



2025 Zone Jumper Team Championship Specifications

1.10/1.15m Junior and Amateur Jumper

1.20/1.25m Junior and Amateur Jumper

*Changes from **2024** are marked in bold italic and underlined.*

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I. CHAMPIONSHIP REGIONS: The ZJTC will be held in three regions:

- A. North – Zones 1, 2, 5, 6
- B. South – Zones 3, 4, 7
- C. West – Zone 8, 9, 10
- D. Zones 11 & 12 will be able to attend any of their choosing.

II. MINIMUM ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- A. Eligible athletes must be a current active USEF and USHJA member in good standing (see GR201 & JP100.1) from the time of application until the conclusion of the event.
- B. The horse must be registered with USHJA (see JP100.2), recorded with USEF (see GR1102), and 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 the USHJA.
- D. The zone of each athlete is determined by the athlete's point state as recorded with USEF as of December 1, **2024**. (See JP100.7)
- E. Athletes wishing to participate in the USHJA Zone Jumper Team Championships (ZJTC) must complete and submit an online application no later than 45 days prior to the start of the respective ZJTC.

Applicants must certify that they meet the qualification and eligibility conditions delineated herein.

- 1. Application: Registration period is December 1 through 45 days before each ZJTC. Fee of \$75 per athlete/horse combination. \$25 per additional athlete/horse combination applied.
- 2. **Late Application: 45 days prior to the championship –until 24 hours before the official horse inspection. Late application fee of \$150. Late applications will only be accepted if the maximum number of riders is not met. (Refer to section III.K.2).**
- 3. Refer to section XI for important dates and deadlines.

III. QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR ATHLETE/HORSE COMBINATIONS

- A. An athlete and/or horse is eligible to compete in one height section and on one team at the ZJTC:
 - 1. 1.10/1.15m Junior and Amateur Jumper
 - 2. 1.20/1.25m Junior and Amateur Jumper
- B. To be eligible for the ZJTC, the athlete/horse combination must earn a minimum of 20 points in the respective section(s) at USEF licensed competitions held with fence heights during their Zone's qualifying period. Exceptions: II.I Waivers and II.J Substitutions.
- C. The qualifying period for each zone begins 30 days following the conclusion of the previous year's ZJTC to 45 days prior to the start of the current year's ZJTC. Points accrued during the qualifying period will determine the athlete/horse combination's acceptance to compete in the ZJTC. Exceptions: II.I Waivers and II.J Substitutions.
- D. In case of ties, the most first place finishes in qualifying classes will break ties. If ties still exist, the most second place finishes in qualifying classes will be used, and so on until the tie is broken.
- E. ZJTC hosts must accept up to a maximum of 128 athlete/horse combinations. A maximum of eight teams per section will be accepted.
- F. Any athlete wishing to compete in the 1.10/1.15m ZJTC may not have competed on any horse in a class held at a height over 1.25m more than three classes during the qualifying period up through the ZJTC.
- G. Any athlete wishing to compete in the 1.20/1.25m ZJTC may not have competed on any horse in a class held at a height over 1.35m more than three classes during the qualifying period up through the ZJTC.
- H. No athlete will be considered for the ZJTC who has competed in classes over the maximum height restriction of each section more than three classes during the qualifying period.

