



2023 USHJA GREEN HUNTER INCENTIVE 3'6"/3'9" CHAMPIONSHIP

CLASS SPECIFICATIONS

Effective for the 2023 GHI 3'6"/3'9" Championship

Changes from 2022 in bold italics and underlined.

I. Eligibility and Entry Fee

- A. All horses that are enrolled in the USHJA GHI will be invited to compete in the USHJA GHI Championship. ***It is the exhibitor's responsibility to enroll their horses annually according to their USEF Green eligibility in a timely manner in order to be eligible to participate.***
- B. **Pre Entry Fee** is \$850. A minimum of 80% of each entry fee and 60% of all enrollment fees received between December 1, 2022, and the date of the 2023 Championship, will be added back to the total prize money. **\$250 of the Pre Entry Fee is non-refundable, regardless of when/if an entry scratches**
- C. Upon entering each horse must be declared to jump 3'6" or 3'9". The height declaration may not be changed after the order of go has been drawn and the horse must compete at the declared height throughout the entirety of the competition.
- D. **Post Entry Fee is \$1,700 paid after the closing date of entries. Post Entry Fees are 100% non-refundable.**

II. Competition Format

- A. The 3'6"/3'9" GHI Championship is held over one day and consists of a first, preliminary round and a **Final Round**, and if required, a Jump Off Round.
- B. The First Round consists of the qualified and entered horses present for this event. These horses will compete over a hunter course suitable for Green Hunters.
- C. The **Final Round** consists of the 30 horses, including horses tied for 30th. Scores from the First Round will not carry over; these horses start with a clean slate. These horses will compete over a hunter course suitable for Green Hunters.
- D. The Overall Jump Off Round: Horses tied for first place overall in the 3'6"/3'9" Championship will jump another round to break the tie, unless the owners agree not to. These horses will compete over a hunter course. All other ties after the **Final Round** will remain tied. See details in Section VIII.
- E. **Overall 3'6"/3'9" Tier II Round – an additional 10 Tier II riders, who are not already competing in the Final Round, will compete over the same course as the Final Round for the Overall 3'6"/3'9" Tier II awards. The Tier II Riders will be placed amongst themselves, regardless if they are in the Final Round or the Tier II Round.**
- F. USHJA **and competition management** reserves the right to amend the schedule **and/or format based on the individual host event.**

III. Championship Policy

- A. **Horses are not required to jog for soundness.**
- B. Starting on the day prior to the start of the championship, horses and riders must wear their actual competition number while mounted.
- C. Formal/dress attire is optional in the First Round, and required by riders in the Final Round. Buff breeches and shadbelly, white breeches and dark or scarlet coat, or hunt colors coat permitted.
- D. Horses are NOT required to have competed in a Green Hunter section at any USEF Licensed Competition to compete in the Championship. However, competing in the Championship will affect their Green status.
- E. GHI **Final Round**: In the event that a horse-and-rider combination qualified for the **Final Round** is unable or chooses not to compete, the next highest scoring horse-and-rider combination will move up in the order and so on to make every effort that 30 horses start for the **Final Round**.

- F. Rider Change Policy – If a rider is unable to continue to compete on a horse **in any round of the competition**, the rider and/or trainer must request permission, from the GHI Championship Ground Jury, to change riders before the start of the next **round** of competition. The decision of the GHI Championship Ground Jury is final and binding and not subject to further appeal of any kind.

IV. Course Requirements in All Rounds

- A. A minimum of eight obstacles must be offered in each round and the course must be suitable and encouraging for Green Hunters.
B. Fence heights offered will be 3'6" and 3'9".

V. Order of Go

- A. The First Round order of go will be determined using a random draw within each height section.
B. The **Final** Round order of go will be determined using a random draw within height sections.
C. In the case of multiple horses being ridden by the same rider, every effort will be made so that there will be a minimum of eight horses (if available), separating multiple rides.

VI. Judges

- A. There will be a total of six judges for this competition who will be seated in three panels consisting of two judges per panel.
B. Each judging panel must consist of two R-licensed hunter judges.
C. All judges must be Federation licensed and in good standing with the Federation and USHJA.

VII. Judging System

- A. The Green **Hunter** Incentive Championship shall be judged on quality, movement, jumping style, manners and way of going using the open numerical scoring system.
B. In the **all rounds**, each panel of judges will award the score they feel is appropriate for each horse based on its own merits. The system will use half and full point increments to determine the score. This allows for duplicate scores to be given by the judging panels within the same round.
C. A score will be announced after each round.
D. The total scores of each horse-and-rider combination from the First Round will determine their final First Round score. **These scores will also determine the additional 10 Tier II riders to compete in the Overall 3'6"/3'9" Tier II Round.**
E. Scores from the First Round will not carry over; these horses start with a clean slate.
F. The total scores of each horse-and-rider combination from the **Final** Round will determine their **Final** Round score and the Overall GHI 3'6"/3'9" Championship standings.
G. **For Overall 3'6"/3'9" Tier II Awards, see section IX.D.**

VIII. Tie Breaking Procedures

- A. All ties in the First Round will remain tied. Duplicate ribbons and coolers (if applicable) will be ordered, however prize money will be split evenly and tied entrants must determine the distribution of awards amongst themselves.
B. All ties for Overall GHI 3'6"/3'9" Championship Champion (first place) will compete in a Jump Off Round. If a tie occurs after the Jump Off Round, OR if both exhibitors agree NOT to jump off, the exhibitors will be named co-winners, will evenly split the prize money, but tied entrants must determine the distribution of awards amongst themselves. If one of the tied exhibitors declines to jump off, that exhibitor must sign a forfeiture agreement which will be provided to them at the time of the jump off.
C. All ties for other than first place in the Overall GHI 3'6"/3'9" Championship standings after the **Final** Round will remain tied. Duplicate ribbons and coolers (if applicable) will be ordered, however prize money will be split evenly and tied entrants must determine the distribution of awards amongst themselves.

