



2027-28 Sallie B. Wheeler/USEF/USHJA Hunter Breeding National Championships

Specifications

Changes from 2026 marked in bold, italics, and underlined.

In order to compete in the Championship, all horses must have a USEF Horse Recording and a USHJA Registration and the owner must be a current member of USEF and USHJA on or before the first day of the competition. A handler cannot exhibit/handle more than one horse in each class and must be properly attired in accordance with GR801.

Breed Registry Awards

Horses will not be eligible for a Breed Registry Award or the Richard M Taylor Memorial Perpetual Trophy if USHJA has not received the appropriate breeder and registry information and verification from the applicable registry (as listed on the designated bio form) by Monday, August 3, 2026. A horse that has not been verified through the registry will NOT be eligible for a registry award.

801.	\$500 Yearling Colts/Geldings	Entry Fee: \$75.00
802.	\$500 Yearling Fillies	Entry Fee: \$75.00
803.	\$500 Two-Year-Old Colts/Geldings	Entry Fee: \$75.00
804.	\$500 Two-Year-Old Fillies	Entry Fee: \$75.00
805.	\$500 Three-Year-Old Colts/Geldings	Entry Fee: \$75.00
806.	\$500 Three-Year-Old Fillies	Entry Fee: \$75.00
807.	Best Young Horse Championship Class	No entry fee or prize money

Classes 801-807

Entry Fee: \$75.00 per qualifying class. No fee for Best Young Horse Class. Thoroughbreds/Unregistered Thoroughbreds and Other Than Thoroughbreds to compete combined. Classes conducted in accordance with Chapter HU, rules HU167 & HU148-149. Two officials will adjudicate these classes utilizing the triangle format. Breeding classes are judged on conformation, athleticism, way of moving, quality, substance, soundness and suitability to become or in the case of sires and dams apparent ability to produce or beget hunters. Horses are to be judged for conformation before being walked and trotted. Yearlings, Two-year-olds and Three-year-olds are to walk and trot. Horses that are not sound are ineligible for an award. Judges will complete a Comment Card for each horse (scribes may be utilized to facilitate). All animals of yearling status and older must be shown in a bridle. See GR 1304 for Judging restrictions. First and second place from each qualifying class will be eligible to compete in the Best Young Horse Championship Class. USEF Horse of the Year Points and USHJA Zone Horse of the Year Points in the owners respective USHJA Zone will be awarded in accordance with HU167. 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.

808. \$500 Amateur/Junior Handler Class**Entry Fee: \$75.00**

Open to Amateur and Junior exhibitors. Adult handlers must possess current amateur certification issued by the USEF. Horses will be shown in hand and judged 100% on the presentation of horse and handler. Horses are to walk and trot before being moved on the line in order of preference. Horses of any age, sex or breed are eligible. No points will be awarded for USEF Horse of the Year, USHJA Zone Horse of the Year, Leading Handler or Breed Registry Awards. If entries warrant, the class may be split into Junior Handler and Amateur Handler.

Classes 809-813

No points will be awarded for USEF or USHJA Horse of the Year, Leading Handler or Breed Registry Awards.

809. \$500 Three-Year-Old Hunter Under Saddle**Entry Fee: \$75.00**

Open to horses three (3) years of age of any sex or breed. Horses are to be shown at a walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring. To be judged 100% on performance and way of going.

810. \$500 Three-Year-Old Hunter Hack**Entry Fee: \$75.00**

Open to horses three (3) years of age of any sex or breed. Horses are to be shown at a walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring, and jump two fences set at 2' or 2'3". To be judged 100% on performance and way of going.

811. \$500 Four-Year-Old Hunter Under Saddle**Entry Fee: \$75.00**

Open to horses four (4) years of age of any sex or breed. Horses are to be shown at a walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring. To be judged 100% on performance and way of going.

812. \$500 Four-Year-Old Hunter Hack**Entry Fee: \$75.00**

Open to horses four (4) years of age of any sex or breed. Horses are to be shown at a walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring, and jump two fences set at 2'6". To be judged 100% on performance and way of going.

813. \$500 Four-Year-Old Confirmation Over Fences**Entry Fee: \$75.00**

Open to horses four (4) years of age of any sex or breed. Horses are to be shown over a course of at least six (6) fences of Hunter type per HU112, set at 2'6". The course must include at least two changes of direction, a long approach to a single fence, and one (1) combination not to be set closer than 72 feet (5 strides). Judged 30% on conformation and 70% on performance and way of going.

Prize Money

Prize money will be awarded through fourth place in classes 801-806 and 808-813: \$200; \$125; \$100; and \$75. The balance of prize money from classes with one to three entries will be distributed amongst exhibitors based on the number of entries per class. USEF Horse of the Year Points and USHJA Zone Horse of the Year Points in the owners respective USHJA Zone will be awarded in accordance with HU167.

\$500 Three-Year-Old High Point Award:

Awarded to the highest pointed Three-Year-Old who competes in all three of the Three-Year-Old classes: in-hand, Hunter Hack, and Under Saddle. Best Young Horse class not to count toward this award. Points will be calculated for all three-year-old classes using the point chart outlined in HU167. In the event of a

tie, points from the in-hand class will break the tie. Should a tie still exist, the judges will break the tie. Horses that do not compete in all three of the offered Three-Year-Old Classes (In-hand, Under Saddle, and Hunter Hack) will not be eligible for this award.

Number in Class	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
1	2					
2	4	2				
3-10	10	6	4	2		
11+	20	12	8	4	3	2

Four-Year-Old section Champion and Reserve Champion:

Awarded to the highest pointed Four-Year-Old who competes in all three of the Four-Year-Old classes (Under Saddle, Hunter Hack, Confirmation Over Fences). Horses must compete in all three classes to be eligible for section champion and reserve champion. Points will be calculated using the point chart in HU167. In the event of a tie, the most points in the Confirmation Over Fences class will break the tie.

Number in Class	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
1	2					
2	4	2				
3-10	10	6	4	2		
11+	20	12	8	4	3	2

The Overall Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion will be awarded to the Best Young Horse and the Reserve Best Young Horse respectively. Overall Grand and Reserve Grand will not receive additional USEF or USHJA points.

For terms and conditions related to the calculation of Perpetual Trophies, Special Awards, and Breed Awards, please visit www.ushja.org/sallieb.

Any deviations from the class specifications for the USHJA Sallie B. Wheeler Hunter Breeding Championships 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.

