Book.

8.2.2. Upon the receipt of official notice that USEF has taken disciplinary action against any person or show that is subject to the rules of GHJA, the Hearing Committee shall, after notice, adopt a decision of USEF as a decision of GHJA.

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LOCAL MEMBER HORSE SHOW RULES

9. General Provisions

9.1. **Affiliation**: The Georgia Hunter Jumper Association, Inc. (the "GHJA"), is an affiliated Association of the U.S. Equestrian Federation (USEF). GHJA and its members shall be governed by the current rules of USEF unless the same are in conflict with current rules and regulations of GHJA.

9.2. Jurisdiction: In shows recognized as GHJA local member shows, GHJA rules shall supersede in all cases where GHJA rules specifically cover a class or situation; where GHJA rules are silent, USEF rules shall govern.

9.3 Show Membership Fees: The annual dues for each Regular Member Show, GHJA Local Member Show and Regular Member Breeding Show shall be determined by the Board of Directors by September 1 for the upcoming competition year. A show may not have both Regular and Local recognition.

9.4. Annual Dues: Dues for the current year must accompany each application for membership and are payable on or before December 1st, as follows:

Senior Member $60.00
Junior Member $50.00
Lifetime Membership $500.00
Sustaining (non-competing) Member $35.00
(effective 12/1/2025)

9.4.1. Sustaining Member: A Sustaining Member is an adult member who does not compete in any GHJA-sanctioned horse shows, nor does he/she own a horse that is shown by another in any GHJA sanctioned horse shows. A Sustaining Member may qualify to be elected to the Board of Directors and may vote in general elections, per GHJA By Laws. Should a Sustaining Member become an active competitor during the membership year, he/she is required to upgrade to full Senior Member status by paying the difference in dues amounts; points will count upon receipt of payment of that difference, and will not be awarded retroactively. Senior Member status will not be converted or reversed to Sustaining Member status during the current competition year (December 1st to November 30th).

10. Registration of Horses

10.1 Certification and Fees: In order to garner points toward GHJA annual championship awards in any division, a horse must be registered by its owner with GHJA and a Registration Certificate be issued in evidence thereof. The lifetime registration fee is $40.00. It is the responsibility of the owner to ascertain that the Registration Certificate has been issued. (effective 12/1/2025)

10.1.1. No points will be credited to a horse toward annual awards until the horse is registered and the owner and trainer are members. An unregistered horse may be shown in any show, but the points won will not be counted toward GHJA annual awards.

10.1.2 The Executive Secretary of GHJA must be notified of any change in a horse's name. The fee for such re-registration is $15.00.

10.1.3 The Executive Secretary of GHJA must be notified of any change in ownership or lessee. The fee for such re-registration is $15.00.

11. Recognition of Local Member Shows

11.1 Procedure

11.1.1 Application: Any new show (never sanctioned by GHJA or one not sanctioned in the last 3 years) wishing to become a Local Member Show of GHJA must make written application to the Executive Secretary at least **sixty (60) days** prior to the planned event. An established GHJA show wishing to become a Local Member Show in the current year must make written application to the Executive Secretary at least forty-five (45) days prior to the planned event. *Late applicants will be charged double the normal fees.*

11.1.1.1 In order to reserve show dates, shows must submit an application with payment of a $50.00 per show fee by midnight November 30. ($100 per show fee if double point

Hunter Classic classes are offered, as approved in advance by the Show Standards Committee, per section 14.2.13. herein). Senior shows maintain priority of pre-existing dates until midnight November 30, after which time other shows may apply to reserve these dates. If two or more applications are made for the same dates by new shows, the application post-marked earliest will be given priority.

11.1.1.2 The minimum number of classes required for a show to be considered for Local recognition: a show is required to offer at least six GHJA recognized Local Member Show classes as found in GHJA Rule 14, Classes and Divisions. Shows are encouraged to offer other classes and/or divisions (example: beginner, novice adult, pleasure, hack, equitation) which will suit Exhibitors in their area.

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 as determined by MapQuest and/or Google Maps.* 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 in a given month. The four shows can be on the same extended weekend (Thursday through Sunday) or on separate weekends.

11.1.1.4 Show Management is limited to reserving dates for 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.

11.1.2 Refusal of Recognition

11.1.2.1 No recognition will be given to any show indebted to GHJA or to any Exhibitor.

11.1.2.2 Recognition of a show may be refused when in the opinion of a majority of the Show Standards Committee such refusal is in the best interest of GHJA, the sport in general, fair competition or where the show fails or has failed to meet the minimum requirements provided by GHJA rules.

11.1.2.3 The decision of the Show Standards Committee denying recognition to a Member Show may be appealed to the Board of Directors, provided that the appeal is filed in writing with the Executive Secretary of GHJA within ten (10) days of the date of the Committee's decision. The appeal must state clearly and concisely why the decision of the Show Standards Committee should be reversed. The Board shall not reverse the decision of the Committee unless it finds the Committee acted in an arbitrary manner.

11.2. Prize List

11.2.1. Submit to Show Standards Committee: All Local Member Shows must submit a draft of their prize list, including all requirements in 11.2.3 below, and other elements of the operational body (sponsors, advertisements, and artwork not required), for review and approval before prize list can be printed. Additions to the GHJA recognized classes or divisions scheduled in the prize list should be submitted to the Show Standards Committee and broadcasted to the membership via email, websites, or social media no less than five (5) days prior to the first show day.

11.2.2. Submit to Executive Secretary: All Local Member Shows must submit a copy of their prize list to the Executive Secretary immediately upon publication.

11.2.3. The prize list and catalog of every Member Show must contain all of the following:

Georgia Hunter Jumper Association, Inc. **www.ghja.org**
2400 Old Milton Pkwy., Suite 1086 Alpharetta, GA 30009 execsec@ghja.org
Please enroll me as a family/ junior/ senior member of GHJA for the Year 20 _____
Name _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip _____
Date of Birth (**required for juniors only**) _____
Telephone Number _____
Annual Membership Fees: Senior: $ 60.00
Junior: $ 50.00
Lifetime: $500.00
Sustaining (non-competing) membership: $ 35.00
Membership expires Nov. 30th.

Application for Horse Recording

☐ ***New Recording*** *$40 lifetime recording of horse*
☐ ***Name Change*** *$15 to change the registered name on a horse with an existing GHJA membership*
☐ ***Owner Change*** *$15 to transfer permanent ownership from one GHJA member to another GHJA member*
☐ ***Lease Change*** *$15 to transfer temporary ownership from one GHJA member to another GHJA member*
Date: I am enclosing $ _____ check # _____.GHJA Recording #: _____
USEF Recording #: (if available)_____
Horse Name: _____Sex: ☐ ***Mare*** ☐ ***Gelding*** ☐ ***Stallion***
Breed: _____Color:_____ Height:_____
Markings:_____
Owner Name and GHJA #:_____
Owner must be a current GHJA member
Address: _____Phone: _____
City:_____ State:_____ Zip:_____
Previous Name/Owner (if applicable)_____

11.2.3.1. The Association page (or 1/2 page) which reads as follows:

"The _____ is a Local Member Show of the Georgia Hunter Jumper Association, Inc. and is operated in accordance with the current rules of GHJA. Every person who participates in the show is responsible for a knowledge of and is subject to GHJA rules. The following divisions are recognized by GHJA and points won will count toward end of the year high score awards." (List of divisions).

11.2.3.2 Complete listing of the following:

- the names of all horse show officials.
- the names of the Judges and the name of the GHJA Steward.
- the names and phone numbers of the veterinarian and of the farrier who will be either on call or on the premises during the show.
- complete class specifications, including clear identification and specs for all non-rated classes.
- the amounts of entry fees and the prizes offered in each class.
- the exact date and location of the show.
- a statement concerning how and where to submit entries, entry closing date, and late entry conditions.
- a tentative time schedule.
- information about whether or not schooling will be permitted over show fences and, if so, at what times.
- a description of all hunter and jumper courses and heights.
- a statement specifying whether distances used in the Pony classes and division will be measured on a 12' stride, or in accordance with USEF guidelines.

- an entry form with spaces designated for GHJA member numbers of rider, owner, and horse.
- separate spaces for signatures of trainer, owner, and trainer/agent
- a map or directions to the show site.
- a statement that horses and ponies may not enter more than 7 classes over fences, **no more than 5 of which may be jumper classes**, including equitation and all special classes such as hunter classic classes.
- a statement that hard hats must be worn by all mounted riders at all times. All riders must wear ASTM-SEI approved helmets with a properly-adjusted (snug) harness.
- a statement that proper attire is required in all classes except warm-up classes, when chaps or other non-standard attire may be worn (management may prescribe attire for beginner non-rated divisions). Horse show management may also choose to waive coats in the event of extreme heat.
- a statement notifying participants of a disqualification clause due to acts of discourtesy towards officials.
- a statement that all entry forms must be signed by every adult – competitor, parent and/or trainer.
- a statement that unlicensed drivers are not permitted to operate motorized vehicle of any kind, including, but not limited to, golf carts, motorcycles, scooters, or farm utility vehicles, on the competition grounds. Failure to abide by these regulations will subject the exhibitor to suspension from the horse show. Please refer to USEF GR 1301.7 & 8.
- a statement that all dogs must be on a leash of no more than 6 feet in length, or otherwise contained, at all times while on competition grounds. Dog owners are solely responsible for any damages, claims, losses or actions resulting from their dogs' behaviors. Loose and/or disruptive dogs may be subject to impoundment by the horse show or by the local government. Owners of loose and/or disruptive dogs may be subject to penalties and/or fines under GHJA Rules 18 and 19. Warning cards may be issued to such dog owners, an accumulation of which shall result in further penalties.
- if such is the case, a statement that this Local Member Show has been sanctioned as one show date of two days duration and is offering one or more GHJA recognized divisions or classes on both days of the show. Exhibitors are permitted to compete in the duplicated division or class on only one of the two days. If by oversight an exhibitor competes in a duplicated class or division on both days, the competitor will be eliminated from results for the second instance.
- **Electrical / Fire Regulations**: All electrical installations and connections must meet all state and county codes. Aisles shall be maintained clear for a minimum of six (6) feet wide by eight (8) feet high. No obstructions or projections shall be allowed in these aisles. Cooking is not permitted within the stable area. No Class I flammable liquids such as gasoline are allowed inside the building. Any equipment using any kind of flame is strictly forbidden in the stable area. Anyone found in violation shall be subject to **dismissal from further participation in the horse show without recourses.**

12. Conduct of Shows

12.1. Entries

12.1.1. Open Show Status: Entries must be open to all and not limited to any particular group, and the Show Management group must, by sending out a prize list or by other effective means, make known to prospective Exhibitors that it is an open show. The term "open show" excludes intra-stable, invitational, and other limited and handicapped competitions.

