

2021 USHJA GLADSTONE CUP EQUITATION CLASSIC SPECIFICATIONS

Changes from 2020 are in bold, italics, and underlined.

I. QUALIFYING

The **Gladstone** Cup Equitation Classic may be held at either (or both) the East and West Coast USEF Junior Hunter National Championships. It is open to any Junior rider that has won either a USEF Hunter Seat Medal, ASPCA Maclay, USEF Show Jumping Talent Search or Overall WIHS Equitation Classic at a competition with a start date between June 1 and May 31 of the qualifying year. Riders must be an active USHJA Junior member at the time of competition in order to compete. Past winners of the East Coast or West Coast USHJA Gladstone Cup Equitation Classic or former East Coast or West Coast USHJA Hunterdon Cup Equitation Classic are no longer eligible to compete in either finals.

II. COMPETITION FORMAT

1. Round 1 – Classic Hunter **Style** Round. Riders to show over a classic hunter **style** course of at least ten (10) jumps.
Scores to be announced.
2. Round 2 – Handy Hunter Round. Riders to show over a handy hunter course of at least ten (10) jumps. Handiness and brilliance to be emphasized. The top twenty (20) riders will return for the Handy Hunter Round in reverse order of scores from Round 1. Scores to be announced.
3. Round 3 – Final Round. Based on the combined scores from Rounds 1 and 2. A minimum of the top four (4) and a maximum of the top ten (10) riders will be asked to switch horses and jump a third course designed by the judges. The course will consist of components of Round 2 with a maximum of eight (8) jumps. The jumps may not be changed in any way from Round 2, and the riders may not be asked to execute anything that they have not already executed on their own horse previously in this competition. Riders will switch as follows: riders one and two, riders three and four, riders five and six, et cetera. The riders will be asked to switch horses in either the show arena or a secured schooling area with the help of one (1) assistant per rider. This assistant may not be the rider's trainer. A schooling supervisor will oversee the switching of horses and subsequent schooling. Once the riders have switched horses they will line up at the direction of the judges and the course will be announced with the final competitors in the ring and all fences will be judged. As their numbers are called, riders will return in reverse order of the combined scores from Rounds 1 and 2 (lower to higher) and will be asked to do a brief flat, jump no more than two (2) schooling jumps and continue promptly to the final round course. No trainer assistance will be allowed once the finalists have been announced. Scores will be given, but not announced until the final awards ceremony.

III. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Jumps to be set at 3'6"
2. **Obstacles must simulate those reminiscent of the hunt field and course must offer a variety of Classic jumps with different appearances such as: natural post and rail, stone wall, white board fence or gate, coop, aiken, hedge, oxer, brush, logs, natural foliage.**
3. A variety of jumps that will nicely challenge the riders are encouraged.
4. **Classic Hunter Style Course (First Round)**
 - a) **Course must consist of a minimum of at least ten (10) obstacles, with at least one of each of the following:**
 - a. **A minimum of 2 obstacles must not have ground lines**
 - b. **In and out**
 - c. **Bending line**
 - d. **Line with an unrelated distance**

- e. Long approach to a single jump
 - f. Narrow jump (5'6" -8')
5. Handy Hunter Course (Second Round)
- a) The course should simulate riding over hunt country and must contain the following elements:
 - a. Tight turns
 - b. Different tracks
 - c. Clever options for jump approaches
 - d. Hand gallop to a jump
 - e. Trot a lowered obstacle (not to exceed 2'6" in height)

IV. TACK

Refer to EQ105.5a in the USEF Rule Book for current specifications.

V. SCHOOLING

1. Horses are required to be stabled on the competition grounds for a minimum of twelve (12) hours before the start of the competition.
2. Commencing twelve (12) hours before the start of the USHJA Gladstone Cup Equitation Classic competition and continuing until finished competing in the USHJA Gladstone Cup Equitation Classic, only the competition rider may ride his entry. These riders must wear their competition number whenever mounted. Riders may change horses for the Gladstone Cup only in the case of illness or injury to the declared horse, with verification from the horse show veterinarian and approval from the horse show committee.

VI. JUDGES AND JUDGING PROCEDURES

1. Two (2) judges will be selected by the USHJA for each of the USHJA Gladstone Cup Equitation Classic-East and West Coast events.
2. Both judges will sit together for the duration of the class and provide one (1) numerical score for each competitor in each phase.
3. Riders to be judged on style and smoothness with an emphasis on hunter style of riding.
4. The scores from each round will be combined for a final total score for each rider.
5. The final combined scores from each rider will be used to determine placings.
6. All ties will be broken using the scores from Round 1.

VII. AWARDS

1. The previous year's winner, if available, will be asked to assist in the presentation of the top ten (10) ribbons.
2. Ribbons will be awarded 1st- 10th place with the presentation of awards to be given in reverse order.
3. The Overall Champion will be presented with a keeper trophy.
4. Recognition will be given to the Trainer of the Overall Champion.
5. Recognition will be given for the Best Equitation Horse. To be awarded to the horse deemed by the judges to be the best and most suitable equitation horse competing in the Gladstone Cup.

VIII. USHJA CONTACT INFORMATION

Please contact one of the following USHJA representatives if questions arise pertaining to the USHJA Gladstone Cup Equitation Classic that cannot be answered by the Show Steward or Management based on the class specifications provided:

USHJA Equitation Department - (859) 225-6700

Melanie Mader, USHJA Sport Program Coordinator (859) 225-6722 or mmader@ushja.org

Robin Rost Brown, USHJA Joint Equitation Task Force Chair - (973) 222-8523

Mary Babick, USHJA President - (732) 239-1235

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