IX. Awards

- A. Recognition will be given to the following for the Overall Champion of the 3'6"/3'9" Championship:
1. Horse and Owner

2. Rider
 3. Trainer
- B. The total prize money for the 2023 GHI Championships shall consist of 80% in add-back money from entry fees, 60% of all annual enrollment fees received between December 1, 2022, and the date of the 2023 Championship and **100% of Post Entry Fee monies**, with a guaranteed minimum purse of \$25,000 for the 3'6"/3'9" section.
- C. 80% of the total prize money for the 3'6"/3'9" Championship will be awarded to the top 30 as follows:
- 30%** of the total prize money will be awarded to the top 30 horses in the First Round
 - 50%** of the total prize money will be awarded to the top 30 horses in the **Final** Round
- Prize monies will be distributed as follows in each round:

| | | | |
|------------------------|--------|------------------------|-------|
| 1 st place | 25.00% | 16 th place | 1.30% |
| 2 nd place | 17.70% | 17 th place | 1.23% |
| 3 rd place | 10.25% | 18 th place | 1.15% |
| 4 th place | 6.50% | 19 th place | 1.05% |
| 5 th place | 4.80% | 20 th place | .90% |
| 6 th place | 4.10% | 21 st place | .85% |
| 7 th place | 3.60% | 22 nd place | .80% |
| 8 th place | 3.00% | 23 rd place | .75% |
| 9 th place | 2.65% | 24 th place | .70% |
| 10 th place | 2.45% | 25 th place | .65% |
| 11 th place | 1.82% | 26 th place | .55% |
| 12 th place | 1.70% | 27 th place | .55% |
| 13 th place | 1.55% | 28 th place | .55% |
| 14 th place | 1.40% | 29 th place | .55% |
| 15 th place | 1.35% | 30 th place | .55% |

D. Rider Ranking System

The Tier II riders in the Championship are those riders who stand at 31st and below in lifetime Green Hunter Incentive Program rider money earnings. This minimum will be established by reviewing the total lifetime Green Hunter Incentive Program rider money earned list over the last three years.

20% of the total prize money for the 3'6"/3'9" Championship will be awarded to the **Overall 3'6"/3'9" Tier II Awards. The Top 10 Tier II riders are determined by the highest scores in the Final and Tier II Round. Tier II riders are placed amongst themselves, regardless if they jumped in the Final Round or the Tier II Round.**

| | | | |
|-----|-----|------|----|
| 1st | 30% | 6th | 6% |
| 2nd | 20% | 7th | 5% |
| 3rd | 15% | 8th | 4% |
| 4th | 9% | 9th | 3% |
| 5th | 7% | 10th | 1% |

E. HOTY Points

The USHJA Green Hunter Incentive will count toward National and Zone HOTY points or money won awards. National Horse of the Year points/money are awarded to each horse's respective Green Hunter height section. Horses will be awarded both HOTY points and the value of their money won for their green hunter section, toward the appropriate HOTY and money won standings. *Points may not be credited toward the HOTY awards for the Green Conformation Hunter 3'6" or the High Performance Conformation Hunter.

| <u>First</u> Round | | Final Round | |
|---------------------------|--------|--------------------|--------|
| Place | Points | Place | Points |
| 1 | 150 | 1 | 400 |
| 2 | 140 | 2 | 370 |
| 3 | 130 | 3 | 340 |
| 4 | 120 | 4 | 310 |
| 5 | 110 | 5 | 280 |
| 6 | 100 | 6 | 250 |
| 7 | 90 | 7 | 220 |
| 8 | 80 | 8 | 200 |
| 9 | 70 | 9 | 180 |
| 10 | 60 | 10 | 160 |
| 11 | 55 | 11 | 140 |
| 12 | 50 | 12 | 120 |
| 13 | 45 | 13 | 100 |
| 14 | 40 | 14 | 90 |
| 15 | 35 | 15 | 80 |
| 16 | 30 | 16 | 70 |
| 17 | 25 | 17 | 60 |
| 18 | 20 | 18 | 50 |
| 19 | 15 | 19 | 40 |
| 20 | 10 | 20 | 30 |

F. All prize money will be paid within 30 days of the competition.

X. GHI Championship Ground Jury

The GHI Championship Ground Jury will consist of the Competition Manager or Licensee, the Championship Class Liaison and three additional individuals who will be present at the Championship and are Senior Active or Life members of USHJA and USEF and are recommended by the USHJA International Hunter Derby & Incentive Task Force and approved by the USHJA. Ground Jury members may not have a horse or rider competing in the Championship. The Ground Jury will hear any requests for Rider Substitutions made pursuant to Section **III.F** of these Championship Specifications as well as any other questions raised during the Championship regarding the conduct of the competition. The decision of the Ground Jury is final and binding and is not subject to further appeal of any kind.

The USHJA GHI Championship and the related format and specifications are the sole properties of the USHJA and may be held, conducted or used only 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 GHI Championship as necessary for the purposes of consistency and clarity.