12.2. Minimum Requirements

12.2.1. Officials:

12.2.1.1. Judges do not have to be recognized by the USEF. A judge is limited to twenty (20) Local Member Shows during the horse show calendar year. Judges may not officiate at more than two (2) Local Member Shows at the same facility within a 20-day period. In the case of multiple ring shows, a judge may not judge the same GHJA Hunter or Equitation classes both days, except where extenuating circumstances prevail due to an excessively large number of entries or an Act of God. No judging restrictions apply to a ring that is totally dedicated to non GHJA recognized classes. No judging restrictions apply to scoring jumper classes at a locally rated show. Judging restrictions do apply if such a ring offers 'Jumper Equitation' classes.

12.2.1.2. Failure of a judge to attend a show to which he/she is committed or to perform his/her duties and adjudge the classes to which he is assigned shall be a cause for disciplinary action under GHJA Rules except in cases of extreme emergency.

12.2.1.3. A judge may not officiate at any Recognized Competition where he/she is an owner of an interest in a participating horse or the trainer of a participating horse or rider, or the houseguest of an exhibitor, or a family member of a steward, manager or exhibitor. Any such ownership or trainer relationship must have terminated 30 days prior to the competition's opening date.

12.2.2. Show Management shall appoint a qualified Steward who shall be the official representative of GHJA at the show. A Local Member Show must have a USEF Steward or a GHJA Steward or a qualified Local Association Steward from another state, who has been approved by the Show Standards Committee to act as Steward.

12.2.2.1. Failure of a steward to attend a show to which he/she is committed or to perform his/her duties at such show shall be a cause for disciplinary action under GHJA Rules except in cases of extreme emergency.

12.2.2.2. A steward may not officiate at any Recognized Competition where he/she is an owner of an interest in a participating horse or the trainer of a participating horse or rider, or the houseguest of an exhibitor, or a family member or trainer of an officiating judge.

12.2.2.3. Managers holding 3 or more shows in a year must employ more than one GHJA qualified Steward through the course of that show year.

12.2.2.4. GHJA qualified Stewards may officiate at no more than 4 consecutive shows conducted by the same show management group, governing body, Board of Directors, or Member of Competition Management.

12.2.2.5. In the event that the only qualified GHJA Steward available for a competition is ineligible due to serving at 4 previous shows under the same management group, that Steward may be approved by the Show Standards Committee to officiate at said competition, with no penalty imposed on the Steward or the show.

12.2.3. Every Member Show must provide, on the show grounds, Qualified Medical Personnel with no other duties and suitable medical equipment, during scheduled schooling sessions over fences and during all scheduled performances. Qualified Medical Personnel is defined as a Medical Doctor, Registered Nurse or Mid-Level Provider (Nurse Practitioner or Physician's Assistant) licensed and trained in emergency treatment, or an EMT currently licensed in the State of Georgia. An ambulance must be on the grounds or on call during the entire horse show.

12.2.4. It shall be the duty of the Show Secretary to provide all Stewards, Judges and other show officials with the official show evaluation questionnaire provided by GHJA and to make the evaluation questionnaire available to all others on request.

12.2.4.1. It shall be the duty of the Show Secretary to submit to the Executive Secretary of the GHJA show results, including horses' and owners' GHJA membership numbers for Hunter and Jumper divisions, riders' GHJA membership numbers for Equitation classes, **and the GHJA membership numbers of the trainers of these horses and riders,** postmarked or emailed within ten (10) days of the completion of show. The Show Secretary may write "applied for" in place of the GHJA membership number

for exhibitors whose pending membership application has been applied for within the past thirty (30) days, and must include the exhibitor's signed affidavit to that effect.

12.2.4.2. It shall be the duty of Show Management to eliminate, without waiting for a protest to be made, any competitor who has made an entry of a horse, rider or driver that is ineligible.

12.3. Special Provisions - Local Member Shows

12.3.1. Each show ring must have access to a schooling/warm-up area. At least three schooling jumps, one of which must be an oxer, must be available in each schooling area at all times. A sufficient number of rails should be available to allow for breakage.

12.3.2. Classes may not be held after dark unless adequate lighting is available. It shall be the Steward's responsibility to declare lighting inadequate and stop the show.

12.3.3. A Local Member Show may not conduct classes more than 12 hours per day from start of the first class to end of the last class. Warm-up sessions, judged or unjudged, held at any point after the start of the first performance class are included in the time limit. In the case of shows also holding an evening session, ***only*** the ring with these classes may operate up to 14 hours per day. "Evening session" shall be specifically designated in the prize list, and approved by the Show Standards Committee, as a session beginning no earlier than 6:00p.m., with a minimum one-hour break between daytime and evening classes. A fine of $100.00 per hour or part thereof shall be imposed on Show Management by GHJA for exceeding the 12- or 14-hour limit. The show's Steward shall record the exact starting and ending time of each ring in her/his show report.

12.3.4. The entry blank must contain a release clause to be signed by the owner or owner's agent.

12.3.5. Local Member Shows are encouraged to offer the GHJA Pony Medal, J.D. Pounds Junior Medal, the Laura Tison Adult Medal and the GHJA Equitation Challenge classes.

12.3.6. Winning at Local Member Shows shall not affect the maiden, novice, limit or green status of any horse or rider at USEF shows.

12.3.7. If a pony showing in a division does not possess a valid measurement card, it must obtain a measurement card at the first GHJA Local Member Show in which it competes. This card will be valid only at Local Member Shows. If the pony is under six (6) years of age, he must get a new card each year until he is six (6) years old.

12.3.8. Exhibitors may not ride in any class unjudged, except warm-up classes.

12.3.9. Delay of Classes: When Judge(s) or Show Management determine that any class requiring horses to show individually with no posted order of go, or any class requiring horses to show collectively, is delayed by a horse or horses not ready to perform, that class may be closed, provided a warning is issued and exhibitors are given three (3) minutes to enter the ring and commence their performance. In a class where horses show individually with a posted jumping order, a horse may be eliminated for delaying the class, provided a warning is issued and exhibitors are given one (1) minute to enter the ring and commence their performance. Management may permit a rider to compete out of order, with prior notice to the gatekeeper and announcer, to minimize delay and in the case of class conflicts. The official time will be kept by either the Steward or announcer.

12.3.10. The prize list must state whether distances used in the Pony classes and division will be measured on a 12' stride, or in accordance with USEF guidelines.

12.3.11. In Pony Hunter classes, except Schooling Pony, a small pony may only be shown by a junior 12 years of age or under; a medium pony may only be shown by a junior 14 years of age or under. Riders under 18 years of age may ride for another exhibitor who has more than one pony entered in an Under Saddle class.

12.3.12. All riders, regardless of age or qualifying status, are required to wear an ASTM/SEI approved helmet, with the chin strap snugly tightened against the lower jaw bone, at all times when mounted anywhere on the show grounds.

12.3.13. Show Managers, at the discretion of the attending judge, may waive certain restrictions for "beginner" non-rated classes or divisions such as permitting martingales on the flat, anti-grazing reins, etc. Management may prescribe attire for beginner or non-rated divisions. No exceptions are to be made regarding wearing an ASTM/SEI approved helmet.

12.3.14 Unlicensed drivers are not permitted to operate motorized vehicle of any kind, including, but not limited to, golf carts, motorcycles, scooters, or farm utility vehicles, on the competition grounds. Failure to abide by these regulations will subject the exhibitor to suspension from the horse show. Please refer to USEF GR 1301.7 & 8.

12.3.15 All dogs must be on a leash, or otherwise securely contained, at all times while on competition grounds. Said leash must be no more than 6 feet in length, and must be held in hand or secured to an immobile fixture. Retractable leashes must be locked at a length of 6 feet or less. Dog owners are solely responsible for any damages, claims, losses or actions resulting from their dogs' behaviors. Loose and/or disruptive dogs may be subject to impoundment by the horse show or by the local government. Owners of loose and/or disruptive dogs may be subject to penalties and/or fines under GHJA Rules 18 and 19. Warning cards may be issued to such dog owners, an accumulation of which shall result in further penalties.

12.3.16 Proper attire is required in all classes except warm-up classes, when chaps or other non-standard attire may be worn. Management or judge may eliminate an exhibitor who is inappropriately attired. This rule does not supersede rules that prescribe attire for beginner riders, or variations in outerwear prescribed by show managers/judges during extremely hot, cold, or wet weather.

13. Measurement

13.1. No animal may be shown in a pony hunter, pony medal or a pony jumper class unless the owner possesses a current measurement card issued by GHJA or USEF. In order for a pony to qualify for these classes, owner/rider/trainer is responsible for securing a measurement card from the show steward or for presenting a valid USEF measurement card to the show steward before the start of pony classes. A USEF measurement card prevails; should a pony possess a GHJA measurement card and subsequently obtain a USEF measurement card, owner/rider/trainer must present the USEF card for recording in the GHJA pony measurement database.

13.2. Every animal must be measured each year until it reaches the age of six (6) at which time it will be issued a permanent measurement card.

13.3. Measurement procedure shall follow the procedure set forth in the current USEF Rule Book.

13.4. A GHJA pony measurement card does not constitute registration of the pony for GHJA year end points. A pony does not need to be a member of the GHJA in order to be measured

14. Classes and Divisions

14.1. Class Specifications

14.1.1. Divisions: The following class specifications apply to GHJA sanctioned shows in the state of Georgia. For GHJA sanctioned shows in adjacent states to include North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Alabama and Florida, there may be a 3" variance in fence height for like divisions. The class specifications for classes for shows held in these states will be provided in the show prize lists.

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. **No oxers**. **Fence height 2'**. Riders may show in Short Stirrup classes for two consecutive years, as defined by the show calendar year starting December 1st and ending November 30th. The two years of eligibility may not be separated or divided in any manner. Short and Long Stirrup eligibility are counted together when age eligibility overlaps during the two years: a rider may compete in Short and/or Long Stirrup Divisions for a total of two consecutive show years. Eligibility is determined by the rider, without regard to horse-rider combination.

