

**USHJA ZONE 1
2026 HUNTER, JUMPER, AND EQUITATION SPECIFICATIONS**

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**2026 ZONE 1 HUNTER, JUMPER, AND EQUITATION
SPECIFICATIONS (CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT)**

In accordance with GR1111.4: Canada and NY are contiguous states. For contiguous state points New York includes New Jersey. Contiguous points earned in USEF/Equine Canada licensed competitions will only receive national points in USEF rated divisions.

JUDGING FOR ALL HUNTER SECTIONS:

- To be judged on performance and soundness, suitability to count.
- Horses and Ponies are required to jog for soundness.

ELIGIBILITY FOR ADULT AMATEURS: HUNTER, JUMPER, AND EQUITATION:

- To be ridden by exhibitors who have reached their 18th birthday as of December 1 of the current competition year and who hold a current USEF Amateur certification. Open to horses and ponies.

ELIGIBILITY FOR CHILDREN’S SECTIONS: HUNTER, JUMPER, AND EQUITATION:

- To be ridden by exhibitors who have not reached their 18th birthday as of December 1 of the current competition year.

ADULT AMATEUR HUNTER

Sections offered and requirements:

- Adult Amateurs – may be split into three (3) sections

Cross Entry:

Riders:

Riders may cross enter between the Adult Amateur Hunter and the Amateur Owner section if the rider owns the horse he or she is showing in the Adult Amateur section.

Horses:

Horses may not cross enter between the Adult Amateur and Amateur Owner Hunter sections at the same show.

Horse and Rider Combination:

Horse-and-rider combination is not eligible for any other USEF rated classes in which fence height exceeds 3'0" (exception: Equitation 3'3", USHJA National Hunter Derby).

Fence height:

- 3'0" with spreads not to exceed the fence height.
- Courses will not be adjusted for ponies.
- In and outs will be permitted.

Combining/Dividing Sections:

May be split into three sections:

- Adult Amateurs 18– 35
- Adult Amateurs 36– 49
- Adult Amateurs 50 & over

Adult Amateur Hunter sections may be combined if there are fewer than six (6) entries in a section. If there are six (6) or more entries in each divided section, the divided sections must be held separately. Adult Amateur Hunter and Children's Hunter may be combined if there are fewer than three (3) entries in either section.

Awards:

Zone Horse of the Year Awards will be presented annually to the following sections:

- Adult Amateur Hunter 18- 35
- Adult Amateur 36- 49
- Adult Amateur 50 & over

LOW ADULT AMATEUR HUNTER

Eligibility:

Open to exhibitors who have reached their 18th birthday as of December 1 of the current competition year.

Cross Entry:

Riders:

Riders may not cross enter into any class or section at the same competition where fences exceed 2'9".

Fence Height:

- 2'6"

Combining/Dividing Sections:

The Low Adult Amateur Hunter and Low Children's Hunter sections may be combined if there are fewer than three (3) entries in either section.

Awards:

Zone Horse of the Year Awards will be presented annually to the following section:

- Low Adult Amateur Hunter

AMATEUR JUMPER

Sections offered and requirements:

- 1.00/1.05m Amateur Jumper
- 1.10/1.15m Amateur Jumper

Cross Entry:

Rider:

Any competitor that competes in any class set at over 1.25m is ineligible to compete in an Amateur Jumper class set below 1.20m at that competition.

Horse/Pony:

Horses may show at 1.40m or below with another rider.

Horse and Rider Combination:

Horse/rider combinations may enter only one classic, if both 1.00/1.05m Amateur Jumper and 1.10/1.15m Amateur Jumper are offered.

Fence Height:

- Amateur Jumper 1.00m-1.05m
- Amateur Jumper 1.10m- 1.15m

Combining/Dividing Sections:

Sections may be divided by age of rider or by horse/pony and may also be combined with Junior Jumper if so stated in the prize list.

Awards:

Zone Horse of the Year Awards will be presented annually to the following sections:

- 1.00/1.05m Amateur Jumper
- 1.10/1.15m Amateur Jumper

ADULT AGE GROUP EQUITATION SECTIONS

- Refer to GR1132.13

CHILDREN'S HUNTER HORSE

Sections offered and requirements:

- Children's Hunter Horse 14 & Under
- Children's Hunter Horse 15- 17

Cross Entry:

Rider:

Open to all Junior members of the USHJA who have never competed in any of the following National Equitation Final with fences at 3'6": Pessoa/US Medal; ASPCA Maclay; USEF Talent Search (East or West); Jump Canada Medal Finals; WIHS Junior Equitation Finals; North American Equitation Championship, Gladstone Cup.

Riders may not have competed in any class where fence heights exceed 3'6" (excluding option fences) hunter and/or equitation or 1.25m jumpers.

Horses/Ponies:

n/a

Horse and rider combination:

n/a

Fence Height:

- 3'0" with spreads not to exceed fence height
- In and outs will be permitted unless combined with Children's Hunter Pony.

Combining/Dividing Sections:

The Children's Hunter Horse section may be divided by age of rider: Children's Hunter Horse 14 & Under and Children's Hunter Horse 15- 17.

If there are fewer than three (3) entries in either age section, the two sections must be combined. The Children's Hunter Horse section may be combined with the Children's Hunter Pony when there are fewer than three (3) entries in either section.

