

## **USHJA Hunter Seat Medal Class Specifications**

**2027:** Effective August 2, 2026 September 1, 2027

**2028:** Effective August 2, 2027 September 1, 2028

### **I. Competition requirements**

- A. A USHJA 3'3" Hunter Seat Medal class may only be offered at USEF Licensed competitions. Competitions wishing to hold a USHJA 3'3" Hunter Seat Medal class at their competition must list the class in their prize list and notify USEF.
- B. Competition management will collect and remit to USHJA \$10 per competing entrant fee for riders in all USHJA 3'3" Hunter Seat Medal classes. The competing entrant fee may be added to the entry fee and payment must be submitted to USHJA within ten days of the conclusion of the competition.
- C. Competition management must remit the complete results to USHJA and USEF within ten days of the conclusion of the competition.

### **II. Eligibility requirements**

- A. The USHJA 3'3" Hunter Seat Medal is open to Junior Active Members of the USEF and USHJA. Foreign residents who are also members of USEF and USHJA will be eligible to compete. Eligible riders may not compete in any of the following within the same competition year (Dec 1- Nov 30):
  - 1. ASPCA Maclay Finals
  - 2. USEF Hunter Seat Medal Finals
  - 3. USEF Show Jumping Talent Search Finals (East or West)
  - 4. USHJA Gladstone Cup Equitation Classic
  - 5. WIHS Equitation Classic Finals
  - 6. Jump Canada Medal Finals
  - 7. North American Junior Equitation Championship.
- B. Any Junior rider that has competed at 1.30m or higher will not be eligible to compete in a USHJA 3'3" Hunter Seat Medal class or Finals.
- C. Riders may not compete in a Dover/USEF Hunter Seat Medal and USHJA 3'3" Hunter Seat Medal Class at the same competition.
- D. Riders accumulating a minimum of ten points (10) in any USHJA 3'3" Hunter Seat Medal classes between August 2 of the previous competition year and September 1 of the current competition year will be eligible to compete in the USHJA 3'3" Hunter Seat Medal Finals. The USHJA, at its discretion, can open up qualifying procedures to allow for additional entries should insufficient entries be received by the deadline to fill this championship. Additional riders will be invited based on their points earned.
- E. Once a rider has competed in any of the aforementioned finals they remain ineligible to compete in the 3'3" Hunter Seat Medal class or Finals.
- F. Past winners of the USHJA 3'3" Hunter Seat Medal Final are no longer eligible to compete in the class or finals.
- G. **Riders must remain eligible through the completion of the finals.**

### **III. Courses requirements**

- A. To be shown over a course of no less than eight obstacles with fence heights of 3'3" and spreads to 3'6" (exception: triple bar obstacles may have a maximum spread of 4').
- B. One third of the obstacles must be oxers.
- C. Courses must include at least two changes of direction after the first obstacle.
- D. All courses must include at least three of the following:

1. Bending Line
  2. Narrow Jump (5'6"-8')
  3. Roll back turn
  4. Fence at the end of the ring
  5. Long approach to a single jump
- E. Liverpools, water jumps, or water used as decoration are prohibited.

#### **IV. Judging procedures**

- A. See GR1304 for Judging restrictions.
- B. To be judged on the seat, hands, guidance and control of the horse.
- C. Three cumulative refusals will result in elimination from the class.
- D. To fill a USHJA 3'3" Hunter Seat Medal class, a minimum of three competitors must complete the course.
- E. If there are forty or more entries at the beginning of a USHJA 3'3" Hunter Seat Medal class, it may be divided by every other number and run as two separate sections.
- F. If there are fifty or more entries at the beginning of a USHJA 3'3" Hunter Seat Medal class, it must be divided by every other number and run as two separate sections.
- G. Only one rider per horse may compete in an USHJA 3'3" Hunter Seat Medal class.
- H. Testing: Two or more tests of the following number of competitors are required. In classes with three (3) who complete the course, three (3) competitors must be called back for testing. In classes with four (4) to thirty (30) who complete the course, at least the top four (4) competitors must be called back for testing. In classes with thirty-one (31) or more who complete the course, at least the top six (6) competitors must be called back for testing. Eight places must be awarded in classes with thirty-one (31) or more entries. Tests 1-22. Any exhibitor who does not participate in the testing is placed last of those exhibitors who did participate in the testing. Should more than one exhibitor fail to return for testing they will be placed at the judge's discretion.

#### **V. Tack**

- A. Refer to EQ106.5a in the USEF Rulebook.

#### **VI. Points**

- A. Full points will be awarded in qualifying classes provided at least eight or more riders complete the course.
- B. Fewer than eight riders will result in points being awarded on a reduced scale based on the maximum number of ribbon winners.  
Point scale:  
8 or more riders: 10, 8, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1  
7 riders: 8, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1  
6 riders: 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1  
5 riders: 5, 4, 3, 2, 1  
4 riders: 4, 3, 2, 1  
3 riders: 3, 2, 1

#### **VII. Awards**

- A. For USHJA 3'3" Hunter Seat Medal classes, judges are required to pin to eighth place should eight or more riders complete the course.

#### **VIII. Contacts**

If questions arise pertaining to the USHJA 3'3" Hunter Seat Medal that cannot be answered by the Show Steward or Competition Management based on the class specifications provided, please contact one of the following USHJA representatives:

USHJA Equitation- (859) 225-6700 Press 4 for Competitive Programs  
Sissy Wickes, Chair of the USHJA Joint Equitation Task Force - (610) 308-9940

*The USHJA 3'3" Hunter Seat Medal 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 3'3" Hunter Seat Medal as*

*necessary for the purposes of consistency and clarity. Any deviations from the class specifications for the USHJA 3'3" Hunter Seat Medal 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.*

*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.*