In order to maintain eligibility for Short Stirrup during the two applicable years, the rider must adhere to the following parameters at all GHJA locally sanctioned and USEF recognized shows:

(i) Short Stirrup eligible riders **may** enter or cross-enter into only hunter classes or divisions that are unrecognized by GHJA or USEF. Fence height not to exceed 2'3";

(ii) Short Stirrup eligible riders **may** enter or cross-enter into age group equitation divisions that do not to exceed 2'6" in height;
(iii) Short Stirrup eligible riders **may not** enter or cross-enter into GHJA or USEF recognized Medal classes.
(iv) Short Stirrup eligible riders **may only** enter or cross-enter in Jumper classes at or below 0.65m.
If a Short Stirrup rider enters or cross-enters in classes beyond these parameters, the rider will forfeit any further eligibility to show in Short and/or Long Stirrup classes, including at GHJA Finals, and may not accumulate any further points towards year-end awards.

14.1.1.2. Short Stirrup Equitation: Open to qualified Short Stirrup riders. Fence height 2'.

14.1.1.3. Long Stirrup Hunter: Open to Junior and Amateur riders ages 13 years and older on horses or ponies, in the rider's first or second year of showing over fences higher than 18" in any horse show. **No oxers. Fence height 2'3"**. Riders may show in Long Stirrup for two consecutive show years, as defined by the show calendar year starting December 1st and ending November 30th. The two years of eligibility may not be separated or divided in any manner. Short and Long Stirrup eligibility are counted together when age eligibility overlaps during the two years: a rider may compete in Short and/or Long Stirrup for a total of two consecutive years. Eligibility is determined by the rider, without regard to horse-rider combination.
In order to maintain eligibility for Long Stirrup during the two applicable years, the rider must adhere to the following parameters at all GHJA locally sanctioned and USEF recognized shows:
(i) Long Stirrup eligible riders may enter or cross-enter into only hunter classes or divisions that are unrecognized by GHJA or USEF. Fence height not to exceed 2'6".
(ii) Long Stirrup eligible riders may enter or cross-enter into age group equitation divisions that do not to exceed 2'6" in height;
(iii) Long Stirrup eligible riders may not enter or cross-enter into GHJA or USEF recognized Medal classes.
(iv) Long Stirrup eligible riders may only enter or cross-enter in Jumper classes at or below 0.70 m.
If a Long Stirrup rider enters or cross-enters in classes beyond these parameters, the rider will forfeit any further eligibility to show in Long Stirrup classes, including at GHJA Finals, and may not accumulate any further points towards year-end awards.

14.1.1.4. Long Stirrup Equitation: Open to qualified Long Stirrup Riders. Fence height 2'3".

14.1.1.5. Schooling Pony: 2' or 2'6". May jump either height at the rider's or trainer's discretion. Open to Junior riders only.

14.1.1.6. Small Pony Hunter: 2' (ponies not to exceed 12.2 hh) Open to Junior riders 12 years of age or under. See Rule 12.3.11 for Under Saddle guidelines.

14.1.1.7. Medium Pony Hunter: 2'3" (ponies over 12.2 hh, but not to exceed 13.2 hh) Open to Junior riders 14 years of age or under. See Rule 12.3.11 for Under Saddle guidelines.

14.1.1.8. Large Pony Hunter: 2'6" (ponies over 13.2 hh, but not to exceed 14.2 hh).

14.1.1.9. Silver Stirrup Hunter: Open to adult amateur riders, 35 years of age and older, who have not shown in classes with fence heights 2'6" or higher in the past three (3) years. Fence height at 2', no oxers.

14.1.1.10. Pre-Children's Hunter: Open to Junior riders on horses or ponies; horse/rider combination may not have competed at 3'3" or higher at any Local or Regular Member horse show in the previous 3 years. Rider/Horse combinations may not cross over into Children's Hunter. Fence height 2'6".

14.1.1.11. Pre-Adult Hunter: Open to Adult Amateur riders on horse or ponies; horse/rider combination may not have competed at 3'3" or higher at any Local or Regular Member horse show in the previous 3 years. Rider/Horse combinations may not cross over into Adult Hunter. Fence height 2'6".

14.1.1.12. Green Hunter: 2'3" or 2'6" at the discretion of show management; Open to horses and ponies in their first or second year of showing over fences higher than 2' at any

show. A horse or pony's eligibility is limited to two consecutive show years during which time the horse or pony may not show in any division with fences higher than 2'6" or it will lose its Green status. Horses or ponies may be ridden by juniors, amateurs, or professionals.

14.1.1.13. Thoroughbred Hunter: Open to any registered Thoroughbred, ridden by juniors, amateurs, or professional riders. Fence height 2'6 or 2'9 at the discretion of show management. Non-registered thoroughbred horses may apply for approved eligibility by submitting reliable proof of pedigree to GHJA.

14.1.1.14. Modified Hunter: Open to all horses or ponies ridden by juniors, amateurs or professionals. Fence height 2'9

14.1.1.15. Open Hunter: 2'6" or 3' (horse or pony). Rider may show in either height group at rider's or trainer's discretion.

14.1.1.16. Children's Hunter: 3'. Open to all horses ridden by a Junior. Rider/Horse combinations may not cross over into Pre-Children's Hunter.

14.1.1.17. Adult Amateur Hunter: 3'. Open to Adult Amateur riders on horses or ponies. Rider/Horse combinations may not cross over into Pre-Adult Hunter.

14.1.1.18. Performance Hunter: To be shown at 3'3" or 3'6" and open to all riders on horses

14.1.1.19. Equitation 11 and under: 2'. *No straight lines may be set at less than 60'.*

14.1.1.20. Equitation 12 to 14: 2'6". *No straight lines may be set at less than 60'.*

14.1.1.21. Equitation 15 to 17: 3'

14.1.1.22. Adult Amateur Equitation: 3'

14.1.1.23. GHJA Pony Medal: Small 2', Medium 2'3", Large 2'6" (see Rule 15 for detailed specifications) Small to be ridden by Junior riders 12 years of age or under; Medium to be ridden by Junior riders 14 years of age or under.

14.1.1.24. J.D. Pounds Junior Medal: 3' (see Rule 15 for detailed specifications)

14.1.1.25. Laura Tison Adult Medal: 3' (see Rule 15 for detailed specifications)

14.1.1.26. GHJA Equitation Challenge: Open to all Junior and Adult Amateur GHJA members on horses or ponies. To be judged at a walk, trot, and canter. Competitors will be asked to perform at least two of the following USEF tests chosen by the Judge: #2-**Halt** (4 to 6 seconds) or **Halt and Back**; #10-Change leads on a line demonstrating a simple or flying change of lead; #13- Ride without stirrups; #15-Canter on the counter lead (Note: no more than twelve horses may counter canter at one time); # 19 **Perform basic dressage movements**. Judges may choose from **Shoulder in**, **shoulder out**, **haunches in**, **haunches out**, **leg yield**, or **half pass**; #20-**Hand gallop**. Martingales are not permitted. Riders receiving outside assistance or coaching while in the arena will be eliminated. Riders who have won the final GHJA Equitation Challenge in the previous three years are no longer eligible to compete in this class. November 1st is the cut-off date for riding in qualifying classes at shows.

Finals Class specifications:

The top 20 riders who have accumulated points throughout the year will qualify to ride in the Final Phase of the Challenge at the GHJA Finals Horse Show. In the Final Phase riders will be asked to perform any two or more of the USEF tests 1, 2, 5, 8, 9, 12, 14, 15, 17. The judge may then require the top 4 riders to perform any two or more of the following tests: 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17.

14.1.1.27. .80 m (2'7") Jumper: Open to all riders on horses or ponies.

14.1.1.28. **.90 m** (2'11") **Junior/Amateur Jumper**: Jumper: Open to Children and Adult Amateur riders on horses or ponies. Horse/rider combination may not cross enter into classes higher than **1.00m** at the same horse show

14.1.1.29. .90 m (2'11") Jumper: Open to all riders on horses or ponies.

14.1.1.30. **1.00 m (3'3") Junior/Amateur Jumper**: Open to Junior and Adult Amateur riders on horses or ponies. Horse/rider combination may not cross enter into classes higher than **1.10m (3'7")** at the same horse show.

14.1.1.31. 1.00 m (3'3") Jumper: Open to all riders on horses or ponies.

14.1.1.32. 1.10 m (3'7") Jumper: Open to all riders on horses or ponies.

14.2. General Specifications:

14.2.1. The required heights do not apply to the first fence of a course or a trot fence. At least 50% of the fences must be set at the maximum height in order for class points to count toward year-end awards.

14.2.2. Horses and ponies may enter no more than seven "over fences" classes on any single show day, no more than five of which can be Jumper classes. All warm-up trips and special classes, such as equitation medals, hunter classics, derbies, and stakes classes are included in this total. All Jumper classics, stakes, warm-ups, and clear round classes shall count towards the limit of five Jumper classes.

14.2.3. All GHJA Local Member recognized Hunter classes must be held over courses of at least eight (8) obstacles. All GHJA Local Member recognized age group Equitation classes (Short Stirrup, Long Stirrup, 11 & Under, 12-14, 15-17, Adult Amateur) must be held over courses of at least six (6) obstacles. GHJA Pony, Laura Tison Adult Medal and J.D. Pounds Medal classes must be held over a jumper-type course that is ridden in no other class and which consists of a minimum of eight (8) obstacles. These course requirements do not apply to unrecognized classes.

14.2.4. In all GHJA Local recognized or unrecognized, an Under Saddle class may be held either as the first class or the last class of a section at the discretion of the show management. (effective 12/1/2025)

14.2.5. Combining and dividing classes/divisions: The following divisions **must** be combined, in order for year end points to count, if there are fewer than 3 entries per section, and **may** be combined if there are fewer than 6 entries per section:

14.2.5.1. Pre Children's and Pre Adult Hunter

14.2.5.2. Small, Medium and/or Large Pony Hunter

14.2.5.3. Short Stirrup and Long Stirrup Hunter

14.2.5.4. Children's and Adult Hunter

14.2.6. An in-and-out is not required in any hunter or equitation class; however, if an in-and-out is used extreme care should be taken to adjust the distance between elements to accommodate the range of exhibitors when classes are combined.

