

Competition Standards Committee

December 11, 2018

USHJA Guide to Competition Rules

USEF Rules are intended:

To promote integrity, honesty, equal opportunity, fair play, responsibility, respect and enjoyment in equestrian sport.

To keep competition in the perspective of the USEF stated mission.

To encourage and reward performance excellence and initiative at every level.

To protect the health, safety, and well-being of participants.



Agenda

- Three initiatives:
 - Discuss Competition Standards rule change proposal
 - Introduce Concept of Star Rating System
 - Introduce Concept for a Rule Change for 2019, addressing requirements for sections filled

Competition Standards

- **Intent for changes:**
 - More measurable
 - “Know what to expect”
 - Add more context to and expand definitions of standards list
 - Make standards more meaningful
 - Improve and simplify USEF ability to monitor and report compliance – clarifies for both USEF and Management
 - Shifts the “nice to haves” (vs must have) requirements to the Star Rating System
- **What’s not changing?**
 - Concepts are the same – most language is drafted from the current requirements - just more robust definitions

This proposal IS...

- A POSITIVE move to make standards more meaningful
- An IMPROVEMENT for measurement and implementation by Compliance and for Managers
- An ENHANCEMENT of current standards

This proposal IS NOT...

- A negative move meant to increase enforcement/penalties from USEF
- A new concept – it is drafted from current rules
- Intended to unduly increase costs/expenses to horse show managers

Competition Standards vs Experience



Star Rating System

- How do we capture and measure the “feel” of shows?
- How do we recognize and differentiate horse shows that go over and above the minimum requirements?
- Captures the things that are “nice to have” vs “must have”
- Competition Standards tend to be targeted to basic safety and welfare of horse and rider; Star Rating System is targeted more to the comfort and enjoyment of horse and riders



What's worth a Star?

Minimum Required...

...to Over and Above



Premier Rating Requirements

*How do we make Premier,
Really Premier?*

Marriott Portfolio of Brands

Luxury: “Bespoke and Superb Amenities and Services”



Premium: “Sophisticated and Thoughtful Amenities and Services”



Select: “Smart and Easy Amenities and Services”



Current System

The Devon Horse Show – a “Luxury Collection” brand

Could be rated the same as a “Fairfield Inn”

*This dilutes the value of **The Ritz** or the **St Regis**,*

*But does not raise the value of the **Fairfield Inn***

Future Proposed Rule Change

- Hunter Rating requirements limited to Hunter Divisions
- Core of top-level competition in the Hunters is rated sections

***To merit a true “Premier” hunter rating,
the “A” rated divisions should fill***