- I. Waivers must be submitted **24 hours** prior to the ZJTC. Any waivers submitted after the deadline will not be considered.
 - 1. If an athlete has an extenuating circumstance, the athlete must apply to the USHJA explaining the circumstances and details. USHJA will appoint a group of jumper representatives who will evaluate the request and provide a final decision on whether to accept or deny the waiver.
 - 2. Waivers will not be granted for classes that do not meet the minimum fence height.
 - 3. In no case will a waiver include any classes that occur less than 45 days before the ZJTC when the point standings freeze.
- J. Substitutions
 - 1. Once the entries are secured, and up to 14 days preceding the Monday of the ZJTC, if an eligible athlete/horse combination is unable to compete in the ZJTC, the space will be filled by the next available athlete/horse combination from the qualifying list.
 - 2. After the 14-day deadline, if a horse is unable to compete and the athlete has another qualified horse, a substitution will be allowed under the following conditions:
 - a. If the qualifying points were won within 45 days of the ZJTC, the athlete must present a copy of the official results from the qualifying horse showing the height of the class(es) and the horse's placing(s).
 - b. The substituted horse must have earned its qualifying points with the athlete seeking the substitution.
 - c. All substitutions must take place prior to the start of the horse inspection.
 - 3. Once the first round of the competition commences, no changes in team composition will be allowed for any reason. If a three-member team is reduced to two, those riders will compete as individuals.
 - 4. The USHJA intends to allow as much flexibility as possible within the parameters of sound, fair and friendly competition, and good sport in the allowing of teams to be combined during the ZJTC should an athlete drop out due to sickness or injury.
- K. Qualifying List
 - 1. Each section will accept a total of 32 athlete/horse combinations. Each zone is guaranteed to accept two full teams. After all zone teams are fielded, additional riders will be accepted from the qualifying list to fill any remaining spots and formulate a combined zone team.
 - 2. Should the maximum number of 32 athlete/horse combinations not be met in any section, an athlete may ask to be included in the ZJTC at the site. The athlete/horse combination must meet eligibility requirements and apply to the USHJA representative at the ZJTC competition 24 hours before the horse inspection. If a team spot is unavailable, the additional athlete/horse combination will compete as an individual.

IV. NUMBER AND COMPOSITION OF TEAMS

- A. From the list of confirmed entries, teams will be constructed using a California Split from the Qualifying List. Each zone is guaranteed to accept two teams per section. After each zone fills two teams, all remaining spots will be filled based on points for all applied athletes, regardless of zone.
- B. Each section must run with a minimum of three teams and a maximum of eight teams total.
- C. In the event full four-member teams are not available, the Chefs d'Equipe and USHJA representative will determine, by random draw, which teams will be comprised of three members. To allow each team to have a drop score, the three-member team will utilize a Designated Point Rider (DPR) system. The DPR will be the rider from each three-member team who placed highest on Day One. The rider will remain the DPR for Day Two. Their score from Day One and Day Two will serve as the fourth score for their team. In the spirit of fair play, the DPR gives every team a drop score in each round and levels the playing field for teams with three riders.

- D. Should a zone have only five riders in a section, the four highest point riders from the standings will form a team. The fifth rider will be placed on a combined team, if available. Otherwise, the fifth rider will compete as an individual.
- E. 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

V. RULES AND REGULATIONS

A. Horse Inspection and jog for soundness

1. ZJTC horses must be stabled on the show grounds, in official horse show stabling beginning no later than one hour prior to the horse inspection and remaining on the grounds until the completion of the ZJTC.
 2. Horses competing in the ZJTC may not compete in any other class at the same horse show after the official horse inspection has taken place. Exception: ZJTC Training class, if offered.
 3. All ZJTC horses must be presented at the mandatory horse inspection by the athlete or designated representative. The horse inspection will be held no more than 24 hours prior to the start of the First Individual Qualifying Class.
 4. A designated representative other than the rider, who must be at least 18 years of age, may present the horse at the horse inspection.
 5. Each horse must be presented with its entry number and current Coggins₂ and/or passport, or USEF proof of horse registration. Following the horse inspection, the assigned back number must always accompany the horse when it is out of its stall and must be visible on the stall door when in the stall.
 6. Horses not accepted at the horse inspection will have the opportunity to be re-presented once, prior to the First Individual Qualifying Class.
 7. If a horse is not accepted at the initial horse inspection the horse may not participate in the ZJTC Training Session, if the Training Session is held prior to the re-inspection. Horses not accepted at the re-inspection will not compete in the ZJTC. Horses may not participate in any concurrently held competition during which the ZJTC is held 48 hours following the horse inspection.
- (GR914.3)

B. Tack/ Equipment

1. USEF rules will govern these ZJTCs. (JP111). Additionally, please pay particular attention to the specifics below:
2. Martingales
 - a. Standing martingales, Running Martingales and Irish martingales are permitted in the 1.10/1.15m ZJTC and the 1.20/1.25m ZJTC.
 - b. The use of any other type of martingale will be cause for elimination from that ZJTC championship day.
 - c. The use of draw reins, German martingales, chambons, or any other unconventional equipment is not allowed at any time during the ZJTCs, including schooling. Exception: The use of draw reins is permissible during awards presentations and victory gallops.
3. Boot regulations- Refer to rule JP111.5.

