

2014 VHJA RULEBOOK

CONTENTS:

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE VERMONT HUNTER JUMPER ASSOCIATION, INC.

THE BY-LAWS OF THE VERMONT HUNTER JUMPER ASSOCIATION, INC.

SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE VERMONT HUNTER JUMPER CLASSES AND DIVISIONS

PLEASE READ THE RULES AND SPECIFICATIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE YOU PARTICIPATE. IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE COMPETITOR TO FULLY UNDERSTAND ALL APPLICABLE RULES, REGULATIONS, AND SPECIFICATIONS BEFORE ENTERING AND COMPETING IN VHJA AFFILIATED SHOWS. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOU CARRY THIS RULEBOOK WITH YOU TO SHOWS.

CONSTITUTION OF VERMONT HUNTER JUMPER ASSOCIATION, INC.

ARTICLE I

Name

Section 1

The name of the association shall be the VERMONT HUNTER JUMPER ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED, hereinafter referred to as VHJA.

Section 2

Mission

The Vermont Hunter Jumper Association (VHJA) is a non-profit, volunteer-run organization which exists to promote and reward fun, educational, and competitive experiences in horsemanship and sportsmanship while respecting the welfare of the horse and our members. Our organization operates under the guidelines of the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) and the United States Hunter Jumper Association (USHJA). Our mission is to provide a framework for safe competitions within which our members, at all levels, can set and attain goals on our circuit which may act as a gateway to regional and national competitions. VHJA encourages integrity, professionalism, camaraderie, sportsmanship and responsibility in all aspects of our organization.

ARTICLE II

Membership

Section 1

Upon reading and accepting the VHJA Constitution and By-Laws all persons who are interested in improving and

standardizing Hunter/Jumper activities in the State of Vermont shall be eligible for membership. Membership is open to persons interested in the purposes of this Association who have evidenced that interest by application to the Secretary for membership and by payment of the annual dues. Members enjoy the privileges of participation in the business of VHJA meetings, receipt of pertinent mailings of the Association, receipt of the VHJA Omnibus and Rule Book and eligibility for participation in the VHJA High Score Award System, except as otherwise provided herein. Membership shall be of the following types:

Individual - an Adult (18 years of age or older as of 12/1 of the previous year)

Junior (non-voting) - a member under 18 (as of 12/1 of the previous year)

Family - includes up to two (2) adults and their children who have not reached their 18th birthday as of 12/1 of the previous year. (Children under 18 not to vote)

Life - (an individual of any age); Life members must submit a signed membership form annually.

Trainer - any adult who has the responsibility for the care, training, custody or performance of a horse. Said person must sign the entry blank of any Recognized Competition whether said person be owner, rider, agent and/or coach as well as trainer. Where a minor exhibitor has no trainer, a parent or guardian must sign and assume responsibility of trainer. The name of the trainer must be designated as such on the entry blank.

Section 2

Annual dues shall be paid on application for membership. Annual dues become payable December 1st of each year. Memberships may consist of individuals, juniors, families, life

or trainers. The Board of Directors shall establish annual dues on a yearly basis.

Section 3

Membership is annual and shall be renewed each year upon receipt of the annual dues and a completed and signed membership form. Life members shall complete and sign a membership form annually.

Section 4

No part of the organization's net earnings may inure to the benefit of any person having a personal or private interest in the activities of the organization.

Section 5

Those members abusing or misusing their privileges of membership may have their membership revoked by the Board. The person(s) making the complaint(s) shall do so by filing a protest following the VHJA Grievance Process. Any member having their membership revoked by the Board of Directors may appeal this decision at the next General meeting.

(a) Dues shall be non-refundable for any membership revoked by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE III

Board of Directors

Section 1

The Board of Directors shall include the Officers, including the President, Vice President, Past President, Secretary and Treasurer, as well as nine members elected by the general membership and up to two appointed by the President. A majority of the voting Board members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. If a quorum is not available, those Directors present may conduct business on a tentative basis, which may be ratified later by the absent Directors. The Board of Directors shall be the governing board of the Association and in all respects shall have the authority to act for and on behalf of this Association. The only restriction on their actions shall be that they shall not take any action contrary to specific direction voted by the members at an annual or specific meeting.

Section 2

All elected Directors (9) shall serve without compensation and be elected every two years.

The appointed Directors (2) shall serve without compensation and be appointed every year.

