



PLATINUM JUMPER CHAMPIONSHIPS

2020 Platinum Individual and Team Jumper Championship Specifications

Changes from 2019 marked in bold italic and underlined.

Contents

I.	MINIMUM ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.....	2
II.	QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS.....	2
III.	RULES AND REGULATIONS.....	3
	A. Horse inspection and jog for soundness.....	3
	B. Tack/Equipment.....	4
	Athlete Rules and Regulations.....	4
	A. Schooling.....	5
	B. Attire.....	5
IV.	MEDICATION RULES.....	5
V.	REQUIRED DOCUMENTS.....	5
VI.	CHAMPIONSHIP SCHEDULE.....	6
	A. Day One (First Individual Qualifying Class)	6
	B. Day Two (Team Championship/Second and Third Individual Qualifying Classes)	6
	C. Day Three (Mandatory Rest Day)	7
	D. Day Four (Individual Final)	7
VII.	CUMULATIVE INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIP SCORING.....	7
VIII.	CHEF d'EQUIPE.....	8
IX.	ORGANIZER REQUIREMENTS.....	8
X.	ZONE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.....	10
	A. Important Dates and Deadlines.....	11
XI.	NUMBER AND COMPOSITION OF TEAMS.....	11
XII.	ZONE HOTY CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS.....	11

USHJA Platinum Individual and Team Jumper Championship Specifications

1.40/1.45m Platinum Jumper Championships (Platinum Championships)

I. **MINIMUM ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

- A. Eligible athletes must be a current active USEF and USHJA member in good standing (see GR202.1 & JP 100.1) from the time of application until conclusion of event.
- B. The horse must be registered with USHJA (see JP 100.2) and recorded with USEF pursuant to USEF GR 1102, in good standing under USEF rules.
- C. The burden of proof of eligibility to compete will rest with and be the sole responsibility of the owner or athlete, and not of the USHJA. USHJA staff is not available to determine each horse's or athlete eligibility.
- D. The zone of each Athlete is determined by the athlete's point state as recorded with USEF as of December 1, **2019** (see JP 100.4)
- E. Athletes wishing to participate in the USHJA ***Platinum Jumper Championship*** must complete and submit an application online at ushja.org/platinumjumper no later than 45 days prior to the start of their respective Championship. The applicants must certify that they meet the qualification and eligibility conditions delineated herein.
 - ***Early Application: December 1 through April 10. Non-refundable fee of \$75 per horse.***
 - ***Late Application: April 11 through 45 days before each Platinum Championship. Non-refundable fee of \$150 per horse.***
- F. ***Refer to*** "Zone Eligibility Requirements" for important dates and deadlines.

II. **QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR ATHLETE/HORSE COMBINATIONS**

- A. An athlete and/or horse is eligible to compete ***on one team*** at the ***Platinum*** Championships:
 - 1.40/1.45m Platinum Jumper Championship is open to Juniors, Amateurs, and Professionals
- B. In order to be eligible for the Platinum Championships, athlete/horse combinations must earn a minimum of 250 points/money won in 1.40/1.45m classes at USEF licensed competitions 45 days prior to the start of their championship.
- C. The point standings (ranking) in each zone from ***30 days following*** the conclusion of the previous year's ***Platinum*** Championship to 45 days prior to the start of the current year's Championship, will be used to determine the athlete/horse combinations acceptance to compete in that zone's championships. Ties will be decided by determining which athlete/horse combination has the most first place finishes in the classes specified below at their respective height.
- D. Platinum Championships must accept a minimum of three teams and a maximum of eight teams.
- E. Athlete/horse combinations wishing to compete in the Platinum Championships may not have competed in an Open High Performance Standard Grand Prix in the current competition year. ***(JP122.4d)***
- F. ***Platinum athletes may compete in classes that have heights greater than the maximum height restriction for the Platinum Championships on a different horse.***
- G. Waiver
 - If an athlete has an extenuating circumstance and wishes to apply for a waiver to any of the requirements in Section I, he must apply to the USHJA explaining the circumstances and details. The respective zone-committee will evaluate the request and provide a recommendation to the USHJA

Emerging Jumper Rider Task Force which will make the final decision whether to accept or deny the waiver.

