



## **2026 USHJA Green Hunter Incentive Regional Championship Specifications**

Effective for competitions starting December 1, 2025, through November 30, 2026

### **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 Regional Championship (Regional Championship).
- B. Horses may only be enrolled online at [www.ushja.org](http://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 Regional Championship.
- E. ***It is the exhibitor's responsibility to enroll their horse in the Program in a timely manner.***
- F. Only horses appearing on the USHJA Green Hunter Incentive Enrolled Horses List (Enrolled Horses List) located at [www.ushja.org](http://www.ushja.org) are eligible to compete in a Regional Championship.
- G. 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 the USEF and registered with the 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 Regional Championship.
- D. Competing in a Regional Championship will affect a horse's Green status.
- E. Riders, owners, and trainers must be current Active members of the USEF and the 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.
- H. Horses and or riders may compete in multiple Regional Championships in the same competition year.

### **III. Entry Fees**

- A. The entry fee must not exceed 10% of the prize money offered in the Regional Championship.

- 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. **USHJA Green Hunter Incentive 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 45<sup>th</sup> 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 46<sup>th</sup>-100<sup>th</sup> 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. Management has the option of offering either a Tier II section, or a Tier II and a Tier III section at any Regional Championship.
  - 1. The Tier II and/or Tier III prize money will be in addition to the Tier I prize money offered for the Regional Championship.
  - 2. If Tier II and/or Tier III sections are offered, it must be published in the competition's prize list.
- 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 Regional Championship (3'3'3") and a Regional Championship (3'6'3'9").
  - 1. If the number of entries warrant, any Regional Championship (3'3'3") offered combined may be split by fence height.
  - 2. If the number of entries warrant, any Regional Championship (3'6'3'9") offered combined may be split by fence height.
  - 3. Management has the option of combining the 3'3'3" heights with the 3'6'3'9" heights if necessary to fill the sections.
- B. A Regional Championship will be run as a two-round class.
  - 1. The First Round may be run concurrently with another USHJA Green Hunter Incentive Stake Class (Stake Class) or **another equivalent Championship Event.**
  - 2. The Second Round must be held separately.
  - 3. All entries will compete in the First Round.
  - 4. A **minimum** of the top 12 from the First Round, including ties, will compete in the Second Round. When entries warrant, Competition Management is encouraged to include more in the Second Round.
- C. Optional Tier II and Tier III Sections
  - 1. Tier I, Tier II and Tier III Sections will run concurrently.
  - 2. All Tier I, Tier II and Tier III Riders will compete in the First Round.
  - 3. A minimum of the top twelve Tier I and Tier II riders from the First Round will qualify for the Second Round.

4. Any of the remaining top twelve Tier II Riders that did not previously qualify for the Second Round will also qualify to compete in the Second Round.
  5. Any of the remaining top twelve Tier III Riders that did not previously qualify for the Second Round will also qualify to compete in the Second Round.
- D. If there are six Regional Championship entries the class must be run.

**VII. Judging Requirements and Judging System**

- A. See GR 1304 for Judging Restrictions
- B. A minimum of two USEF “R” licensed judges are required.
- C. All Regional Championships will be judged on quality, movement, jumping style, manners and way of going.
- D. All Regional Championships will use the open numerical scoring system.
- E. A numeric score will be announced after each round.
- F. In a Regional Championship the First Round and the Second Round will each count for 50% of the total score.
- G. In a Regional Championship awards will be presented based on the total score from both rounds.
- H. All ties will remain tied.
- I. In the case of a tie, prize money will be added together and split evenly between the tied entries.
- J. Soundness
  1. Judges have the authority to disqualify a horse due to unsoundness 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 performances.
  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 class.
- 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. A minimum of \$10,000 in prize money must be offered and awarded for the Regional Championship whether the height sections are held combined or separately.
- B. USHJA will provide \$5,000 of the prize money.
- C. Prize money must be paid to a minimum of 12 places as follows:

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

- D. If there are fewer than 12 entries in the Regional Championship prize money must be paid through the last placing entry according to the breakdown in the Prize Money Chart. Any remaining prize money may 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. Optional 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.

1 <sup>st</sup> – 30%	7 <sup>th</sup> – 4%
2 <sup>nd</sup> – 22%	8 <sup>th</sup> – 3%
3 <sup>rd</sup> – 15%	9 <sup>th</sup> – 3%
4 <sup>th</sup> – 7%	10 <sup>th</sup> – 2%
5 <sup>th</sup> – 6%	11 <sup>th</sup> – 2%
6 <sup>th</sup> – 5%	12 <sup>th</sup> – 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. A Regional Championship 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 Regional Championships:

Round 1		Round 2		Overall	
Place	Points	Place	Points	Place	Points
1	50	1	50	1	200
2	40	2	40	2	160
3	35	3	35	3	140
4	30	4	30	4	120
5	25	5	25	5	100
6	20	6	20	6	80
7	15	7	15	7	60
8	10	8	10	8	40
9	7	9	7	9	28
10	5	10	5	10	20
11	3	11	3	11	12
12	2	12	2	12	8

**XII. Competition Requirements**

- A. Applications to hold a Regional Championship are required and may be found on the USHJA website.
- B. One Regional Championship per Region will be offered per competition year.
- C. Regional Championships may be held at any USEF licensed Channel I (National or Premier) rated competitions or competitions that have been approved for Special Competition status.
- D. Regional Championships should be promoted and conducted by management as one of the featured classes of the competition.
- E. At minimum, the top six overall awards must be presented in the ring. All other placing presentations will be at the show management’s discretion.
- F. Competition management will collect and remit to USHJA a fee of \$20 per entry at Channel I rated competitions and competitions that have been approved for Special Competition status. This fee must be received in the USHJA Office within 10 days of the end of the competition.
- G. Competition management must check at [www.ushja.org](http://www.ushja.org) to verify that all entries in the Regional Championship have been officially enrolled in the Program, prior to the distribution of prize money for the Regional Championship.
- H. Competition management must report the results of the Regional Championship separately from the results of the Green Hunter height section classes. A copy of the Regional Championship results must be received in the offices of both the USEF and USHJA within 10 days of the conclusion of the competition.

**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 Osterman, Sport Department Managing Director, 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.*

