

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, all USHJA programs, properties, events and related specifications are subject to change in accordance with federal, state and local laws and regulations.



**2020 USHJA ZONE 9 EQUITATION CHAMPIONSHIP**  
**CLASS SPECIFICATIONS**

**I. Qualifying**

- A. The USHJA Zone 9 Equitation Championship is open to any rider that is an Active USHJA junior member, at the time of the competition, and has placed first or second place in a USEF Hunter Seat Medal class since the last day to qualify for the Zone Championship the previous year.
- B. Once a rider has won the USHJA Zone 9 Equitation Championship, he will not be allowed to compete again and will be invited to present awards for the following year.

**II. Competition Format**

- A. Round 1- Equitation Round
  - 1. To be shown over a course of not less than eight obstacles at 3'6" with spreads to 4'0" (Exception: triple bar type obstacles, maximum spread of 5'0")
- B. Round 2 – Top 15
  - 1. Based on the scores from Round 1, the top 15 riders will be called back in reverse order for another equitation style round. The course will consist of a minimum of 8 jumps. The course must include one combination with an oxer and two changes of direction after the first obstacle.
- C. Round 3 – Test
  - 1. Based on the combined scores from Rounds 1 and 2, the final work off will consist of a minimum of the top 4 riders. Tests 1-17. The riders will jump a third course designated by the judges using components of the Round 1 and/or Round 2 courses up to a maximum of 8 jumps. The Round 3 course will be announced with final competitors in the ring. Riders will work off from lowest to highest combined scores. No trainer assistance will be allowed once the top finalists have been announced. The Round 3 scores will not be announced until the awards ceremony.

**IV. Schooling**

- A. Commencing at midnight the day before the start of the competition and continuing until finished competing, only the competition rider may ride his entry. These riders must wear their competition number at all times anywhere on the grounds whenever mounted. Riders changing horses for the Zone 9 Equitation Championship may do so only in the case of illness or injury to the declared horse, and must obtain approval from the show committee.

**V. Judges**

- A. The judging panel must consist of at least one 'r' Licensed judge and one 'R' Licensed judge.
- B. The panel will sit together for the duration of the class.
- C. The judges are encouraged to assist in designing the course with the licensed course designer.

## VI. Judging System

- A. The scores will be cumulative, combined from all three rounds to determine the winner.

## VII. Awards

- A. The previous year's winner, if available, will assist in the presentation of the Top 10 ribbons.
- B. Ribbons will be awarded 1<sup>st</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> place with the presentation of awards to be given in reverse order.
- C. The Overall Champion will be presented with a Championship cooler, rider sash, and commemorative frame. The 2<sup>nd</sup> place winner will be presented a rider sash, and commemorative frame.
- D. The riders that place first and second in the Zone 9 Equitation Championship, if not already qualified prior to the start of this class, shall automatically be qualified to compete at the USEF Hunter Seat Medal Finals in accordance with EQ 111.

*The USHJA Zone 9 Equitation Championship and the related format and specifications are the sole properties of the USHJA and may only be held, conducted or used upon the terms and conditions specified by the USHJA. USHJA reserves the right to change language in documents related to the conduct of the USHJA Zone 9 Equitation Championship as necessary for the purposes of consistency and clarity. Any deviations from the class specifications for the USHJA Zone 9 Equitation Championship are not permitted without the express written permission from USHJA prior to the printing of the prize list.*

*For any rules not specified above, please refer to the current USEF Rule Book.*