14.2.7. Martingales may not be used in any hunter under saddle classes.

14.2.8. Equitation:

14.2.8.1. Age group equitation will count for high score awards.

14.2.8.2. Show Management has the option to combine age group equitation classes at Local Member Shows if there are insufficient entries for points to count, with classes over fences to be run at appropriate heights for riders of each section.

14.2.8.3. In all recognized equitation over fences classes, there must be at least one change of direction. In the 11 and Under and the 12 to 14 Equitation Divisions an in-and-out may not be used and no straight lines may be set at less than 60' – see Class specifications 14.1.1.19 and 14.1.1.20.

14.2.8.4. Martingales may not be used in any equitation on the flat class.

14.2.9. When Show Management of a Local Member Show sanctioned as one show date of two days duration offers a GHJA recognized division or class on both days of the show, exhibitors may show in the division on only one of the two days. If by oversight an exhibitor competes in a duplicated class or division on both days, the competitor will be eliminated from results for the second instance. Jumper classes are excluded from this restriction

14.2.10. Horses in **Junior Hunter Divisions** should at all times maintain a safe, controlled pace, and the Show Management should inform its Judge of this policy.

14.2.11. In the **Jumper Divisions** the course must include at least one combination in classes .90m (2'11") and higher and one spread fence for every four fences in all classes. Combinations (1- or 2-stride lines) are prohibited in classes below .90m. (effective12/1/2025)

14.2.12. **Hunter Classic classes** may be sanctioned by GHJA, and double points may be awarded to count toward year-end awards, only if class specifications are submitted to, and approved in advance by the Show Standards Committee. Specifications must be included with the show application, and the prize list shall indicate if the Classic is sanctioned by GHJA. Points will be awarded to the top six winners in a Hunter Classic class:

14.2.12.1. In order for points to count toward GHJA year-end awards, the Hunter Classic's specifications must be identical to those of the corresponding GHJA division; Hunter Classic classes may only be combined as follows:

Pony Hunter Classic (combining Small/Medium/Large Ponies)
Short Stirrup/Long Stirrup Hunter Classic
Pre-Children's/Pre-Adult Hunter Classic
Children's/Adult Hunter Classic

14.2.12.2. If hunter classics are not approved for double points, then these classic classes will not be awarded points for end of year points accumulation.

14.2.13. If 30 or more horses or ponies are in a division, Show Management may, at its option, split the classes. If there are 40 or more in a division, the division must be split.

14.2.14 There shall be no rider restrictions regarding professional, amateur or junior rider on a pony in "Open" unrated/rated classes unless specified by Horse Show Management. "Open" classes are defined as "Schooling Hunter, Open Hunter, and Modified Hunter". Ponies ridden by a person over the age of 18 in Open classes shall not disqualify the same pony from showing in the pony divisions at the same show.

14.2.15 An Adult Amateur rider may compete on a pony in any class, showing at the specified horse fence height.

14.3. Short and Long Stirrup Eligibility Reinstatement:

14.3.1. A rider's Short or Long Stirrup status may be reinstated for a future competition year if he or she has not shown in Short or Long Stirrup Hunter or Equitation at more than three (3) competitions during the current show year excluding the GHJA Grand Finale Horse Show. Competing in Short or Long Stirrup Hunter or Equitation at the GHJA Grand Finale Horse Show automatically invalidates any future requests for Short or Long Stirrup Eligibility reinstatement.

14.3.2. The GHJA member must submit a letter requesting Short/Long Stirrup reinstatement via certified/return receipt mail to the Executive Secretary. The request must be made by the conclusion of the next show year (ending November 30th) following the year in which Long or Short Stirrup status was broken. The request shall be reviewed by the GHJA Hearing Committee

14.3.3. A $25 processing fee, a list of competitions with dates where the rider competed in Short or Long Stirrup divisions, and the horse's or pony's name upon which the rider competed must accompany the Short/Long Stirrup reinstatement request.

14.3.4. At the time of request, the rider must stop competing over fences in Short or Long Stirrup divisions for the remainder of that competition year.

14.3.5. A Short or Long Stirrup Reinstatement will only be granted one time.

14.3.6. In the event a member is not satisfied with the decision, he or she may submit a written appeal to be heard by the GHJA Hearing Committee at a $100 appeal fee. An appeal does not guarantee the reinstatement will be granted.

15. GHJA Medal Classes

J.D. Pounds Junior Medal
GHJA Pony Medal
Laura Tison Adult Medal

15.1. Eligibility

15.1.1. Classes are open to Junior and Adult Amateur Members of GHJA. A rider must be a member of GHJA before competing in this class at any show.

15.1.2. Only riders who might be eligible for the Finals can compete in this class. A rider who has won the GHJA Pony Medal Finals or the J.D. Pounds Junior Medal Finals is

ineligible to compete in this class. A rider who has won the Laura Tison Adult Medal Finals within the past **36 months** is ineligible to compete in this class.

15.1.3. A Junior may show in GHJA Medal classes for riders on horses or ponies at any time, but may not show in both classes at the same show.

15.1.4. Any rider who wins two blues is automatically qualified for the Finals and the rider ***may*** compete for the remainder of the Show Year.

15.2. Class Specifications

15.2.1. J.D. Pounds Junior Medal and Laura Tison Adult Medal: To be shown over a modified jumper-type course of at least eight fences. The course must include at least one oxer and one change of direction. Height of fences shall be 3'. A minimum of six riders, if available, will be required to show at a walk, trot and canter. The under saddle performance of the selected riders shall count 25%. Horse Show Management has the option of placing two tests from USEF 1-8 (see Appendix B of the GHJA Rule Book) into the jumping phase in lieu of the 25% flat phase. Three entries must complete the over fences and testing requirements for qualification points to count. Adult Amateurs may show a pony in the Adult Medal at 3'. The course will be set on a 12' stride.

15.2.2. GHJA Pony Medal: To be shown over a modified jumper-type course of at least eight fences. The course must include at least one oxer and one change of direction. Height of fences shall be 2' for small ponies, 2'3" for medium ponies and 2'6" for large ponies. Small ponies are to be ridden by Junior riders 12 years of age or under; Medium ponies to be ridden by Junior riders 14 years of age or under. The GHJA Pony Medal may be run concurrently with the Pony Hunter divisions and the flat phase then held immediately following the pony hunter under saddle classes. The under saddle performance of a minimum of six riders, if available, shall count 25%. Alternatively, the GHJA Pony Medal may be run concurrently with the Pony Hunter divisions and in lieu of a flat phase, two tests from USEF Tests 1 –8 (see Appendix B) must be included in the over fences performance. Three entries must complete the over fences and testing requirements for qualification points to count.

15.2.3. The classes will be judged on seat, hands, guidance and control of the horse. The Judge may request riders to demonstrate any of the tests 1-23 (see Appendix B of the GHJA Rule Book.)

15.2.4. Points will be awarded in any GHJA Medal class, held at any GHJA Member Show, by the incremental scoring system described in GHJA Rule 17.2.1

15.2.5. An Exhibitor must ride the same horse in both the over fences and the flat phases of a GHJA Medal class. No horse may be ridden by more than one Exhibitor in a GHJA Medal class.

15.2.6. GHJA Medal classes may be combined or offered in the three specified sections.

15.2.7. The GHJA Medal course cannot be used in another class before GHJA Medal class is held.

15.2.8. Martingales may not be used in the flat phase of any GHJA Medal class nor in a J.D. Pounds class.

15.3. Conditions Governing Holding of the Classes

15.3.1 Shows must offer at least three additional classes suitable for those competitors who are eligible to compete in a GHJA Medal Class. These classes do not have to be equitation classes.

15.3.2 Shows shall make a complete report to the Executive Secretary of GHJA so that memberships may be verified and credit given the winners. Names, membership numbers, and addresses of all ribbon winners and names and membership numbers of all other Exhibitors in the class must be included.

15.3.3 The Judge must inspect the course prior to the start of the class.

15.4 Conditions Governing Holding of the Finals

15.4.1 A final ride-off will be held each year for those contestants who have qualified. All who qualify are eligible to compete in the final ride-off, which will be held at a recognized GHJA show.

15.4.2 The Finals will be held at a GHJA-managed or designated show towards the end of the Show Year. The charge for entry in this final event will be set by GHJA. Two Judges will officiate and will design the course, which must be posted 30 minutes before the start of the Finals class. The order of go will be posted one hour prior to the start of the class.

15.4.3 Eligibility: The GHJA Medal finals will be limited to 18 riders to be filled first by members of GHJA who qualified by winning two blue ribbons for a specific GHJA Medal class (i.e. Pony Medal, J.D. Pounds Medal, Laura Tison Adult Medal). If there are fewer than 18 riders who have earned two blue ribbons, the remaining spots will be filled with the top riders accumulating points throughout the show year. If there are more than 18 riders with two blue ribbons, the size of the class will increase accordingly. The GHJA Points Secretary will maintain a wait list to be publicized on the GHJA website so that the GHJA can extend the invitation to compete to riders who did not make the original invitation list, as the invitation is declined by the original qualifying riders after an initial entry deadline. The invitation to compete will be offered in descending order of points earned in order to fill each Medal Final with a total of 18 competitors. In the case where the 18th rider to be invited is tied in points with another rider(s), the invitation will be extended to all the tied riders and the number of competitors in the Finals increased accordingly. The intent to compete in a GHJA Medal Final must be declared to show management by each competitor by noon on the day before the Final is to be held. After noon of the day before, no further entries will be permitted, regardless of whether competitors number 18 or less.

15.4.4 Ineligibility: A rider who wins the Finals of either GHJA Pony Medal or J.D. Pounds Medal is ineligible to compete in that GHJA Medal class again; a rider who wins the Finals of Laura Tison Adult Medal is ineligible to compete in that class for a minimum of 36 months.

15.4.5 Class Specifications - To be shown over a modified jumper-type course of at least 8 fences. The course must include at least one oxer and one change of direction. Height of fences shall be 3' for Juniors on horses and Amateurs. Height shall be 2' for Juniors on small ponies, 2'3' for Juniors on medium ponies and 2'6" for Juniors on large ponies. All straight lines must be measured to accommodate a 12' stride with no straight lines to be set at less than 60'. To be judged on seat, hands, guidance and control of the horse. A minimum of 6 riders will be required to show at a walk, trot and canter. The under saddle performance of selected riders shall count 25%. The Judges may request riders to perform any of Tests 1-23 (see Appendix B of the GHJA Rule Book). *A rider receiving outside assistance or coaching during any phase of a class will be eliminated.*

15.4.6 If a rider qualifies for GHJA Pony Medal Finals and competes in J.D. Pounds Junior Medal and qualifies for the J.D. Pounds Junior Medal Finals, the rider may ride in whichever Finals class he/she feels is most suitable, but not in both Finals.