- Waivers will not be granted for classes that do not meet the minimum fence height.
 - In no case will a waiver include any classes that occur less than 45 days before the Championship when the point standings freeze.
 - Waivers will not be granted for Athletes that have jumped over the maximum height restrictions more than 3 times within the qualifying period.
- H. Waivers must be submitted at least 45 days prior to the championships. Any waivers submitted after the deadline will not be considered.
- I. Substitutions
- Once the definite entries are secured, and up to 14 days preceding the Monday of the Championship, if an eligible athlete/horse combination is unable to compete at the Championship, the space will be filled by the next available combination from the frozen point standings list. If a horse is unable to compete and that athlete has another horse that is eligible to compete in the respective championship section and within the standings list cutoff, the substitution will be allowed based on that athlete/horse combinations point standing from the frozen qualified list.
 - During the week of the Championship if an entry is not able to compete, the four-member team will be reduced to three. If a three-member team is reduced to two members, those athletes will compete as individuals.
 - If a team is unable to field at least three members, the remaining members may compete in the championship as individuals. If there are at least three individuals from different zones in a combined zone championship before the first competition, they may comprise a combined team upon approval of the USHJA Jumper Technical Delegate.
 - To hold a **Platinum** Championship, a minimum of three teams must be entered. Teams may be combined by zone.
 - It is the intention of the USHJA to allow as much flexibility as possible within the parameters of sound and fair competition, and good sport in the allowance of teams to be made up at events when competitors drop out or are eliminated due to sickness or injury. Example: A horse gets injured in the first class leaving only two athletes. A third athlete is available and riding as an individual. In this case a team can be made up from the three competitors and thus a team could be fielded for the team day.
- J. **Qualifying List**
- **Athlete/horse combinations for the 1.40/1.45m Platinum Championships will be accepted from the USHJA Platinum Jumper Championship Qualifying List found on the USHJA website, ushja.org/platinumjumper.**
 - **Combined Zones: Each Zone may send up to 16 qualified athlete/horse combinations. Should a Zone be unable to send 16 qualified athlete/horse combinations the other competing Zone may send more than their allotted 16 combinations until a maximum of 32 athlete/horse combinations have been accepted.**

III. **RULES AND REGULATIONS**

Horse Rules and Regulations

A. Horse inspection and jog for soundness

- Championship horses must be stabled on the show grounds where the championship is being held, in official horse show stabling following the completion of the Official Horse Inspection and Jog for Soundness. Championship horses must remain on the horse show grounds from the start of the official jog through the completion of their Championship.
- Horses competing in the Championship may not compete in any other class at the same horse show after the Official Jog has taken place.
- All Championship horses must be presented at the mandatory horse inspection and jog for soundness by

the athlete or designated representative. The horse inspection and jog for soundness will be held not more than 24 hours prior to the start of the First Individual Qualifying Class. The exact time and location will be included in the prize list and schedule for each championship.

- A designated representative for the horse must be present at the horse inspection and jog for soundness. For the purposes of these championships the “designated representative” must be at least 18 and is defined as the rider, trainer, parent/guardian, Chef d’Equipe, or an authorized representative (authorization in writing is required).
- Each horse must be presented with its entry number. Following the official jog, the assigned back number must accompany the horse/pony at all times when it is out of its stall and must be visible on the stall door when in the stall.
- Horses not accepted at the horse inspection and jog for soundness will have the opportunity to be re-presented once prior to the First Individual Qualifying Class.
- If a horse is not accepted at the initial horse inspection and jog for soundness, they may not participate in the Championship Training Session if it is held prior to the re-inspection. Horses not accepted at the re-inspection and jog for soundness will not be allowed to compete in the Championships. Horses may not participate in **any concurrently held** competition during which the Championship is held **on the same grounds** for a period of 48 hours following the horse inspection. (GR914.3)

B. Tack/ Equipment

USEF Rules: USEF rules will govern these Championships. Additionally, please pay particular attention to the specifics listed below:

1. Martingales
 - **Only running martingales** used in a conventional manner are permitted in the Platinum Championships. (JP111.1b)
 - The use of any other type of martingale will be cause for elimination from that Championship class. Exception: Irish Martingales **may be used.**
2. The use of Draw Reins, German Martingales, Chambons, or any other unconventional equipment are not allowed at any time during the Championships, including schooling. Exception: The use of Draw Reins is permissible during Awards Presentations and Victory Gallops.
3. Equipment
 - The total maximum weight of equipment allowed to be added to a horse’s leg, front or hind (single or multiple boots, fetlock rings, etc.), is 500 grams (shoe excluded). **(JP111.4)**
 - Random or formal boot inspections may be conducted at the discretion of the USHJA Jumper Technical Delegate after consultation with the Senior Steward.