Directors may serve 3 consecutive terms.

Section 4

Duties of Directors:

The Board of Directors shall take whatever action is deemed necessary, without membership vote, to carry out the primary purpose and intent of the VHJA membership. However, the Board may not overturn a direct majority vote of the membership. The Board of Directors shall review policy issues affecting the Association and make recommendations to the general membership regarding such issues. By formal resolution of the Board of Directors, specific duties of the President may be delegated to other persons. If the President and Vice-President are absent or unable to act, the Board of Directors shall designate one of its members to act as President, and he/she shall have the full power of the President.

The Board of Directors may appoint committees of two or more representatives to exercise the powers of the Board of Directors.

The Directors are expected to attend all meetings. If a Director should miss 3 consecutive meetings without adequate reason, he/she may be asked to resign by the President.

Section 5

Directors shall be notified of all Directors meetings at least seven days before each meeting.

Section 6

Any dispute arising in the Association, including meaning of the By-Laws, shall be settled by the Board of Directors until the next general meeting. At this time their decision shall be brought before the membership for a vote. This decision shall be entered into the minutes as a precedent unless an amendment to the By-Laws is deemed necessary.

ARTICLE IV

Officers

Section 1

The Officers of the Association shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

Section 2

The President and Vice President shall be elected every two years by the members and shall hold office during the ensuing two years until their successors shall be elected. The Secretary and Treasurer will be appointed by the president each year and shall hold office during the ensuing year until their successors shall be appointed. In the event that there is a vacancy in the office of the Treasurer, Secretary or Vice President, during the year, the President will appoint someone to fill the vacancy.

Section 3

The same person may hold the office of Secretary and Treasurer.

Section 4

Duties of the Officers:

The President shall:

Be elected every two (2) years.

Hold office for no more than three (3) consecutive terms.

Preside over all meetings of the Association and all meetings of the Board of Directors.

Appoint all committees deemed necessary by the Board of Directors.

Call all Board/Membership meeting(s) as needed.

Sign, together with the Secretary and Treasurer, all contracts and obligations of the Association.

Be an Ex-Officio member of all committees of the Association except the nominating committee.

Have the same powers and duties as all members of the Board of Directors.

Appoint a Prize List Editor, for one year, and ratified by the Board of Directors, to whom all prize lists will be sent for correction. The Prize List Editor will receive yearly compensation of \$300.00.

Appoint an auditor to review the financial records of the VHJA when or as deemed necessary.

The Vice-President shall:

Be elected every two (2) years.

Hold office for no more than three (3) consecutive terms.

Perform all duties imposed on him/her by the President/Board of Directors.

Have all powers conferred on the President when for any cause the President is unable to act.

The Secretary Shall:

Be appointed by the President.

Take minutes of all general and Directors' meetings.

The Secretary may appoint someone to take minutes.

Keep all records and correspondence of this Association.

Will handle issuance of membership cards to Regular Members and the recording and issuance of numbers to entries in the Award System.

Compute riders/equine points throughout the show season for point standings/awards.

Serve on the Rules Committee.

The Treasurer Shall:

Be appointed by the President.

Collect all monies due the Association and shall have the care and custody of and the responsibility for such funds of the Association.

Deposit Association monies in such banks as the directors shall designate.

Keep proper books of account showing the disposition of funds as may pass through his/her hands.

Make an annual written financial report to the membership and monthly reports to the Board of Directors. This report shall cover the fiscal year beginning December 1 and ending November 30.

Disburse funds as payment of bills up to \$500 without prior approval; payment of all bills over \$500 must be approved by the President or Board of Directors.

ARTICLE V

Board of Directors' Committees and corresponding subcommittees

Section I

The Rules Committee - Shall consist of the President or Vice President, Secretary and at least 3 members.

Rules - Shall peruse the rules of the Association and make recommendations based on their findings or on suggestions by the directors or membership; Shall review the points for year-end awards annually to certify same; Shall, without imperative to seek the approval of the membership, be empowered to correct typographical, punctuation, and grammatical errors, and to make changes in order to eliminate inconsistencies or redundancies, without changing the intent of the rules, in all sections of the Rulebook.

Grievance Committee – Chairperson of this committee shall be appointed by the President when and as such need may arise. Shall hear any and all protests in accordance with the VHJA grievance process (By-laws, Rule II)

Nominations Committee – Shall compose a slate of officers and directors for member approval annually at the Annual Meeting.