15.4.7 A rider need not use the horse or pony on which he or she qualified. An Exhibitor must ride the same horse in both the over fences and the flat phases of a GHJA Finals class. No horse may ridden by more than one Exhibitor in a GHJA Finals class.

15.4.8 On the day of the GHJA Finals, no horse or pony may be ridden by any person other than the Finalist before or during the class for which that rider has qualified, except at the judge's discretion in the show ring. **Violation will result in rider elimination.**

15.4.9 The Judges for GHJA Medal Finals shall be appointed by the Board of Directors of GHJA and GHJA shall defray their expenses. In the event that the show at which the Finals competition is held uses any one of the Judges for other classes, the show must assume the Judge's expenses.

15.4.10 The Judges for the Finals event must design the course, which must be posted one hour before the class is started.

15.4.11 Any questions or disputes in connection with GHJA Medal competitions, including eligibility of the rider or the counting or not counting of ribbons allegedly won in these competitions shall be referred to the Hearing Committee or to a special committee, appointed by the President for this purpose, whose verdict shall be final.

15.4.12 The cut-off date to qualify for the Local GHJA Medal Finals will be thirty (30) days prior to the current year's Finals. Points/blues won after the cut-off date will count towards points for that respective class in the following GHJA year, except in the case where a Junior rider ages out of the Juniors at the end of the current year. In that case the points will be null and void; the points do not transfer to the Laura Tison Adult Medal finals for the following year.

15.4.13 A rider receiving outside assistance or coaching during any phase of a class shall be eliminated.

16. GHJA Year End Classic Competitions

16.1. Conditions Governing Holding a GHJA Finals class

16.1.1. A year end Finals class or classes may be held at the discretion of the GHJA at a GHJA-managed or designated show towards the end of the show year. The charge for entry in this final event will be set by GHJA.

16.1.2. The type of class or classes offered may be a Classic, a Derby, or any other special type of class chosen by the GHJA to be of interest to spectators, exhibitors and which will promote the mission of the GHJA.

16.1.3. Any such special class offered at a GHJA year end show will be eligible for double points to count toward year-end awards if approved in advance by the Show Standards Committee. The GHJA year end show prize list must list the specifications for this class or classes, whether the class or classes are sanctioned for double points, specifications for eligibility, and must indicate the fee for this class or classes.

17. Championships and Annual Awards

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 becomes an individual member 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 becomes an individual member 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. Individuals who provide fraudulent affidavits or fraudulent membership numbers may be subject to the imposition of a one hundred dollar ($100.00) fine and loss of all points.

17.2. Scoring

17.2.1. Points Awarded**:**

The following point system applies to all hunter, jumper, equitation & medal classes. Points are determined by adding one point for each entry to the base points listed on the table below.

1st- 10 points
2nd - 6 points
3rd - 4 points
4th - 2 points
5th - 1 point
6th - .5 point

For the purpose of calculating points, the number of entries for all classes is determined by the number of entries that **complete** the class.

17.2.2. Championship Points Awarded: The following championship points apply to hunter and jumper divisions only. No championship points will be awarded by the GHJA for equitation divisions or classes. Division champions will be awarded 2.0 times the total 1st place point value of the first class in that section. Division reserve champions will be awarded 1.2 times the total 1st place value of the first class in that section.

17.2.3. Scoring of Places won in each recognized class at a Local Member Show shall be as follows:

17.2.3.1. Points at all Local Member Shows shall count as single points. No show with a Local Member Show status may be a Regular Member Show. Hunter "Classics" classes must be approved by the Show Standards Committee to count as double points.

17.2.3.2. Credit will be given toward year-end awards for the first six place ribbons only.

17.2.3.3. In determining Champion and Reserve Champion, only the four horses that have accumulated the most points over fences are eligible for these awards. The Champion and Reserve Champion titles are awarded to the top two of these four horses that have acquired the most points overall, including over fences and under saddle in that hunter division. In the event of a tie, the horse with the greater point total over fences will be awarded the Champion award. If there are no under saddle points to break the tie, then there will be a hack-off to determine Champion and Reserve placing..

17.2.3.4. A division must offer at least **two (2)** over fences and **one (1)** under saddle before championship points can be awarded. **A jumper division must offer at least three (3) classes.** No points will be counted for ribbons awarded in classes with less than three (3) entries completing the class.

17.2.3.5. Horses/ponies may compete in under saddle classes without competing over fences. These points will not count toward the annual championship awards unless the horse or pony competes over fences in the same division at some time during the year.

17.2.3.6. Token ribbons, and ribbons given by the show when the course was not in fact completed, will not be counted.

17.2.3.7. Ribbons won in a limited class will not be counted toward any championship unless an offsetting class is offered.

17.2.3.8. When a show offers the required classes but does not award a championship on the basis of points won in a division, GHJA will name a champion and reserve champion for its own records, on the basis of points won in that division, and will credit the winning horses accordingly toward the annual championship awards.

17.2.3.9. In the case of a show which is not completed due an Act of God, championships will be awarded on the basis of points won in the classes counting toward championships, when at least one-half of such classes have been held.

17.2.3.10. For shows held in adjacent states to include North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Alabama and Florida, points will count for only those divisions that are specified in the prize list as recognized by GHJA.

17.2.3.11. Only points won in equitation classes divided according to GHJA specifications will count toward high score awards.

17.2.4. In order for points won in a recognized show to be counted toward annual championship awards, GHJA results showing **six (6) places** won in each hunter, jumper, and hunt seat equitation class and the championship and reserve championship awards, shall be filed within ten (10) days with the Executive Secretary or his/her assistant, the Points

Secretary. These records shall be kept in the office of the Executive Secretary and shall constitute the sole basis for computing scores. The scores of each horse shall be figured there from and *GHJA shall not be liable for failure to file, for inaccuracies in the papers filed, or for anything except proper computation of the scores from the filings.*

17.3. Rules for Determining Champion

17.3.1. Provided that all parties comply with the By-Laws and the rules and regulations of GHJA, annual championships and trophies will be awarded on the following basis:

17.3.1.1. Only points won in a GHJA Regular Member Show shall count toward an award in the Regular Member Show section; only points won in a Local Member Show shall count toward an award in the Local Member Show section.

17.4. Awards Offered For Local Members

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

1. Short Stirrup Hunter
2. Short Stirrup Equitation
3. Long Stirrup Hunter
4. Long Stirrup Equitation
5. Schooling Pony Hunter
6. Small Pony Hunter
7. Medium Pony Hunter
8. Large Pony Hunter
9. Silver Stirrup Hunter
10. Pre-Children's Hunter
11. Pre-Adult Hunter
12. Green Hunter
13. Thoroughbred Hunter
14. Modified Hunter
15. Open Hunter
16. Children's' Hunter
17. Adult Amateur Hunter
18. Performance Hunter
19. Equitation 11 and under
20. Equitation 12-14
21. Equitation 15-17
22. Adult Amateur Equitation
23. .80 m (2'7") Jumper
24. .90 m (2'11") Junior/Amateur Jumper
25. .90 m (2'11") Jumper
26. 1.00 m (3'3") Junior/Amateur Jumper
27. 1.00 m (3'3") Jumper
28. 1.10 m (3'7") Jumper

17.4.2. When there are fewer than six (6) known horses or ponies eligible for awards in a division, at the discretion of the GHJA Board of Directors, the division may be combined or the award not given. Divisions which may be combined if necessary are as follows:

17.4.2.1 Short and Long Stirrup Hunter

17.4.2.2. Short and Long Stirrup Equitation

17.4.2.3. Small, Medium, and Large Pony Hunter or Small and Medium Pony Hunters or Medium and Large Pony Hunters

17.4.2.4. Pre-Children's and Pre-Adult Hunter

17.4.2.5. Children's and Adult Amateur Hunter

17.4.3. In order to qualify for an annual championship award, a division must be held and judged at five different recognized shows during the point year.

17.5. Perpetual/Year-end Trophies

17.5.1. Anyone wishing to provide a perpetual trophy or special year-end award in connection with GHJA Local and/or Regular Member Shows annual awards should submit a written proposal to the Board of Directors before November 1st of the Show Year in which the award is given.

17.5.2. Once specifications for such awards are established, they may not be changed without permission of both the donor and GHJA Board of Directors.

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.

18. Violations

18.1. Individuals

18.1.1. General: An individual is subject to penalty by the Hearing Committee of GHJA for any and all violations of the rules of GHJA that occur in connection with or during the course of a Recognized Competition. The provisions of this rule apply to the following persons: any owner, exhibitor, agent, trainer, manager, rider, driver, handler, competition official, competition employee or member of the family of the above, individual member of GHJA or any person who violates the rules of GHJA or acts in a manner deemed prejudicial to the best interests of GHJA. Any violative act committed by a family member of a person participating in the competition in a capacity described in the previous sentence may be deemed to have been committed by the participant and may subject him or her to penalties.

18.1.2. Violations: Violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

18.1.2.1. Violation of the Rules of GHJA as set forth herein.

18.1.2.2. Disqualification by a Recognized Competition.

18.1.2.3. Penalization by an administrative agency, humane society or court of law for violation of GHJA rules.

18.1.2.4. Acting or inciting or permitting any other to act in a manner contrary to the rules of GHJA, or in a manner deemed improper, unethical, dishonest, unsportsmanlike or intemperate, or prejudicial to the best interests of GHJA.

18.1.2.5. Any act committed or remark made in connection with a Recognized Competition considered offensive and/or made with the intent to influence or cast aspersions on the character or integrity of licensed officials, approaching a judge before or after a decision without first obtaining permission from Show Management or the presiding steward, inspecting a judge's card without the judge's permission, or public verbal abuse of competition officials.

18.1.2.6. Physical assault upon a person and/or cruelty to a horse as determined by the steward presiding at the competition.

18.1.2.7. Failure of participants in a Recognized Competition to pay any indebtedness to Show Management within sixty (60) days of the date due.

