2027/2028 USHJA Green Hunter Incentive Stakes Specifications

Effective for competitions starting December 1, 2026, through November 30, 2028

I. Green Hunter Incentive Program Enrollment

A. Horses must be enrolled in the USHJA Green Hunter Incentive Program (Program) and pay the annual USHJA Green Hunter Incentive Enrollment Fee (Enrollment Fee) to participate in a USHJA Green Hunter Incentive Stake Class (Stake Class).

B. Horses may only be enrolled online at www.ushja.org

C. Enrollment Fees
   1. December 1-February 1 of any competition year – $350
   2. February 2-June 1 of any competition year – $550
   3. June 2-November 30 of any competition year – $750
   4. Enrollment fees are non-refundable and non-transferable

D. Horses must be enrolled in the Program prior to competing in a Stake Class.

E. ***It is the exhibitor's responsibility to enroll their horse in the Program in a timely manner.***

F. If a horse is enrolled during a competition, the horse's enrollment date will be considered the first day of the competition at which it was enrolled.

G. Only horses appearing on the USHJA Green Hunter Incentive Enrolled Horses List (Enrolled Horses List) located at www.ushja.org are eligible to compete in a Stake Class.

H. Horses may be enrolled in either the 3'/3'3" Category or the 3'6"/3'9" Category.

I. Relative to their eligibility, horses enrolled in the Program may move up and down between the 3'/3'3" Category and the 3'6"/3'9" Category during the same competition year.

J. **Reserved Slots**: Owners may purchase a Reserved Slot in the Program at the current rate and name a horse to that Reserved Slot at a later date.
   1. Only results achieved by the horse after it is assigned to the Reserved Slot will count in Program standings.
   2. Reserved Slots expire at the end of the competition year.
   3. Reserved Slots are non-transferrable.
      a. Reserved Slots cannot be sold to another owner.
      b. A new horse may not be substituted for a horse already assigned to a Reserved Slot.
   4. Any Reserved Slots that are unused will stay dedicated to the current year's prize money and will not roll over.

II. Membership and Participation Requirements

A. Open to horses of any age that are eligible to compete as a Green 3', 3'3", 3'6" or 3'9" Hunter under Federation rules. ***It is the exhibitor's responsibility to verify the USEF Green eligibility of the horse before competing.***

B. Horses must be recorded with USEF and registered with USHJA to participate.

C. Horses are **not** required to have competed in a Green Hunter section at any USEF Licensed Competition to compete in a Stake Class.

D. Competing in a Stake Class will affect a horse's Green status.

E. Riders, owners, and trainers must be current Active members of USEF and USHJA to participate.

F. Horses may be ridden by a Professional, Junior or Amateur.

G. There is no limit to the number of horses a rider may compete.

III. Entry Fees

A. The USHJA requests that the entry fee does not exceed 10% of the prize money offered in the Stake.
B. 50% of each entry fee received, excluding the USHJA fee, must be added to the total amount of prize money offered for this class.

IV. Rider Ranking System – Tier I, Tier II and Tier III

A. Tier I, Tier II and Tier III Riders
   1. A Tier I Rider is any rider standing 45th or higher on the USHJA Green Hunter Incentive Money Won List (Money Won List) from the current competition year.
   2. Any riders that are previous winners of the USHJA Green Hunter Incentive Championship are also considered Tier I Riders. These riders will be included on the USHJA Green Hunter Incentive Tier Eligibility List (Tier Eligibility List) in addition to the top forty-five (45) riders on the Money Won List.
   3. A Tier II Rider is any rider standing 46th-100th on the Money Won List from the current competition year
   4. All remaining riders will be considered Tier III riders.
B. Refer to the USHJA website for the USHJA Green Hunter Incentive Tier Eligibility List (Eligibility List).

V. Optional Tier II and Tier III Sections

A. ***It is recommended that management offer*** either a Tier II section, or a Tier II and a Tier III section at any competition hosting Stake Classes.
   1. The Tier II and/or Tier III prize money will be in addition to the Tier I prize money offered for the Stake Classes.
B. Tier I Riders are eligible for Tier I prize money only.
C. Tier II Riders are eligible for Tier I and Tier II prize money.
D. Tier III Riders are eligible for Tier I, Tier II and Tier III prize money.