Alternatively, the Children's Hunter Horse section may be combined with the Adult Amateur section when there are fewer than three (3) entries in either section. The Children's Hunter (horse & pony) section may be combined with the Adult Amateur section when there are fewer than three (3) entries in either section.

When sections are combined and there are more than 16 total entries, the sections must be divided utilizing a Floating split, or a California split to create an even division of entries.

Awards:

Zone Horse of the Year Awards will be presented annually to the following sections:

- Children's Hunter Horse 14 & Under
- Children's Hunter Horse 15- 17

LOW CHILDREN'S HUNTER HORSE

Eligibility:

Open to exhibitors who have not yet reached their 18th birthday as of December 1 of the current competition year.

Cross Entry:

Riders:

Riders may not cross enter at the same competition into the Children's Hunter, Pony Hunter or any class/section where fences exceed 2'9".

Fence Height:

- 2'6"

Combining/Dividing Sections:

The Low Children's Hunter and Low Adult Amateur Hunter sections may be combined if there are fewer than three (3) entries in either section.

Awards:

Zone Horse of the Year Awards will be presented annually to the following section:

- Low Children's Hunter Horse

CHILDREN'S HUNTER PONY

Sections offered and requirements:

- Small/Medium Children's Pony
- Large Children's Pony

Cross Entry:

Rider:

Riders may only show one pony in either the 2'0" or the 2'6" height of the Children's Pony Hunter sections(s) when also competing on multiple ponies in the Regular or Green Pony Hunter sections(s). Riders may only show one pony in the Regular or Green Pony Hunter sections when competing on multiple ponies in the Children's Pony Hunter section(s) (exception: Model and Under Saddle classes).

Horse/Pony:

Ponies cannot cross enter into Regular and/or Green Pony Hunter section at the same competition.

Horse and Rider Combination

n/a

Fence Height:

- Small/Medium Ponies: 2'0" with spreads not to exceed height of fence
- Large Ponies: 2'6" with spreads not to exceed height of fence
- Distances will not be adjusted
- In and outs will not be permitted

Combining/Dividing Sections:

The Children's Hunter Pony section may be divided by size. If the Children's Hunter Pony is offered divided by size it will be divided: Children's Hunter Pony Small/Medium and Children's Hunter Pony Large.

If there are fewer than three (3) entries in either height section, the two sections must be combined. The Children's Hunter Pony section may be combined with Children's Hunter Horse when there are fewer than three (3) entries in either section.

The Children's Hunter (horse & pony) section may be combined with the Adult Amateur section when there are fewer than three (3) entries in either section.

When sections are combined and there are more than 16 total entries, the sections must be divided utilizing a Floating split, or a California split to create an even division of entries.

Awards:

Zone Horse of the Year Awards will be presented annually to the following sections:

- Children's Hunter Pony - Small/Medium
- Children's Hunter Pony - Large

JUNIOR JUMPER

Sections offered and Requirements:

- 1.00/1.05m Junior Jumper
- 1.10/1.15m Junior Jumper

Cross Entry:

Rider:

Any competitor that competes in any class set at over 1.25m is ineligible to compete in a Junior Jumper class set below 1.20m at that competition.

Horse/Pony:

Horses may show at 1.40m or below with another rider.

Horse and Rider Combination:

Horse/rider combinations may enter only one classic, if both 1.00/1.05m Junior Jumper and 1.10/1.15m Junior Jumper are offered.

Fence Height:

- Junior Jumper 1.00m – 1.05m
- Junior Jumper 1.10m- 1.15m

Combining/Dividing Sections:

Sections may be divided by age of rider or by horse/pony and may also be combined with Amateur Jumper if so stated in the prize list.

Awards:

Zone Horse of the Year Awards will be presented annually to the following section:

- 1.00/1.05m Junior Jumper section
- 1.10/1.15m Junior Jumper section

CHILDREN'S AGE GROUPS: HUNTER EQUITATION SECTIONS

Sections Offered:

- Equitation 11 & Under
- Equitation 12- 14
- Equitation 15- 17

Cross Entry:

No cross entry restrictions for the horse and rider.

Fence Height:

- Equitation 11 & Under:
 - Minimum 2'0", maximum 2'6" - management must state height at which class will be offered.
 - Management may offer multiple height options if stated in the prize list, but each course must be set at the same height throughout.
 - Course design must comply with EQ108 and 109.11, combinations not permitted.
- Equitation 12- 14:
 - Minimum 2'9", maximum 3'3" - management must state height at which class will be offered.
 - Management may offer multiple height options if stated in the prize list, but each course must be set at the same height throughout.
 - Course design must comply with EQ108 and 109.11, combinations permitted.
- Equitation 15- 17:
 - Minimum 3'0", maximum 3'6" - management must state height at which class will be offered.
 - Management may offer multiple height options if stated in the prize list, but each course must be set at the same height throughout.
 - Course design must comply with EQ108 and 109.11, combinations permitted.

Combining/Dividing Sections:

Age-Group Equitation Sections may be combined as necessary, jumping at their respective heights, to meet the three (3) entry minimum requirement for points to be awarded.

Stallions are prohibited when adult equitation sections are combined with children's/junior equitation sections. EQ101.3.

Awards:

Zone Horse of the Year Awards will be presented annually to the following sections:

- Equitation 11 & Under
- Equitation 12- 14
- Equitation 15- 17