18.1.2.8. Failure to obey any penalty imposed by GHJA.

18.1.2.9. Exhibiting any horse in the care, training or custody of a suspended trainer.

18.1.2.10. Riding, exhibiting, coaching or training for the benefit, credit, reputation or satisfaction or a suspended person.

18.1.2.11. Failure to pay any indebtedness to GHJA or indebtedness for hearing transcripts or other hearing expenses arranged through GHJA.

18.2. Recognized Competitions

18.2.1. General: A Recognized Competition is subject to penalty by the Hearing Committee of GHJA for any and all violation of the rules of GHJA. The provisions of this rule apply to all Regular Member Competitions, Local Member Competitions or any other competition sanctioned by GHJA.

18.2.2. Violations: Violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

18.2.2.1. Failure to conduct a Recognized Competition in accordance with the rules of GHJA.

18.2.2.2. Failure of the Recognized Competition to pay its indebtedness to GHJA.

18.2.2.3. Failure to pay premiums and other indebtedness within sixty (60) days.

18.2.2.4. Failure to report the disqualification of a person at a Recognized Competition.

18.2.2.5. Failure to honor written contracts with judges, stewards or other competition officials and employees.

18.2.2.6. Failure to furnish GHJA with entry blanks, judge's cards, class sheets or any other documents requested in connection with the competition in a timely manner.

18.2.2.7. The use of stewards who are not approved by GHJA.

18.2.2.8. The listing of a judge, steward or course designer in the prize list or catalogue before the invitation to serve has been accepted.
18.2.2.9. Permitting persons or horses adjudged not in good standing to participate in a Recognized Competition in any manner.
18.2.2.10. Permitting acts in connection with or during the course of a Recognized Competition that are improper, intemperate, dishonest, unsportsmanlike or contrary to the rules of GHJA.
18.2.2.11. Acting in any manner deemed prejudicial to the best interests of GHJA.

19. Protests, Charges, Hearings and Penalties

The construction and application of GHJA Rules are governed by the laws of the State of Georgia.

19.1. Filing and Contents

19.1.1. General
19.1.1.1. Allegations of violations as set forth in Rule 18 above are subject to the filing of a protest or a charge by a complaining party. The nature of the complaint depends on the status of the filing party as set forth below in this Rule 19.
19.1.1.2. A protest or a charge must state the full name and address of the accused and contain a complete and definite statement of the act that constitutes the alleged violation. Precise details regarding a violation of rules are necessary. Each Rule allegedly violated must be listed by Rule and Section. The maker must be prepared to substantiate the protest or charge by personal testimony at a hearing or by sworn statements, witnesses or other evidence.
19.1.1.3. A protest or charge against a Recognized Competition must be referred to the Hearing Committee by the presiding steward, the competition manager or competition secretary, or an officer of GHJA.
19.1.1.4. GHJA may investigate any protest, charge or alleged violation, may intervene in any protest and may present evidence concerning any protest, charge or alleged violation at its discretion.
19.1.1.5. The Chairman of the Hearing Committee may designate one or more members of the Hearing Committee or any other individual to investigate any protest, charge or alleged violation, to conduct any necessary fact finding, to review memoranda submitted by interested parties, and to make proposed factual findings to the Hearing Committee.
19.1.1.6. All fees, deposits, expenses and other charges payable in connection with the proceedings described in Rules 18 and 19 herein must be paid by check or money order made payable to GHJA.
19.1.1.7. Non-protestable decisions:
19.1.1.7.1. The soundness of a horse, when determined by an official veterinarian of the competition or by a judge, is not protestable.
19.1.1.7.2. A judge's decision, representing his/her individual preference, is not protestable unless it is alleged to be in violation of GHJA rules.

19.1.2. Protests: May be made to the Hearing Committee by a rider, driver, handler, exhibitor, owner, agent, trainer or the parent of a junior exhibitor for any violation of GHJA rules. It must be:
19.1.2.1. in writing;
19.1.2.2. signed by the protester;
19.1.2.3. addressed to the Executive Secretary of GHJA, an officer of GHJA or to the Hearing Committee;
19.1.2.4. accompanied by a deposit of $100.00 if made by a GHJA member or parent of a junior member, or $200.00 if made by a non-member; and
19.1.2.5. **received by GHJA no later than, five (5) business days following the last sanctioned day of the competition.**

19.1.3. Charges: May be made to the Hearing Committee by an official of the competition, the presiding steward or an officer of GHJA for any violation of GHJA rules. It must be:

19.1.3.1. in writing;
19.1.3.2. signed by the person making the charge;
19.1.3.3. addressed to the Hearing Committee; and
19.1.3.4. received by the steward or the Executive Secretary to pass onto the Hearing Committee.

19.2. Pre-Hearing Procedures

19.2.1. Notice:

19.2.1.1. Any person, group of persons or competition against whom a protest or charge is filed is entitled to a hearing. Notice of a hearing must contain a brief statement of the facts constituting the alleged violation, the GHJA rules allegedly violated, and must specify the time and place at which the hearing is to be held.

19.2.1.2. Initial written notice of a protest or charge must be given to the accused within sixty (60) days from the date the protest or charge is received in the GHJA office. This initial notice may either specify a time and place at which the hearing is to be held or state that the hearing will be held at a date to be determined. If the initial notice does not specify a time and place of hearing, a subsequent notice of hearing specifying the time and place of the hearing will be mailed at least ten (10) business days prior to the hearing date.

19.2.1.3. Whenever any notice or other communication is required or permitted in these Rules 18 and 19, such notice or other communication shall be in writing and shall be delivered by hand, sent by U.S. registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid, or by overnight courier service, to the last known address of the member on file with GHJA or, if to GHJA, to the GHJA address as stated on page 1 of this Rule Book. Any notice or other communication so given shall be deemed to be effectively given, and received on the date of delivery if by hand, on the postmark date of such notice or other communication if given by mail, and on the date of delivery to such courier service if given by courier service.

19.2.2. Continuances and Emergency Postponements:

19.2.2.1. A respondent, protester or charging party may request a continuance of a scheduled hearing. Such request must be made in writing prior to the hearing and received by the Hearing Committee at least five (5) days (120 hours) prior to the time set for the hearing. A request for continuance received within this period will be not be granted unless a written arrangement is made with GHJA for the payment of all expenses incurred by it, its representatives and witnesses resulting from such continuance. Any request for continuance will only be granted upon a showing of good cause. The request for continuance of any hearing must be accompanied by a non-refundable continuance fee of $100.00 which fee will be refunded if the continuance is not granted. (Note: When GHJA, as charging party, or its representative(s), requests a continuance, there will be no fee.)

19.2.2.2. An emergency postponement of a scheduled hearing may be granted to a respondent, protester or charging party in case of severe illness, natural catastrophe or other emergency circumstances if the request is in writing, sets forth the reasons for the postponement, provides proof, if available, and is filed with the Hearing Committee. A request for an emergency postponement must be accompanied by a fee of $250.00. This fee maybe waived or refunded at the discretion of the Hearing Committee.

19.2.2.3. Requests for a continuance or emergency postponement received prior to a scheduled hearing will be ruled upon by the Chairman of the Hearing Committee.

19.2.3. Evidence:

19.2.3.1. The accused person may attend his or her hearing at his or her option, with or without counsel, and may bring witnesses, submit sworn statements or other evidence on his or her behalf.

19.2.3.2. The proponent of a protest or charge has the burden of proof.

19.2.3.3. Upon written request of an accused or accuser, or of a representative of GHJA when it is a party to the proceeding, there shall be furnished to the accused before a hearing, or to the representative of GHJA when it is a party to the proceeding, any

evidence to be introduced at the hearing, the names of witnesses and the substance of their testimony.

19.2.4. Temporary Suspension: In connection with any charge, protest, or any other matter that may properly fall within the jurisdiction of the Hearing Committee, and upon a finding that considerations involving the health, safety or welfare of GHJA members and/or their horses, or the best interests of horse showing generally, warrant prompt action pending consideration of the matter by the Hearing Committee, the President may, by giving written notice of such action, temporarily suspend any person from participating in any manner in the affairs of GHJA or participating in or attending all Recognized Competitions until the Hearing Committee can hear the charge, protest or other matter and take such further temporary or other disciplinary action as it deems appropriate under these Rules.

19.3. Hearings

19.3.1. Proceedings Before Hearing Committee: The Hearing Committee will hear protests and charges in connection with alleged violations of GHJA rules in accordance with the powers and duties referred to below.

19.3.1.1. The Hearing Committee, or a quorum thereof, shall preside at any pre-hearing matters, at the presentation of evidence, or at the review or rehearing of any decision. Three members of the Hearing Committee shall constitute a quorum. The presiding parties shall recommend a decision that shall be in writing and shall include findings of fact and conclusions regarding alleged rule violations and recommended penalties, if any.

19.3.1.2. The functions of the Hearing Committee shall be conducted in an impartial manner and shall be subject to the published Rules of GHJA.

19.3.1.3. The parties presiding at all proceedings before the Hearing Committee or at the review or appeal of a decision of the Hearing Committee shall prepare a written record of the proceedings that shall include the evidence considered in the proceeding, each finding of fact based on the evidence, the conclusions and decisions regarding the alleged rule violations, a statement of penalties imposed, if any, and of other relief granted or denied. This written record shall constitute the official record of the Hearing Committee, and all decisions, including recommended and final decisions are a part of the official record.

19.3.1.4. GHJA will not require a verbatim stenographic transcript of the hearing to be made, but parties to the hearing may arrange for one through GHJA in advance of the hearing and one will be ordered for them and for GHJA at the expense of the party or parties requesting the transcript. If a transcript is ordered, it becomes part of the official record of the proceeding, cannot be canceled after the hearing is held, and must be paid for by the requesting party or parties.

19.4. Post-Hearing Procedures

19.4.1. Review of Decisions:

19.4.1.1. The initial decision of the presiding parties shall become the final decision of the Hearing Committee without further proceedings unless the Hearing Committee, in its discretion and before the decision is published, requires the entire record to be certified to it for a final decision or unless there is a written appeal to the Hearing Committee by a party to the proceeding or by GHJA within fifteen (15) business days following the initial decision. On appeal, the Hearing Committee will not review findings and recommendations but will only decide whether the rules were properly interpreted and applied.

