

GHJA Class Specifications 2025

Hunter Over Fences To be shown over at least eight fences at the required height. To be judged on performance and soundness unless otherwise stated.

Hunter Under Saddle To be shown at a walk, trot and canter. Light contact with the horse's mouth is required. Martingales not permitted.

Courses Hunter courses will simulate fences found in the hunt field such as brush, wall, in-and-out, oxer, post and rails, gate, aiken, bank, coop and panels.

All hunter divisions will be held in accordance with GHJA rules. Hunter Divisions with less than 3 entries may be combined. Pony must possess and present to the office a GHJA or USEF measurement card to compete in any Pony Hunter division. Thoroughbred Hunter classes require proof of pedigree; TIP membership is acceptable.

Horses and ponies may enter no more than seven "over fences" classes, no more than five of which can be Jumper classes, on a single show day. 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.

Equitation Classes

Short Stirrup Equitation Open to qualified Short Stirrup rider. Fence height 2'.

Long Stirrup Equitation Open to qualified Long Stirrup riders. Fence height 2'3".

Equitation 11 & Under Open to Juniors whose 12th birthday is not before December 1, 2024. Fence height 2'. No straight lines may be set at less than 60'.

Equitation 12-14 Open to Juniors whose 15th birthday is not before December 1, 2024. Fence height 2'6". No straight lines may be set at less than 60'.

Equitation 15-17 Open to Juniors whose 18th birthday is not before December 1, 2024. Fence height 3'

Adult Equitation Open to Adult Amateurs. Fence height 3'

Jumper Classes

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

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

.90 m (2'11") Jr./Amateur Jumper Open to Junior and Amateur riders on horses or ponies. Horse/rider combo may not cross-enter into classes higher than **1.0m** at the same horse show.

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

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

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

Medal Classes

Specifications for GHJA Medals Must be a GHJA Member to compete in the GHJA Medal classes. 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. To be judged on seat, hands, guidance, and control of the horse. A minimum of 6 riders, if available, will be required to show on the flat. The flat phase shall count for 25%. Judges may require riders to perform any USEF test 1-23. Management has the option of placing two tests from USEF 1-8 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.

GHJA Pony Medal

Ponies with measurement cards to be ridden by Junior riders. Small ponies to be ridden by Junior riders 12 years of age or under to be jumped at 2'. Medium ponies to be ridden by Junior riders 14 years of age or under to be jumped at 2'3". Large ponies to be ridden by Juniors to be jumped at 2'6".

J.D. Pounds Junior Medal

Open to Juniors on horses. Fence height 3'.

GHJA Adult Medal

Open to Adult Amateurs on horses or ponies. Fence height 3'. Ponies may not be shown by a junior in any other classes

GHJA Medals can be combined if there are less than three in any of the three medals. However, rider/horse must jump at appropriate fence height.

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, and 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.

See GHJA rule book Appendix B for tests' details.

Hunter Classes

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 2'**, no oxers.

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. Fence height 2'6". Horse rider combo MAY NOT cross enter into children's hunter.

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. Fence height 2'6". Horse Rider Combo MAY NOT cross enter into Adult hunter.

Children's Hunter: Open to all horses ridden by a Junior. Fence height 3'. Horse/rider combo MAY NOT cross enter into Pre Children's Hunter.

Adult Amateur Hunter: Open to Adult Amateur riders on horses or ponies Fence height 3'. Horse/rider combo MAY NOT cross enter into Pre-Adult Hunter.

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.

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. Open to all riders.

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

Open Hunter: Open to all horses or ponies ridden by juniors, amateurs or professionals. Fence height 2'6" or 3'. Rider may show at either height group at rider's or trainer's discretion.

Performance Hunter: Open to all riders on horses. Fence height 3'3"/3'6".

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

Small Pony Hunter: Open to Junior riders 12 years of age or under on ponies not to exceed 12.2 hh. Fence height 2'.

Medium Pony Hunter: Open to Junior riders 14 years of age or under on ponies over 12.2 hh, but not to exceed 13.2 hh. Fence height 2'3".

Large Pony Hunter: Open to Junior riders on ponies not to exceed 14.2 hh. Fence height 2'6".

Hunter Classes

Short Stirrup Hunter: 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. **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.

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.

See current GHJA Rule Book for further clarification regarding eligibility (this is a brief version)

Long Stirrup Hunter: 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. **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.

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.

See current GHJA Rule Book for further clarification regarding eligibility (this is a brief version)