C. Athlete Rules and Regulations

1. Although an athlete is not prevented from competing on another horse during the ZJTC week there will be no waiting for that athlete/horse during the ZJTC classes. If an athlete is not immediately available in the order, the athlete will be scratched from that ZJTC class.
2. 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. (JP136.7)
3. Only the competing athlete may be mounted on the ZJTC horse after the official Horse Inspection.
4. Riders' meeting: There will be a mandatory riders' meeting and optional Show Jumping Athlete Pathway Orientation presentation: The time and location will be included in the prize list and schedule.
5. The draw for the Team Order of Go will take place at the Riders' Meeting.
6. Teams will be determined two weeks prior to the ZJTC and are subject to change should a member of a team scratch. All necessary changes will be communicated to the Zone Chefs d'Equipe.
7. To hold a ZJTC, a minimum of three teams must be entered in each section or combined section. Teams may be combined by sections and /or combined section, and zone.

D. Schooling

1. USEF Jumper Schooling Rules will be in effect throughout the competition (JP 103 and Appendix A).
- 2.

E. Attire (JP 111.9)

1. Official Horse Inspection and Course Walks:
 - a. Athletes and or designated representatives must be appropriately dressed. Athletes must wear boots, breeches, and a helmet. A designated representative must be professionally dressed and wearing a helmet and proper footwear for the Official Horse Inspection. Please refer to USEF rule JP111.9c.
2. First and Second Individual Qualifiers, and Team Competition
 - a. White breeches and zone team shirts are encouraged. Shirts must have collars and sleeves (sleeves may be 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 Formal Attire dress code (JP111.9a).
 - b. All athletes on each team must all wear coordinated shirts. Otherwise, athletes must wear formal attire. Boots are required, and half chaps are permitted providing the color matches the paddock boot.
3. Individual Final
 - a. Formal Attire required. (JP111.9a)

VI. MEDICATION RULES

- A. USEF Drugs & Medication rules will be in effect for these ZJTC (GR401-404).

VII. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

- A. Passports or current Coggins are required. (USEF proof of horse registration in California)
- B. Entrants must comply with the documents and health certificates, if any, required by the organizer, state, and facility where the ZJTC is being held.

VIII. CHAMPIONSHIP SCHEDULE and SPECIFICATIONS

- 1.10-1.15m Junior and Amateur ZJTC; spreads up to 1.25m
- 1.20-1.25m Junior and Amateur ZJTC; spreads up to 1.40m
- The speed for both height sections is 350m/m

A. Day One (First Individual Qualifying Class and First Round of Team Competition)

1. The class will be conducted under Table II, Section 1. Faults and Time. (JP146.2) 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. Athletes eliminated or retiring, shall receive 20 faults more than the highest penalized competitor in that round who completed the course and received a score.
2. Individual Classification: Faults and time from Day One will be carried forward to the Individual Standings.
3. The order of the individuals on a team will be determined by the Chefs and given to the USHJA representative at the Riders' Meeting. Teams of three will start with their first rider in the second rotation. Athletes competing as individuals will start before the teams. The order for the individuals in the first round will be drawn at the Riders' Meeting.
4. The top three team member scores from this round serves as the first-round team score. This cumulative score will be added to the round two team cumulative score the next day to determine the final team standings.
5. Class Awards: Ribbons will be awarded through 8th place. Prize money: 10% of the section's overall prize money will be paid through 8th as follows: 30%, 22%, 15%, 10%, 7%, 6%, 5%, 5%.