Athlete Rules and Regulations

- Although an athlete is not prevented from competing on another horse during the Championship week, there will be no waiting for that athlete/horse during the Championship classes. If an athlete is not immediately available in the order, the athlete will be scratched from that Championship class.
- **For the order of go, classes with non-Platinum and Platinum horses entered, the Platinum horse must be ridden first.**
- Failure to enter the ring within one minute of being called incurs elimination. The time limit for entering the ring must be enforced by management. (JP136.2)
- Only the competing athlete may be mounted on the Championship horse after the Official Jog.
- Athletes must check in to the horse show office at least 24 hours prior to the start of the official horse inspection and jog for soundness.
- Rider’s Meeting: There will be a **mandatory** rider’s meeting and Show Jumping Athlete Pathway Orientation presentation; time and location will be included in the prize list and schedule.

- The draw for the Team Order of Go will take place at the Riders Meeting. Teams will be determined two weeks prior to the Championship.

A. Schooling

- USEF Jumper Schooling Rules will be in effect 24 hours prior to the start of the first class of the competition until completion of the competition.
- Once the Official horse inspection and jog for soundness is complete, schooling must take place in designated championship schooling areas only.
- The Jumper Technical Delegate will post a Championship Schooling Schedule at the start of the Championship, which will include times and locations.
- Violations of the schooling rules and times will result in possible elimination from the Championships.

B. Attire (JP111.8)

1. Official Horse Inspection and Jog for Soundness and Course Walks

- Athletes and or designated representatives must be appropriately dressed. Athletes must wear boots, breeches, and a hard hat. A designated representative must be professionally dressed with proper footwear for the Official Horse Inspection and Jog for Soundness.

2. Training Class (if offered)

- Coats are not required. Breeches must be light color (white, fawn or canary). Pastel and dark colored breeches are not allowed. Shirts (polo shirts are permitted) must have collars and sleeves (sleeves may be either long or short), and must be tucked into breeches. Sleeveless shirts and shirts with exposed hoods are prohibited. Boots are required. Half chaps are permitted as long as the color matches the paddock boots being worn. (JP111.8c)

3. First Individual Qualifying Competition

- Dark, muted or similar colored coats are required; white breeches; a white tie, choker (unless the shirt, by design, has the choker built in for its intended use) and a white shirt must be worn. Shirts must be fastened at the neck and tucked into breeches. Boots are required. Half chaps are permitted as long as the color matches the paddock boots being worn. (JP111.8a)

4. Team Competition

- White breeches; Zone team shirts or team polo shirts are permitted. Shirts must have collars and sleeves (sleeves may be either long or short), and must be tucked into breeches. Sleeveless shirts and shirts with exposed hoods are prohibited. If team shirts are not available athletes must follow the dress code for the First Individual Qualifying Competition. Members on each team must all wear coordinated shirts or formal attire. **Boots are required. Half chaps are permitted as long as the color matches the paddock boot.**

5. Individual Final

- Dark, muted or similar colored, coats are required; white breeches; a white tie, choker (unless the shirt, by design, has the choker built in for its intended use) and a white shirt must be worn. Shirts must be fastened at the neck and tucked into breeches. Boots are required. Half chaps are permitted as long as the color matches the paddock boots being worn. (JP111.8a)

IV. MEDICATION RULES

- A. USEF Drugs & Medication rules will be in effect for these championships.

V. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

- A. Passports are not required.
- B. Entrants must comply with the documents and health certificates, if any, required by the organizer, state, and facility where the championship is being held.

VI. CHAMPIONSHIP SCHEDULE

Championship Schedule

- 1.40-1.45m Junior/Amateur/Professional Championship; spreads up to 1.55m
 - The Speed Class and the Grand Prix are overlay competition for the Platinum Championship Athlete/Horse Combinations. Championship ribbons will be given in addition to the show class awards and prize money.
 - **A mandatory rest day must be included between the Platinum Championship Team Day and the Grand Prix/Individual Final.**
2. The speed is 350m/m.