19.4.1.2. After an initial decision, the Hearing Committee, in its sole discretion and on its own motion, may review the entire record of the initial hearing, or any issue or finding and recommendation contained therein, or hold a new hearing, as well as determine whether the rules were properly interpreted and applied. A respondent, protester or charging party who wishes to request such a review must make such request in writing, setting forth the reasons why a review is sought, within fifteen (15) business days following the initial decision. Such request must be accompanied by a fee of

$250.00, which fee is not refundable except at the discretion of the Hearing Committee.

19.4.2. Rehearing: Upon the discovery of new facts not discovered by due diligence prior to a hearing, a party may request a rehearing before the Hearing Committee. Such request must be in writing and must contain a statement of the new facts upon which the request for rehearing is based and must be accompanied by a fee of $250.00, which fee is not refundable except at the discretion of the Hearing Committee. A rehearing will not be granted as a matter of right but is solely within the discretion of the Hearing Committee.

19.4.3. Publication:

19.4.3.1. GHJA will publish in the GHJA Newsletter and/or on the Association web site, a notice of every penalty assessed against any individual, horse or Recognized Competition and the period of suspension, if any. Any Recognized Competition that allows a suspended or expelled person or horse to participate is itself liable to penalty, including suspension or expulsion.

19.4.3.2. GHJA may report disciplinary action taken by the Hearing Committee to another association if in its opinion reporting is advisable for the protection of mutual interests.

19.4.4. Reciprocity: Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, on receipt by GHJA of notice that a final judgment has been rendered by an administrative agency, body, humane society or court of law, whether civil, criminal or administrative, against a person for an act which would be a violation of GHJA rules as stated herein if committed in connection with or during the course of a Recognized Competition, an officer of GHJA may make a charge against such person under the provisions of **Rule 18**, and following a hearing, the Hearing Committee may impose any penalty provided for herein if a penalty is deemed appropriate by the Hearing Committee, in its sole discretion.

19.5. Penalties

19.5.1. Individuals: If found guilty, the accused will be subject to such penalties as the Hearing Committee may determine, including, but not limited to, the following:

19.5.1.1. CENSURE. A vote of Censure will be listed under the defendant's name in the records of the Executive Secretary. If found guilty of a further violation the defendant will be subject to a heavier penalty than for a first offense.

19.5.1.2. SUSPENSION of such person for any period from showing or having others show, exhibit or train for him or her. A suspended person is forbidden for the time specified in the decision to hold or exercise office in GHJA or in any recognized Competition, from the privilege of taking any part whatsoever in any Recognized Competition and is excluded from all competition grounds during Recognized Competitions, as an exhibitor, participant or spectator. Where practical and appropriate in the opinion of the Hearing Committee, suspension may include the comparable dates during which the violation occurred.

19.5.1.3. SUSPENSION for any period of the horse or horses, completely or partially owned or leased by such person or any business entity or stable of such person, or shown in any name for his, her or its credit or reputation, whether such interest was held at the time of the alleged violation or acquired thereafter. (Note: the Hearing Committee may at a later date remove the suspension of said horse or horses if it is demonstrated to their satisfaction that a sale or transfer thereof was made by such person or business entity, or stable in a bona fide transaction and not with the intention of avoiding penalty.

19.5.1.4. SUSPENSION of any volunteer or any employed person who rides or exhibits for the benefit, credit, reputation or satisfaction of another suspended person.

19.5.1.5. EXPULSION from all Recognized Competitions.

19.5.1.6. EXPULSION and SUSPENSION from membership in GHJA.

19.5.1.7. FORFEITURE of trophies, ribbons and/or prize money won in connection with the offense committed, which will be redistributed accordingly, and payment of a fee of $50.00 to the competition in question. GHJA points may be nullified and redistributed at the discretion of the Hearing Committee.

19.5.1.8. SUSPENSION from office as steward.
19.5.1.9. REVOCATION of steward's approval.
19.5.1.10. FINE.

19.5.2. Recognized Competitions: A Recognized Competition found guilty of a violation will be subject to penalties as the Hearing Committee may determine including, but not limited to, the following:

19.5.2.1. CENSURE. A vote of Censure will be listed under the defendant's name in the records of the Executive Secretary. If found guilty of a further violation, the defendant will be liable to a heavier penalty than for a first offense.
19.5.2.2. SUSPENSION for any period from the list of Recognized Competitions.
19.5.2.3. EXPULSION from membership in GHJA.
19.5.2.4. FINE.

19.5.3. Affiliated Associations: GHJA Affiliated Associations must honor all GHJA penalties.

GENERAL RULES

20. Stewards Committee

20.1. All GHJA approved Stewards will meet annually at the call of the Chairman of the Stewards Committee to review and discuss procedures.

20.2. All active GHJA Stewards must be members of GHJA and USEF, and must posses a USEF approved measuring stick, or a comparable aluminum stick with cross arm and bubble levels. Stewards returning to active status after an absence of 3 years or more must re-take the GHJA Stewards Exam and be a guest steward at one horse show.

21. Show Standards Committee

21.1. There shall be a Show Standards Committee as specified in Article VIII 8.5 of the GHJA By-Laws. It shall be the duty of the Committee to:

21.1.1. Identify and make available to all Member Shows an advisor who is competent in all aspects of the preparation for and operation of a recognized show.

21.1.2. Review Stewards' and advisors' reports following each show and report any recommendations for improvement to show Management.

21.1.3. Approve applications for recognition as Member Shows. In considering any application for recognition, this Committee shall review the reports of show advisors, and in the case of established shows, the Steward's report and the recommendations of the Hearing Committee.

21.1.4. Send each applicant a packet containing guidelines for properly conducting a Local Member Show and a GHJA Rule Book.

21.1.5. Appoint an advisor to assist any Management group that is seeking recognition for the first time.

21.1.6. Keep minutes of its proceedings that shall be presented to the Board of Directors at its next meeting.

22. Amendments

These rules and regulations may be added to, altered or amended at any meeting of the Board of Directors of GHJA by a majority vote of those present, or by a vote conducted by the Executive Secretary via e-mail when it is not convenient for the Board to assemble in person, provided the proposed change has been presented for discussion and notice of the proposed changes thereof have been given to all members of GHJA at least 15 days in advance of such vote. Written notice may be sent to the last known post office address or an e-mail notice sent to the last known e-mail address filed with the GHJA office of each active member. In addition, a notice will be placed on the official GHJA website conveying the same information and shall be posted not less than fifteen (15) days before the date of the meeting.

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APPENDICES

Appendix A – Definitions

Appendix B – USEF Equitation Tests 1 – 23

Appendix C – USEF Zone 4 Specifications

Appendix D – Proper Attire

Appendix E – Hunter Breeding

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APPENDIX A

Definitions

"Adjacent Divisions." When Show Management of a Local Member Show of two days duration offers the same division or classes on both days of the show, such a division or class is known as an "adjacent" division.

"Adult" or **"Senior Member."** An Adult or Senior Member is an individual who has reached his/her 18th birthday as of December 1st of the current Show Year.

"Amateur." Regardless of equestrian skills or accomplishments, an Amateur is an individual who after his/her 18th birthday is not currently, nor has been in the past year, engaged in any activities which would make him/her **a** professional, including but not limited to: accepting remuneration for riding, showing, schooling, teaching, or training whether in group or private lessons, seminars, clinics or otherwise; accepting prize money in equitation classes, or such other practices prohibited by GHJA or USEF.

"Executive Secretary." The Executive Secretary of GHJA, a paid employee.

"Exhibitor." The rider of a horse when entered in a class where only the merits of the horse are to be considered. In Equitation classes, "Exhibitor" refers to the rider.

"Family Membership." Two adults in the same family or one adult and one junior in the same family.

"Junior Member." A Junior Member is an individual who has not reached his/her 18th birthday as of December 1st of the current Show Year.

"Hand." For purposes of measuring the height of a horse or pony, a hand is four inches. The accepted abbreviation is "hh" ("hands high") when horse or pony height appears in print.

"Horse." As used in these rules and regulations, the term "horse" shall mean either a horse or a pony. When the term "Horse" or "Pony" is used in a class description or class specification where height is one of the qualifications of the class, the term "Horse" denotes an animal over 14.2hh, while the term "Pony" denotes an animal that does not exceed 14.2hh.

"Local Member Show." As used in these rules and regulations, a Local Member Show is a horse show sanctioned by GHJA for point accumulation toward GHJA Local Member year-end awards.

"Recognized Competition." As used in these rules, a Recognized Competition is any horse show sanctioned by GHJA

"Regular Member Show." As used in these rules and regulations, a Regular Member Show is a horse show sanctioned by U.S. Equestrian Federation (USEF) and is subordinately sanctioned by GHJA for point accumulation toward GHJA Regular Member year-end awards.

"Show Secretary." An individual employed by Show Management to process entries and perform such other administrative duties as assigned by Show Management.

"Show Management." For purposes of these rules and regulations, Show Management is the party or parties financially responsible for a show, or the entity, person or persons who will retain or disburse any profits and who will be responsible for the horse show's debts and losses.

"Show Member." A Show Member is a horse show sanctioned by GHJA and offering the minimum requirement of GHJA recognized divisions.

"Show Year" or **"Membership Year."** The show year or membership year shall run from December 1st to November 30th.

"Sustaining Member" - A GHJA Sustaining Member is an adult member who does not compete in any GHJA-sanctioned horse shows, nor does he/she own a horse that is shown by another in any GHJA-sanctioned horse shows. A Sustaining Member may qualify to be elected to the Board of Directors and may vote in general elections, per GHJA By Laws. Should a Sustaining Member become an active competitor during the membership year, he/she is required to upgrade to full Senior Member status by paying the difference in dues amounts; points will count upon receipt of payment of that difference, and will not be awarded retroactively. Senior Member status will not be converted or reversed to Sustaining Member status during the current competition year (December 1st to November 30th).

"Qualified Medical Personnel." A duly licensed Medical Doctor, Registered Nurse or Mid-Level Provider (i.e., Nurse Practitioner or Physician's Assistant) who is trained in emergency treatment, or an EMT licensed in the state of Georgia.

"Zone 4" A zone is a geographical region defined by USEF for the purpose of presenting awards to Exhibitors in that section of the country and to Exhibitors qualifying for national year-end awards. Zone 4 consists of Georgia, Florida, South Carolina, Tennessee, Alabama, and Mississippi.

