



2026 World Championship Hunter Rider PA Announcements

WCHR

The USHJA World Championship Hunter Rider Program was founded in 1995 to recognize and celebrate the hunter rider. Since the inaugural World Championship Hunter Rider Professional Finals in 1995, the WCHR program has expanded to include coveted year-end awards for Professionals, Developing Professionals, Amateur Owners, Amateur Adults, Juniors, Children's and Pony riders. We invite you to enjoy this week's WCHR Event. For more information go to USHJA.ORG click on Competitions, click on Hunter, and then click on World Champion Hunter Rider.

East Spectacular

The 2026 World Championship Hunter Rider East Coast Hunter Spectacular will debut during Week 5 of the WEC Winter Spectacular Series, January 27–February 1, 2026, in Ocala, FL. All WCHR Members are eligible to participate in this class, with fence height options set at 3'6", 3'9", or 4'0".

Palm Beach Spectacular

1. The Palm Beach Spectacular first debuted in 1997 as an expansion of the popular World Championship Hunter Rider program. The Spectacular was created as a premier Hunter Classic and is part of the member event series for the WCHR program which culminates with the WCHR Finals at The Capital Challenge Horse Show in October.
2. During the sixth week of competition at the 2026 Winter Equestrian Festival, February 11-16, 2026, in Wellington, FL, Palm Beach Spectacular exhibitors will have the opportunity to display the very best in show hunters on center stage. The event will be held on Saturday night under the lights in the International Arena, with professionals, juniors, and amateurs all going head-to-head in the class. Exhibitors qualify for the Spectacular through their performance during the 2025 WCHR competition year and during Week 6 of the 2026 Winter Equestrian Festival in Wellington, FL.

West Coast Spectacular

The 2026 World Championship Hunter Rider West Coast Hunter Spectacular is set to take place during the Desert Circuit 10, March 10-15, 2026, Thermal, CA. All WCHR Members are eligible to participate in this class with fence height options set at 3'6", 3'9", or 4'0".

Central Spectacular

The 2026 World Championship Hunter Rider Central Spectacular will take place at Traverse City Horse show GLEF II in Williamsburg, MI, on July 8-12, 2026. All WCHR Members are eligible to participate in this class, with fence height options set at 3'6", 3'9", or 4'0".

Capital Challenge

WCHR Program Enrollees qualify for National and Regional Awards by earning points at WCHR Events held across the country throughout the qualifying year. Points from a rider's top four WCHR Events will be used to determine the National and Regional standings. WCHR Finals will be at the Capital Challenge Horse Show in Upper Marlboro, MD September 23 - October 4, 2026

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ICL Academy- Official Education Partner of the WCHR Spectaculars

ICL Academy is where top young equestrians thrive — a personalized, accredited online school designed around each student's passion. Riders gain the freedom to travel and compete globally while maintaining academic excellence, character development, and the support of teachers who understand the life of an athlete.

GumBits- Supporting Sponsor of the USHJA Hunter Championships