A. Day One (First Individual Qualifying Class)

1. Specifications: The first individual qualifying class will be conducted under a modified Table II, Section 1. Faults and time. The results of this class will be decided by adding together the faults incurred over the course and any penalties for exceeding the Time Allowed. Horses with clear rounds or equal faults are classified according to their time taken to complete the course. Individual Classification: Faults from Round 1 will be carried forward for Individual Classification. Faults in rounds will be carried through to the individual final, ties for medal position will Jump Off. Ties for non-medal position through eighth will be determined by the time taken on Day One.
2. Start Order: The order will be selected by a random draw prior to the start of the Individual Qualifying Class. Within one hour of the conclusion of the First Individual Qualifier, Chefs d'Equipe must declare the rider order for the Team Competition. The Chef d'Equipe of teams comprising only three athletes may choose which of the three positions out of the four they will start their athletes.
3. The First Individual Qualifying class for the Platinum Championship will be an overlay class with the horse show's regular 1.40m speed class.
4. All Platinum Championship competitors will go first in the start order of the overlay classes and will compete in the order drawn at the Riders Meeting.
5. Class Awards: Ribbons will be awarded through 8th place in the first class, with any trophy or other prizes that management chooses to award. Prize money: **20% of the sections prize money** will be paid through 8th as follows: 30%, 22%, 15%, 10%, 7%, 6%, 5%, 5%.

B. Day Two (Team Championship/Second and Third Individual Qualifying Classes)

1. Specifications: The Team Championship is a two round Nation's Cup format which also serves as the Second and Third Qualifying Classes for the Individual Championship. The competitors will be scored under a modified Table II over two identical rounds.
2. Scoring
 - The Team Championship is open only to athlete/horse combinations that have started (whether eliminated or not) in the first individual qualifying class (day one).
 - All athletes will receive a score regardless of elimination and are eligible to compete in both rounds of the Team Competition.
 - Athletes eliminated or retiring from the course for any reason shall receive a score equal to 20 faults more than that received by the highest penalized competitor in that round.
 - Only the best (lowest) three scores of each team from each round will count toward the team's score.
 - The winning team will be the team with the lowest combined scores from the two rounds.
 - Any teams tied for a medal shall jump off. The Chefs d'Equipe will select one member from the team for the jump off. The jump off will be scored with faults and time deciding the medal position.
 - If jump-offs for multiple medals are required, the jump-off for the lowest medal will occur first.
 - Teams tied below medal positions will remain tied and ribbons will be decided by a draw or flip of a coin.
3. Start Order: The draw for the Team start order for the Team Competition will occur at the Rider's Meeting. Chefs d'Equipe will determine the order of team athletes immediately following the First Individual Qualifier. Any individual athlete's will also be drawn for the first round of team competition.

- Athletes competing as individuals will compete first in the second round of the Team Competition. The second round order for Individual competitors will be based on reverse order of scores from the first round.
 - In the second round the starting order of teams will be the reverse order of team scores **from** the first round. Any teams tied will go in the order of their first round drawn order.
4. **Class Awards:** Medals will be awarded to the Gold, Silver, and Bronze teams, ribbons will be awarded through 3rd place, along with any trophy or other prizes that management chooses to award. Gold team must ride for ribbons, Silver and Bronze teams will enter the ring on foot for a podium presentation. **Prize money: 15% of the sections prize money will be paid to the Gold, Silver and Bronze winning teams. Prize money will be paid through 3rd as follows: 50%, 30%, 20% and divided equally among the team's members. Additionally, ribbons will be awarded through 8th to the individual class placings after round one and round two of Team Competition (Day Two). Prize money: 15% of the sections prize money will be paid through 8th to the individual class placings after round one and round two of Team Competition (Day Two) as follows: 30%, 22%, 15%, 10%, 7%, 6%, 5%, 5%. Ties for individual placing will first be broken by the faults from the first round of Team Competition. If ties remain, the time from the first round of the Team Competition will be used.**

C. **Day Three (Platinum Jumper Championship – Rest Day)**

1. **Mandatory rest day between Team Competition (Day Two) and the Grand Prix/Individual Final (Day Four).**