B. Day Two (Second Individual Qualifying Class and Second Round of Team Competition)

1. This class will be conducted under a modified Table II. 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. Athletes eliminated or retiring shall receive 20 faults more than the highest penalized competitor in that round who completed the course and received a score.
2. Scoring
 - a. Day Two is open only to athlete/horse combinations that have started (whether eliminated or not) on Day One.
 - b. Athletes eliminated or retiring shall receive a score equal to 20 faults more than that received by the highest penalized competitor in that round.
 - c. A team's top three scores from Day Two serves as the second-round team score.
 - d. The winning team will have the lowest combined score from Day One and Day Two.
 - e. Any team tied for a medal shall jump off. Each team's Chef d'Equipe will select one athlete to represent the team in the jump-off.
 - f. If jump-offs for multiple medals are required, the jump-off for the bronze medal will occur first.
 - g. The placing of teams tied below medal positions will be decided by the combined times from the three highest placed riders on a team from Day One.
3. Start Order: The starting order of teams will be the reverse order of team scores from (Day One). Any teams tied will go in the order of their first-round drawn order.
4. In the second round (Day Two) Individual Athletes will start before the teams. The order of go will be according to reverse order of total penalties from Day One. In case of individuals with equal penalties, the athletes will go in the order of their first-round drawn order.

5. 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. The gold team must ride for ribbons, silver and bronze teams will enter the ring on foot for a podium presentation. Prize money: 30% of the section's overall 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.

C. Day Three (Individual Final)

1. This Class will be scored under Table II, Section 2 (a) (JP146.3.a).
2. The top 15 athlete/horse combinations based on the cumulative scores from Day One and Day Two, including ties for 15th place, are eligible to compete. Athletes must not have been eliminated in either of the two rounds of the competition. The list of the top 15 will be posted and distributed as soon as feasible after Day Two concludes and medals are awarded. Following this posting, if one or more of the qualified athlete/horse combinations is unable to start in the Individual Final, the combination will not be replaced by a lower ranked athlete. Faults will carry over from the previous rounds and be added to any faults from the final round to determine the placings. Ties below overall third (bronze), will be determined by the time on Day One.
3. Start Order: The start order will be the reverse order of riders' total scores From Day One and Day Two. In the event of an equality of scores, the result from Day One will decide, with a lower placing athlete/horse combination going before a higher placing competitor.
4. Jump-Off: There will be a jump-off in the case of a tie for an individual medal. Competitors will jump off in the same start order of the Individual Final. If jump-offs for multiple medals are required, the jump-off for the lowest medal will occur first.
5. 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. The Top 3 overall must ride for ribbons. Gold, silver, and bronze medal individuals must remain in the arena for a podium presentation. Prize money: 60% of the section's overall prize money will be paid through 8th as follows: 30%, 22%, 15%, 10%, 7%, 6%, 5%, 5%.
6. The Individual Medalists are invited to participate in one of the USHJA Gold Star clinics.

IX. CHEF d' EQUIPE

- A. Apply to USHJA to serve as the Zone and/or Team Chef d'Equipe for the Championship.
 1. **Criteria:**
 - a. Current Active Senior member in good standing with USHJA and USEF.
 - b. Must adhere to the USHJA Conflict of Interest and Ethics Policy.
 - c. **Must apply on the USHJA website by the posted application deadline.**
(https://www.ushja.org/application/files/7717/0612/0781/2024_Zone_Chef_Application_USHJA_Championships.pdf).
- B. The appropriate committee(s) will review application and select individuals that meet the requirements to serve as the Recognized and/or Team Chef d'Equipe for the championships.
- C. **For the full position description and responsibilities of the Zone Chef d' Equipe), go to the respective USHJA Jumper Championship webpage. Chef d' Equipe Position Description.**
(https://www.ushja.org/application/files/2117/0612/0732/Chef_Position_Description_to_post.pdf).

X. HOST AND ORGANIZER REQUIREMENTS

A. Competition Conduct

1. Training Session: The competition organizer may elect to hold a training session. If held, the training sessions 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 must be scheduled the day prior to Day One and held in the ZJTC 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 the courses must include a Liverpool. There will be no open water jump for the 1.10/1.15m Junior/ Amateur Jumper Championship. However, at the Course Designer's discretion, open water may be used as part of an option fence in the 1.20/1.25m Junior/Amateur Jumper.