VI. Competition Format

A. Competitions must offer a Stake Class (3'/3'3") and a Stake Class (3'6'/3'9").
   1. Competitions may offer both fence heights (3'/3'3") combined within the same Stake Class (3'/3'3").
      a. If offered combined, both fence heights must compete on the same day in the same ring over the same course.
      b. If offered combined, both fence heights must be judged by the same judge(s).
   2. Competitions may offer both fence heights (3'6"/3'9") combined within the same Stake Class (3'6"/3'9").
      a. If offered combined, both fence heights must compete on the same day in the same ring over the same course.
      b. If offered combined, both fence heights must be judged by the same judge(s).
   3. If the number of entries warrant, any Stake Class (3'/3'3") offered combined may be split by fence height.
   4. If the number of entries warrant, any Stake Class (3'6"/3'9") offered combined may be split by fence height.
   5. A Stake Class (3' or 3'3") may be offered at each height section.
   6. A Stake Class (3'6" or 3'9") may be offered at each height section.
   7. All four Green Hunter fence heights (3'/3'3"/3'6"/3'9") may be combined in the Stake Class.

a. If offered combined all four fence heights must compete on the same day in the same ring over the same course.
b. If offered combined all four fence heights must be judged by the same judge(s)

8. If there are any Stake Class entries, the class must be run.

B. A Stake Class may be run as a one or two round class.
1. A one-round Stake Class may be held concurrently with a class of an existing Green Hunter (3'/3'3", ~~or~~ 3'6"/3'9"***, or Green Conformation***) section or as a standalone class.
a. If the class is held concurrently with a class of an existing Green Hunter section, it may not be the Handy class.
b. If the class is held concurrently with a class of an existing Green Hunter section, the entry must be entered in the Stake Class separately from the corresponding Green Hunter height section to be eligible for the additional prize money.
2. A two-round Stake Class may be held with the first round running concurrently with a class of an existing Green Hunter (3'/3'3", ~~or~~ 3'6"/3'9"***, or Green Conformation***) section or as a standalone class.
a. If the first round is held concurrently with a class of an existing Green Hunter section, it may not be the Handy class.
b. If the first round is held concurrently with a class of an existing Green Hunter section, the entry must be entered in the Stake Class separately from the corresponding Green Hunter height section to be eligible for the additional prize money.

C. If the Stake Class is held as a standalone class, no other class may be held concurrently with the Stake Class.
D. Up to two Stake Classes (3'/3'3" and 3'6"/3'9") may be held at a given competition provided one is run on the same day as the corresponding Green Hunter section.
E. A Stake Class may be run concurrently with the Green Conformation. The Over Fence performance score will count towards the Stake Class.
F. If a horse is entered in both the Green Hunter and the Green Conformation divisions, then the score from whichever class competes over the GHI Stakes Class course first will be the score that counts.
G. Optional Tier II and Tier III
a. If a Tier II Section is offered, it will run concurrently with Tier I.
b. If a Tier III Section is offered, it will run concurrently with Tiers I and II.

VII. Judging Requirements and Judging System

A. At a USEF licensed Channel I (Premier or National) rated competition, and competitions that have been approved for Special Competition status, the Stake Class must be judged by a minimum of one USEF "R" licensed judge.
B. At a USEF licensed Channel II (Regional) rated competition the Stake Class must be judged by a minimum of one USEF "R" licensed judge or one USEF "r" licensed judge.
C. The Stake Class shall be judged on quality, movement, jumping style, manners and way of going.
D. All Stake Classes will use the open numerical scoring system.
E. A numeric score will be announced after each round.
F. In a one-round Stake Class awards will be presented based on the numeric score from the single round.
G. In a two-round Stake Class round one and round two will each count for 50% of the total score.
H. In a two-round Stake Class awards will be presented based on the total score from both rounds.
I. All ties will remain tied.
J. In the case of a tie, prize money will be added together and split evenly between the tied entries.
K. Soundness

1. Judges have the authority to disqualify a horse due to unsoundness ***or any horse welfare issue*** at any time during the over fences performance.
2. Horses are required to trot a circle on a loose rein at the end of the over fences performance.
3. Horses may be asked to return to the ring and trot another circle at the judge's discretion.

VIII. Course Requirements

A. A minimum of eight obstacles must be offered in the Regional Championship.
B. Fences must be set at 3'0", 3'3", 3'6" or 3'9" in height in accordance with how management chooses to offer and conduct the class.
C. The course must be suitable and encouraging for Green Hunters.