D. **Day Four (Platinum Jumper Championship – Individual Final)**

1. **Specifications: The competition will conclude with the Individual Final on the fourth day. It will be scored under Table II Section 2 and held over one round. The top 20 athlete/horse combinations based on the cumulative scores from the first, second, and third individual qualifying classes, including ties for twentieth place, are eligible to compete. They must have not been eliminated in any of the three rounds of the competition. The list of the top 20 will be posted and distributed as soon as feasible after the Team Competition concludes and medals are awarded. Following this posting, if one or more of the qualified athlete/horse combinations is unable to start in the final the combination will not be replaced.**
2. **The Individual Final for the Platinum Championships will be an overlay on the Grand Prix class. The horse show's Grand Prix or featured classic held at the 1.40/1.45m, will serve as the Individual Final.**
3. **Start Order: The start order will be the reverse order of total scores incurred in the first, second, and third individual qualifying classes. In the event of equality of scores, the result of the first qualifying class will decide, with a higher scoring athlete/horse combination going before a lower scoring one.**
4. **All athlete/horse combinations participating in the Platinum Championship will compete before non-Platinum athlete/horse combinations entered in the Grand Prix or featured classic.**
5. **Jump-Off: In the case of a tie for an individual medal, there will be a jump-off, with the jump off going in the same order as in the individual final. Ties for medal position in the 1.40/1.45m Platinum Championship will jump off before the Grand Prix jump off or featured classic.**
6. **Class Awards: Gold, Silver, and Bronze medals provided by the USHJA will be awarded to the top three individuals, along with ribbons to 8th and other specified prizes or prize money as may be specified by the organizers and the USHJA. Top 8 overall must ride for ribbons. Gold, Silver, and Bronze Individuals must stay for a podium presentation. Prize money: 50% of the sections prize money will be paid to medal winning individuals as follows: Gold – 50%, Silver – 30%, Bronze – 20%.**

VII. CUMULATIVE INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIP SCORING

- A. **First Individual Qualifier (Day One)**: Faults and time from Round 1 will be carried forward for Individual Classification.
- B. **Team Competition (Day Two)**: Each individual's first and second round score (faults only) from the day two Team Competition will be added to the final score from the first day's individual results resulting in a cumulative score carried into the Individual Final on Day **Four**.
- C. **Individual Final (Day Four)**: The Individual Champion is the athlete/horse combination with the lowest total cumulative score from the First Individual Qualifying Class on Day One added to the two rounds on Day Two (faults only), and the Individual Final on Day **Four** (faults only) Jump-off scores from team day will not be a factor. An athlete who is eliminated or who retires from Day **Four** is eliminated from the Individual Championship.
- D. Jump-Off: In the event of equality of faults for an individual medal position, a jump-off will be held, with the jump off going in the same order as in the individual final. In the event of ties for placings not determined by the jump off (through 8th), the time from the First Individual Qualifying Class will determine the Individual Final result.

VIII. CHEF d'EQUIPE

- A. Individuals will be asked to apply to USHJA to serve as the **Recognized and/or Assistant Platinum Championship** Chef d'Equipe. The applicants must meet the following criteria:
 - 1. Current Active adult member in good standing with USHJA and USEF.
 - 2. Must Adhere to the USHJA Conflict of Interest and Ethics Policy.
 - 3. Agree to attend the designated **Platinum** Championship and fulfill the responsibilities of the position as designated by USHJA.
 - 4. Individuals must have completed the Safe Sport training from the United States Olympic Committee, within the past five (5) years.
 - 5. The **Assistant Platinum** Championship Chef d'Equipe will work closely with the Recognized Zone Show Jumping Chef d'Equipe **and the USHJA Show Jumping Technical Advisor**.
 - 6. A **Recognized and/or Assistant Platinum Championship** Chef d'Equipe may assist a maximum of two teams per section and no more than **six** teams total.
- B. Zone Committees will select individuals **from the USHJA approved list** to serve from the submitted applications as the Assistant **Platinum Championship** Chef d'Equipe for each team they send to the championships.
- C. **A professional on a Platinum Championship team may also act as Chef d'Equipe as long as he/she meet the above application criteria.**

Organizer Requirements

I. HOST AND ORGANIZER REQUIREMENTS

- A. Competition Conduct
 - 1. Holding a training session is optional for the organizer, and if held is optional for competitors. A course of approximately eight fences will be provided, including one combination. Each entrant will have a maximum of 90 seconds in the arena. Jumps, if taken, must be jumped in the proper direction. The training session, if offered must be scheduled the day prior to the First Individual Qualifier and held in the Championship ring.
 - 2. Courses: Each course must have no fewer than 12 jumping efforts and must include a minimum of two doubles or one triple combination. All of the courses must include a Liverpool. **If an open water is to be used in a Platinum Championship, it must also be used in the Training session before the First Individual Qualifier (Day One), and then only used either in the Team Competition (Day Two) or Individual Final (Day Four). It must have a minimum spread of 2.45m (8'). (JP128)**
- B. Prize Money