APPENDIX B

USEF Equitation Tests 1 - 23

USEF EQ 113 Tests From Which Judges Must Choose
Tests may be performed either collectively or individually but no other tests may be used. Instructions must be publicly announced. A judge may ask exhibitors to re-jump an abbreviated or shortened form of the original course. NOTE: In Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation classes, any exhibitor who does not participate in the testing is placed last of those competitors called back to test. Should more than one exhibitor fail to return for testing they will be placed at the judge's discretion. If exhibitors are called back collectively to test, they must remain in the ring until all exhibitors have completed the test. Equitation tests must not have exhibitors trotting or cantering through in gate or out gate; any exhibitor choosing to trot or canter through the in-gate or out-gate must be eliminated (see EQ108). Obstacles jumped in an equitation test must have been included in the original course. Jumps must be jumped in the original direction unless otherwise specified.

1. Work collectively or individually at a walk, rising/posting trot, and/or sitting trot, and/or canter.

2. Downward Transition Test: **a)** Walk (4-5 steps) **b)** Halt (4-6 seconds) **c)** Halt and Back for (3-5 steps). When riders working collectively are asked to halt and then back, they should walk forward a few steps and halt again after backing and then proceed with any further instructions from the judge.

3. Question(s) regarding basic horsemanship, tack or equipment and/or conformation. The judge may ask question(s) that are appropriate for the level of expected skill of any given class or specifications.

4. Working either collectively, or individually, riders may demonstrate the lengthening or collection of strides on the flat at the walk, sitting or posting/rising trot and/or canter.

5. Figure Eight at the trot, demonstrating change of diagonals. In any Figure Eight movement, the rider should start at a center point at the halt. To finish the movement the rider is to return to the halt at same position as the point of commencement.

6. Figure Eight at the canter on the correct lead. In this movement, the rider will begin at the halt and demonstrate a simple change of lead. This is a change whereby the horses is brought back into the walk or trot (either is acceptable unless the judges specifies) and then restarted into a canter on the opposite lead. in the center of the figure, then will proceed to the second circle on the opposite lead. The rider will halt in the center at the same point of commencement to finish the figure.

7. Jump a shortened course. The riders must jump all obstacles in the same direction of the original course unless the judge clearly states that a jump be attempted in the opposite direction of the original course. If the judge requests that a jump be used in the opposite direction it must be a vertical and the ground lines must be correct. (See EQ 102.11)

8. Jump low obstacles at a trot as well as a canter. The maximum height of trot jump is determined as 6" lower than class requirements and is not to exceed 3' for horses and 2' for ponies. Oxers may be used as a trot jump in classes listed at 3'6" or higher.

9. Demonstrate a half- turn or a half-turn in the reverse. In all cases where a figure is requested between 2 jumps that requires a change of direction, the rider will not be charged for crossing their path nor will this count as a refusal between the obstacles.

10. Change leads on a line demonstrating simple or flying changes. The simple change is whereby the horses is brought back into the walk or trot (either is acceptable unless the judges specifies) and then restarted into a canter on the opposite lead. The flying change is performed in one stride with the front and hind legs changing at the same moment. The change of the leading front and hind leg takes place during the moment of suspension.

11. Figure Eight at the canter demonstrating flying changes of leads. Like all Figure Eight movements, the rider is to first halt at a center point. The flying change is performed in one stride with the front and hind legs changing at the same moment. The change of the leading front and hind leg takes place during the moment of

suspension.

12. Collection of strides between 2 fences. It is recommended that a line chosen for this test be not less than 70'.

a. For safety purposes, judges may only ask for additional strides to be added and must not ask rider to leave out a stride.

13. Work collectively or individually at the walk, posting/rising trot and/or canter without irons. In any case where riders are asked to perform without irons they must be allowed to walk or halt and be afforded the opportunity to cross their irons if they wish.

14. Execute serpentine at a trot and/or canter on the correct leads. If trotting, the rider is to demonstrate the changes of diagonals at the center points of the figure, if cantering, the rider should demonstrate the simple or flying changes of lead in the center of the figure. This is a change whereby the horses is brought back into the walk or trot (either is acceptable unless the judges specifies) and then restarted into a canter on the opposite lead

15. Canter on the counter lead on the flat. For the purposes of Hunt Seat Equitation on the flat, a counter canter is defined as a balanced canter on the outside lead. If working collectively, no more than 12 riders may counter canter at one time. Riders must complete one full revolution around the arena in each direction.

16. A canter on the counter lead may be used on the approach to a jump. For the purposes of Hunt Seat Equitation over fences, the counter canter is rider-invented gymnastic exercise designed to improve balance and suppleness. When utilizing this test, rider may be asked to:

1. Approach a single jump on a counter lead. This test requires riders make at least ONE turn or bend of a course of not less than 90* and not more than 120* on the counter lead. (Insert diagram).

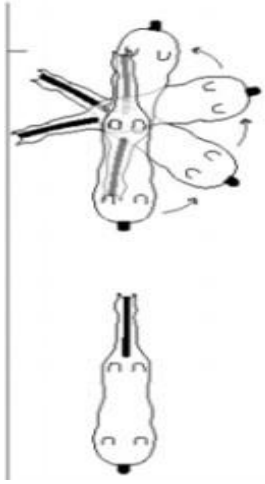
2. Demonstrate a counter canter between 2 jumps on the course. For this test, the rider upon landing off the first jump can choose from the following acceptable options:

a) If the rider lands firstly on the inside lead, he/she may demonstrate a simple or flying change of lead before cantering through the first 90*-120* turn and continue to hold the counter lead to the next jump. Either the simple or flying change is acceptable.

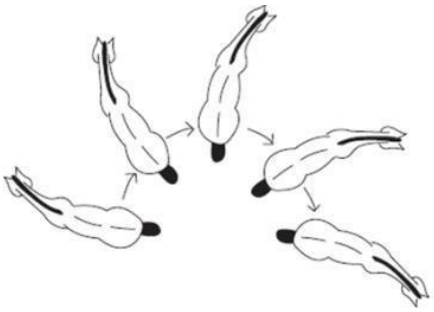
b) If the rider lands firstly on the outside lead, he/she may continue to hold the outside lead to the next required obstacle.

c) A judge cannot require a rider to land on the counter lead.

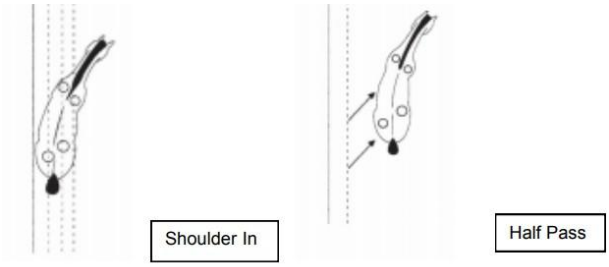
17. Demonstrate a turn on the forehand done through the halt.

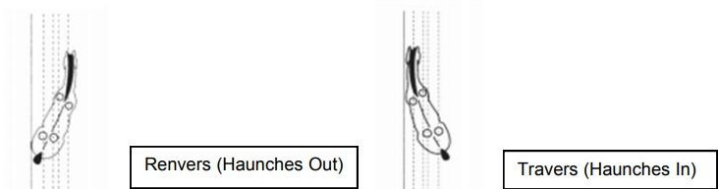


18. Demonstrate a turn on the haunches done from the walk.



19. Demonstrate Shoulder-in, Shoulder-out, Haunches-in, Haunches-out, Half pass or Leg Yield in both directions at either the walk or the sitting trot.





20. Hand Gallop. A hand gallop may be used either when riders are working collectively or individually on the flat and it may also be used on the approach to a jump. The rider must be in a half-seat when executing the hand gallop. A hand gallop may not be requested into or out of a related distance line.

21. Ride without stirrups over fences. The riders must be allowed to remove the irons from the saddle or cross them if they wish.

22. Demonstration ride of approximately one minute. Riders must advise the judge(s) beforehand what ride he/she plans to demonstrate.

23. Change horses. (Note: this is the equivalent of two tests.) Riders will only change horses for Championship classes. Riders will not be asked to ride a different horse unless he/she has ridden the course on his/her own horse first.

a) When a swap of horses is requested, the rider must be given a minimum of 90 seconds to do a brief flat and jump no more than two (2) schooling jumps.

b) Riders may be requested to jump a previous course or a portion of the previous course. Tests 1 – 22 shall not be included even if included in the former course.

USEF BOD 6/20/22 Effective 12/1/22

APPENDIX C

2023 ZONE 4 specs can be found at: http://www.ushja.org/zones/zone4specs.aspx

APPENDIX D

Proper Attire

Hunters

Attire - traditional
Dark coat: black, navy, hunter green.
Breeches: gray, rust, canary, beige.
Shirt with ratcatcher or stock tie.
Shirt with necktie for men.
Hunting cap; all riders must wear protective headgear when mounted; **all riders must wear an S.E.I. / ASTM approved safety helmet with the harness snugly adjusted at all times when mounted.**

Tack - Regulation snaffles, pelhams, and full bridles, all with cavesson nosebands, are **required**. A judge may penalize for non-conventional types (i.e., overly severe bits, drop or figure eight nosebands). Boots, leg wraps, and bandages are prohibited. In the case of inclement weather, show management may permit the use of bell boots.

Equitation

Attire - Coats of any tweed or melton (conservative colors); breeches or jodphers; boots. All mounted riders must wear dark protective headgear; **all riders must wear an S.E.I. / ASTM approved safety helmet with the harness snugly adjusted at all times when mounted.** Spurs, crops or bats are optional. Judges may penalize for non-conformity.

Tack - Boots and conservatively colored bandages are permitted. Saddle type is optional. Martingales are only permitted in classes over obstacles and in the jumping phase of classes requiring both jumps and flat work. They are prohibited in any flat class or phase. Any change of equipment during a class can be penalized at the judge's discretion (adding or removing a martingale from one phase to another is not considered a change).

Jumpers

Attire - Boots and breeches; polo or collared shirt is acceptable. All riders must wear protective headgear when mounted; **all riders must wear an S.E.I. / ASTM approved safety helmet with the harness snugly adjusted at all times when mounted.**

APPENDIX E

Hunter Breeding

Specs can be found at: https://www.usef.org/forms-pubs/kW5W4HBsXe4/hu-hunter-division

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2026 RULE BOOK