B. Prize Money

1. The maximum total prize money allowed in the 1.10/1.15m Junior/Amateur Jumper ZJTC is \$25,000 for each section.
2. There is no maximum prize money for the 1.20/1.25m Junior/Amateur Jumper ZJTC. However, the total prize money offered for the two ZJTC must be divided as follows: 60% to the 1.20/1.25m Junior/Amateur Jumper ZJTC, and 40% to the 1.10/1.15m Junior/Amateur Jumper ZJTC.
3. Within each ZJTC, prize money must be divided as follows:
 - a. 10% to individual placings after Day One. Money to be paid through eighth place as follows: 30%, 22%, 15%, 10%, 7%, 6%, 5%, 5%.
 - b. 30% 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.
 - c. 60% to the Individual Final. Money paid to Individual finalists is to be paid through eighth place as follows: 30%, 22%, 15%, 10%, 7%, 6%, 5%, 5%
 - d. Prize money amounts must be listed per class in the Prize List.

C. Host Organizer Conditions

1. All ZJTC must be held at a USEF licensed competition.
2. The ZJTC is requested to be held in the main jumper ring at the competition and will receive priority scheduling if possible. The time schedule approved by USHJA.
3. A working scoreboard (matrix display, video, or LED) should be available at the ring where the ZJTC are held, along with a technician who operates it.
4. There must be a minimum of two USEF "R" jumper judges (with no additional duties during all ZJTC classes. (JP105)
5. For the Horse Inspection, the Jumper Technical Delegate (JTD), Official Veterinarian, and the USHJA on-site representative must be present.
6. There must be a backup timer with a stopwatch. (JP106)
7. There must be an announcer with no additional duties during each class.
8. There must be a Certified Jumper Schooling Supervisor on duty in the warm-up arena for the duration of each ZJTC class. (JP103)
9. The host competition will send results to the USHJA office immediately following each class of each section of the ZJTC (e-mail to EJR@ushja.org).

10. The Jumper Technical Delegate (JTD), who will certify that all rules, specifications, and class conditions are followed, will represent the USHJA and be the final authority in all questions that arise during the ZJTC, the ZJTC logistics, and the schedule. The USHJA JTD will have a checklist, a set of instructions, and a 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.

D. Combining and Dividing Sections

1. When entries exceed 16 or more competitors in a combined section, the sections must be offered separately. Sections may be only combined when there are fewer than 16 entries per section.
2. In order to hold a ZJTC, three teams must be entered in each section or combined section. Teams may be combined by section, zone, and/or height.

XI. IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES

- A. 45 days prior to ZJTC: athlete applications close; qualifying period ends. **Applications can be accepted 24 prior to the horse inspection at the championship at a fee of \$150***
- B. 30 days prior to Championship: official invitations sent.
- C. 21 days prior to ZJTC: athletes 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.
- D. 14 days prior to ZJTC: mandatory Chef d'Equipe conference call to approve team configurations.
- E. 10 days prior to ZJTC: athletes are notified of team selection and teammates.
- F. **24 hours** prior to ZJTC: waiver request period ends.

XII. ZONE and NATIONAL HOTY CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS

- A. 1.10/1.15m Junior/Amateur Jumper ZJTC: The following Zone bonus HOTY points will be awarded for individual placings from Day One and Day Three. Bonus HOTY points will be awarded for team placings on Day Two.

1st	60 points	2nd	50 points
3rd	40 points	4th	30 points
5th	20 points	6th	10 points

- B. 1.20/1.25m Junior/Amateur Jumper bonus HOTY points for this section are awarded based upon money won, and the offering of prize money is optional for the potential host applicant, the USHJA will assign a minimum amount of money to this ZJTC height of \$6,000. Classes offering more than \$6,000 will be capped at \$6,000 thus pointed as a \$6,000 class and awarded for individual placings from Day One and Day Three. Bonus HOTY points will be awarded for team placings on Day Two. **All horses and riders are eligible for Zone HOTY points regardless of whether the owner or rider resides within the zone where the Championship is held. All Horse of the Year points and money won will go to Channel I.**

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