1. A minimum of \$20,000 in prize money must be offered at the USHJA Platinum Championships, there are no maximum prize money restrictions for the Platinum Championship section.
 2. In addition to prize money offered, the organizer must add an additional \$4,000 for day one, \$6,000 for Team Day, and \$10,000 for the Individual Final for the overlaid Platinum Championships **for a minimum of \$20,000 added in the Platinum Championship section.** The competition must offer a minimum of a \$25,000 Grand Prix or Classic.
 3. Within each Championship, prize money must be divided as follows:
 - 20% to the First Individual Qualifying Class (Day One). Money to be paid through eighth places as follows: 30%, 22%, 15%, 10%, 7%, 6%, 5%, 5%
 - **15%** to Individual **placings** after the Team Competition (Day Two). Money paid to individuals after round one and round two of team day, 1st – 8th as follows; 30%, 22%, 15%, 10%, 7%, 6%, 5%, 5%.
 - **15% to Gold, Silver, and Bronze Team Medal winners. Money paid as follows: 50%, 30%, 20%. Prize money for each team will be divided equally among the team's members.**
 - 50% to the Individual Final (Day **Four**). Money paid to Individual Medal winners (as follows: 50%, 30%, 20%).
 4. Prize money amounts must be listed per class in the Prize List.
- C. Host and Organizer Conditions
1. All Platinum Championships must be held at a USEF licensed competition.
 2. The Platinum Championship classes may not be overlaid with FEI classes.
 3. **The Platinum Championship** must be held in the main jumper ring at the competition and receive priority scheduling to be approved by USHJA.
 4. The championships must be featured at the host venue and may not be relegated to a minor ring or minor time in the schedule. In general, other finals, other championships, or other special competitions at the host event must have the express written permission of the USHJA.
 5. There must be a working scoreboard (matrix display, video, or LED) at the ring where the Championships are held along with a technician who operates it.
 6. There must be a minimum of two jumper judges (at least one with a large R) with no additional duties during the Championship classes.
 7. The Senior Judge, Official Steward, and Official Veterinarian must be present for the Horse Inspection and jog for soundness.
 8. There must be a field timer with a stopwatch.
 9. There must be an announcer with no additional duties during each class.
 10. There must be a Certified Jumper Schooling Supervisor on duty in the warm-up arena for the duration of each championship class.
 11. The competition will also provide an official scorer, who will review and confirm class placings with the senior judge after each class before publishing, keep track of the cumulative scores and positions of each competitor, The host competition will send results to the USHJA office immediately following each class of each Championship (e-mail to EJR@ushja.org).
 12. **The Jumper** Technical Delegate (JTD), who will certify that all rules, specifications, and class conditions are followed, and who will represent the USHJA and be the final authority in all questions that arise regarding the Championships, **the Championship logistics, and the schedule.** The USHJA JTD will have a check list, a set of instructions and list of specific duties from the USHJA. Management will assist the JTD as necessary to ensure a quality technical event. The JTD will walk all courses and consult with the Course Designer to ensure fair competition.
 13. **A mandatory rest day must be included between the Platinum Championship Team Day and the Grand Prix/Individual Final.**
- D. Combining and Dividing Sections
1. In order to hold a **Platinum** Championship, three teams must be entered. Teams may be combined by zone.

Zone Eligibility Requirements

I. ZONE ELIGIBILITY

- A. Each USHJA zone, which in the previous competition year had at least 60 horses competing and earning zone points in the Children's Jumper section and at least 60 horses competing and earning zone points in the Adult Amateur Jumper section, is eligible to host Platinum Championships.
- B. The three USHJA Zone Jumper Team Championships and Platinum Championships **will normally be held together at the same event, except in extraordinary circumstances.**

II. COMBINING ZONES

- A. Zones that do not meet the eligibility criteria delineated in Section I may apply to the USHJA on or before August 1 of the current competition year to obtain permission to have the zone combine with a contiguous zone in the subsequent competition year (or in the case of Zones 11 or 12 combine with either Zone 9 or 10) to conduct a USHJA Combined Zone Jumper Team Championship.
- B. In the case of a zone indicating interest in combining with one of several other contiguous zones, the zone wishing to combine can determine which zone to combine with once the applicable zones select their host venue.
- C. Zones that meet the eligibility requirements outlined in Section I may be permitted to combine with only one contiguous zone to host a combined **Platinum** Championship.
- D. All requests under this section will be addressed on a case-by-case basis by the USHJA Emerging Jumper Rider Task Force and the USHJA Executive Committee whose decision shall be final and cannot be appealed.