IX. Prize Money

A. At USEF licensed Channel I (Premier or National) rated shows each Stake Class is required to offer and award a minimum of $1,000 in prize money. If entries warrant, management is encouraged to offer more prize money.
   1. If there are fewer than four horses in each section, i.e. 3', 3'3", 3'6", 3'9", the sections may be combined for a total of a minimum of $1,000 in prize money.
   2. If there are more than four in one section and fewer than four in another section, the sections may be combined with a total of a minimum of $1500 in prize money.
B. At USEF Channel II (Regional) rated shows each Stake Class section must offer a minimum of $500 in prize money. If entries warrant, management is encouraged to offer more prize money.
   1. If there are fewer than four horses in each section, i.e. 3', 3'3", 3'6", 3'9", the sections may be combined for a total of a minimum of $500 in prize money.
   2. If there are more than four in one section and fewer than four in another section, the sections may be combined with a total of a minimum of $750 in prize money.
C. Prize money must be paid to a minimum of 12 places as follows:

1st – 30%	7th – 4%
2nd – 22%	8th – 3%
3rd – 15%	9th – 3%
4th – 7%	10th – 2%
5th – 6%	11th – 2%
6th – 5%	12th – 1%

D. If there are fewer than 12 entries in the class, prize money must be paid through the last placing entry according to the breakdown in the Prize Money Chart in Section IX. A. (above). Any remaining prize money must be split and awarded equally to all entrants that place in the class.
E. Competitions wishing to offer additional prize money above the minimum required and pay additional placings must print the information in the prize list and notify the USHJA of the final prize money distribution.
   1. Includes any add-back money if applicable.
   2. If a change in prize money and placings occurs after the prize list is printed, the competition must follow all Federation rules regarding changes to the prize list (See GR904).
   3. The prize money awarded to each placing below 12th place must not exceed the amount awarded to 12th place.

X. Tier II and Tier III Prize Money

A. When the Optional Tier II and Tier III Sections are used, Tier II and Tier III must have added money in addition to the Tier I prize money offered.
B. Tier II and Tier III prize money must be paid to a minimum of twelve (12) places as follows:

1st – 30%	7th – 4%

2nd – 22%	8th – 3%
3rd – 15%	9th – 3%
4th – 7%	10th – 2%
5th – 6%	11th – 2%
6th – 5%	12th – 1%

C. If there are fewer than twelve (12) entries with Tier II or Tier III riders placed in the class, prize money must be paid according to the breakdown above through the last placing rider.
D. Any remaining prize money not awarded due to fewer than twelve (12) entries with Tier II or Tier III riders must be split and awarded equally to all entries with Tier II and Tier III riders that place in the class.

XI. HOTY Points

A. Stake Classes will count toward National and Zone HOTY points or money won awards.
   1. Points and money won will be awarded to each horse's respective Green Hunter height section.
   2. Points and money won may not be credited toward the Green Conformation Hunter 3'6" Hunter section or the High Performance Conformation Hunter section.
B. Points for Stake Classes:

Channel I		Channel II	
Place	Points	Place	Points
1	50	1	40
2	40	2	30
3	35	3	25
4	30	4	20
5	25	5	15
6	20	6	13
7	15	7	10
8	10	8	7
9	7	9	4
10	5	10	3
11	3	11	2
12	2	12	1

XII. Competition Requirements

A. Stake Classes may be held at any USEF licensed Channel I (Premier or National) rated hunter competition, USEF licensed Channel II (Regional) rated hunter competition, or competitions that have been approved for Special Competition status.
B. No application is necessary for a competition to hold a Stake Class.
C. Stake Classes should be promoted and conducted by management as one of the featured classes of the competition.
D. Competition management will collect and remit to USHJA a fee of $20 per entry at USEF licensed Channel I (Premier or National) rated competitions and competitions that have been approved for Special Competition status, and $10 per entry at USEF licensed Channel II (Regional) rated competitions. This fee must be received in the USHJA Office within 10 days of the end of the competition.

E. Competition management must check at www.ushja.org to verify that all entries in the Stake Cass have been officially enrolled in the Program, prior to the distribution of prize money for the Stake Class.
F. Competition management must report the results of the Stake Class separately from the results of the Green Hunter height section classes. A copy of the Stake Class results must be received in the offices of both the USEF and USHJA within 10 days of the conclusion of the competition.
G. Competitions are responsible for all class awards.

XIII. USHJA Contact Information

If questions arise pertaining to the Program that cannot be answered from the class specifications provided, one of the following USHJA representatives must be contacted to resolve any questions regarding the judging procedures or class specifications:

Jennifer Tingle, Assistant Director of Sport, USHJA	(859) 225-6703
Rachel Kennedy, Co-Chair, International Hunter Derby & Incentive Task Force	(443) 878-8146
Colleen McQuay, Co-Chair, International Hunter Derby & Incentive Task Force	(940) 367-3030

Any deviations from the class specifications are not permitted without the express written permission from USHJA prior to the printing of the prize list.

In all sport or education related matters, where there are either discrepancies or deficiencies in the specifications, procedures or any unforeseen circumstances related to a USHJA property, the President and Executive Director will consult with the Task Force/Committee Chair (if applicable), the Officers of the USHJA and USHJA legal counsel (if applicable) before making any final decisions.