

## **USHJA POLICY STATEMENT**

**Subject: Athlete Definition**

**Policy Number: MEM106**

**Date of Board Adoption: May 12, 2025**

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### **USHJA Athlete Definition (Article 203.3 and 802.1 (b) and (c))**

The purpose of this Policy is to set the criteria used to define and determine a Hunter and Jumper Athlete.

Athlete definitions shall be reviewed, and any amendments approved by the Board of Directors in each year in which an election of Directors occurs.

#### **Jumper Athlete**

At the time of election, all Jumper Athlete representatives shall have demonstrated their qualifications as athletes by achieving one of the following:

1. Within the ten (10) years preceding election, represented the United States in the Olympic or Pan American Games, or an Operation Gold event, or a World Championship recognized by the NGB's IF for which a competitive selection process was administered by the NGB, or in a team sport, an international championship recognized by the IF of the NGB. This includes the following events:
  - Olympic Games
  - World Equestrian Games
  - Pan American Games
  - World Cup Final (as Operation Gold Event in post-Olympic Games year, and possibly in Pan American Games year)

AND/OR

2. Within the twenty-four (24) months before election, demonstrate that they are actively engaged in amateur athletic competition by finishing in the top half of the NGB's national championships or team selection competition for the events outlined in subparagraphs (1) or (2) or in a team sport, have been a member of the NGB's national team. This includes the following events:
  - Top 1/2 of the applicants on the Ranking list used for the Olympic Games
  - Top 1/2 of the applicants on the Ranking list used for World Equestrian Games selection
  - Top 1/2 of applicants on the Ranking List used for the Pan American Games Selection
  - Top 1/2 of the US riders in the East and West Coast World Cup standings (skip over non-US citizens) in the years that the World Cup Final is Operations Gold event.
  - Top 1/2 of the National Championships

AND/OR

3. Within the ten (10) years preceding election, shall have demonstrated that as a professional rider, they have finished in first place in the following competitions:
  - A class of \$25,000 or more held at the National, High Performance, or American Standard at a jumper rating 3 or higher competition.
  - FEI class (1.45 or higher) held at a CSI 2\*/3\*/4\*/5\*

**Hunter Athlete** - For the purposes of the USHJA Bylaws, the following set of criteria is used to define and determine a Hunter Athlete:

Within 10 years preceding the election the professional rider shall have achieved the following results - Top 12 finish at any of the following events:

- International Hunter Derby National Finals
- International Hunter Derby Regional Finals
- National Hunter Derby Regional Finals
- Green Hunter Incentive National Finals
- Green Hunter Incentive Regional Finals
- WCHR Spectaculars
- WCHR Pro Finals
- WCHR Pro Challenge USHJA National
- USHJA National Championship/Las Vegas champions or reserve at 3'3" or higher