III. ZONE REVIEW OF HOST APPLICATIONS

- A. General Information
 - The USHJA office will announce the dates when applications for hosting open and close. Application documents will be posted on the USHJA website. Completed applications will be sent directly to the respective zone committees, whose Jumper members will formally review and discuss them based upon their knowledge of the events, the facilities, the amenities, the location, and the criteria. Great care must be taken to identify and remove both actual and perceived conflicts of interest among zone committee members in the evaluation process in accordance with USHJA policies. Indoor facilities will not be considered.
- B. Event Selection
 - USHJA **Platinum** Championships **will ideally** be held between **June 15 and November 17.**
 - Once a given zone's jumper committee members review the competition host applications, the zone will complete a USHJA zone prospective host document (found on the USHJA website), and send it to the USHJA on or before September 15 of the current competition year, signifying one or more competitions and dates recommended by vote at a zone jumper committee meeting.
 - A new facility which has not held a USEF licensed competition and/or a new competition in its first year of operation will not be considered to host a USHJA **Platinum Championship.**
- C. Events that desire to **apply** for hosting should specifically state their intention to hold all championships heights, along with the prize money they will commit to offer. Zone committee members must take this into consideration when selecting a potential host event.
- D. Date and Location Approval
 - The final decision of the location and date for each zone's USHJA Championships will rest entirely with the USHJA, which will review a zone's recommendations and select the date and location on or before February 1 of the current competition year. USHJA will promptly and formally notify each zone jumper committee of its decision as well as the championship host.

E. Important Dates and Deadlines

Early Application: December 1–April 10. Non-refundable fee of \$75 per horse

Late Application: April 11–45 days before each Platinum Championship. Non-refundable fee of \$150 per horse

- 45 days prior to Championships – Athlete Applications close, qualifying period ends, invitations sent.
- 21 days prior to Championships – Athlete must declare section and Intent to compete. Athletes failing to respond to the invitation by this date are not guaranteed to be placed on a team.
- 21 days prior to Championships – Waiver request period ends.
- 14 days prior to Championships – **Mandatory** Chef d’Equipe **conference call** to approve team configurations. At this point approved teams will be final. No exceptions.
- 10 days prior to Championships – Athletes are notified of team selection and teammates.

IV. **NUMBER AND COMPOSITION OF TEAMS**

- A. When the point standings freeze (for championship purposes), 45 days prior to the start of the competition, the USHJA will issue invitations to those qualified which must be confirmed by the athlete no later than 21 days prior to the start of the competition. All athletes will be placed on a team (if possible) and notification of team and team members will be notified.
- B. From these lists of definite entries, **Platinum** Championship **Riders may form their own teams or be assigned a team at the Championship. The assigned teams will use the California Split to form teams.**
- C. California Split of Ranking List Example:

Team 1	Team 2	Team 3	Team 4	Team 5
1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20

In the event full four member teams not available the Chefs and USHJA representative will meet to draw which teams will have only three members. In the event a three-member team is reduced to two, those athletes will compete as individuals.

- D. Regardless of method used **to form a team**, only one professional per team will be allowed, unless **Junior and Amateurs are unavailable. A California Split will be used to place professionals without a team.**

V. **ZONE HOTY CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS**

- A. Platinum Championships: Because the zone HOTY Championship points for this section are awarded to competitors based upon money won, **and because the amount offered can vary**, the USHJA will assign a minimum amount of money to this championship height of \$25,000. Classes offering more than \$25,000 will be capped at 25,000 points, thus pointed the same as a \$25,000 class.

*The USHJA **Platinum** Championships 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 **Platinum** Championships as necessary for the purposes of consistency and clarity. Any deviations from the class specifications for the USHJA **Platinum** Championships 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.*