The Competition Committee -

Horse Show Committee (VHJA pointed shows)– Shall oversee all horse shows which affiliate with VHJA, including but not limited to: assign show dates, organize annual show managers’ meeting, edit prize lists, assure that all shows communicate results to VHJA secretary and send applicable fees to VHJA treasurer, and generally serve as liaison to all affiliated show managers. Committee chair shall receive horse show applications.

VHJA Finals Committee– Shall organize and run VHJA Finals Horse Show; all members of the Board of Directors shall serve on this committee.

Young Hunter Futurity Committee – Shall organize and oversee the VHJA Young Hunter Futurity Program.

The Communications Committee -

Omnibus – Every effort will be made to publish an OMNIBUS annually in concert with the horse show committee.

Publications – Shall include publications to the membership annually, including but not limited to: newsletters, finals program and banquet program.

Outreach – Shall serve as a liaison to other publications and organizations.

Website – Shall be responsible for oversight, maintenance and development of the VHJA website.

Member Benefits – Shall oversee recruitment of new members and promotion of non-chartered member benefits.

The Education Committee – Shall oversee, organize, promote and execute the VHJA’S educational programs consistent with the VHJA mission and its charter as a non-profit organization.

VHJA Scholarship - Shall promote and award the VHJA scholarship annually.

Workshops, lectures and clinics – Shall create, organize and promote such activities as the committee deems viable.

Sarah Hadley Horsemanship Challenge – Shall organize and carry out the Sarah Hadley Horsemanship Challenge annually.

Cloverleaf Scholarship – Shall organize and distribute this scholarship.

The Finance Committee – Shall be chaired by the VHJA Treasurer.

Budget – Shall prepare a yearly budget and present it to the Board of Directors for approval.

Sponsorship – Shall solicit sponsors for VHJA and report such activities to the Board of Directors.

Fundraising – Shall organize and execute any and all VHJA sanctioned fund-raising activities, including but not limited to: concession sales, clothing sales, Banquet Raffle and Silent Auction.

The Banquet Committee

Banquet – Shall organize and run the VHJA Annual Banquet, including but not limited to: venue, meal, decorations, fundraising and music.

Awards – Shall acquire and prepare all year-end awards (ribbons and trophies) including perpetual trophies and special awards.

Video – Shall create and present the annual video.

The Nominations Committee

Nominations - for all offices and directorships to be filled at the Annual Meeting shall be made by the Nominations Committee. Any member wishing to run for office shall submit his/her name to the nominating committee at least 10 days prior to the annual meeting.

Additional committees/sub-committees shall be created as needed by the President or Board of Directors for the execution of purposes within the scope of the Association.

ARTICLE VI

Meetings

Section 1

Annual Meeting:

The annual meeting shall be held annually between the months of November and February, and with a minimum of sixty (60) days notice to the membership prior to the meeting.

The Annual Banquet will be held during the month of January or February.

Section 2

Special Meetings of the VHJA may be called by:

The President

A majority vote of the Board of Directors at any meeting of the Board.

The Secretary, upon receipt of any petition signed by eight members of the VHJA who are in good standing.

Section 3

All Special Meetings shall be at such time and place as the Board of Directors designates and need not be at the registered office.

Section 4

A quorum at Special Meetings shall be 12 voting members.

Section 5

Written notices of all Special Meetings must be mailed or emailed to each member at least (14) fourteen days before such meeting.

Section 6

Regular Board of Directors and Committee meetings shall be held when deemed necessary.

ARTICLE VII

Elections

Section 1

Officers (except Secretary and Treasurer) and Directors shall be elected by vote during the annual meeting. Nominations for all offices and Directorships to be filled shall be made by the Nominations Committee. Any member wishing to run for office shall submit his/her name to the nominating committee at least 10 days prior to the annual meeting. No names submitted by the nominating committee can be removed from

the ballot without a written withdrawal request by the nominee.

Section 2

In the event no candidate receives a majority, the membership shall vote again, considering only the two candidates who received the highest number of votes.

Section 3

The Nominations Committee shall submit a list of nominees for Officers and Directors at each Annual Meeting. Any member wishing to run for office shall submit his/her name to the nominating committee at least 10 days prior to the annual meeting. No person shall be listed, unless the nominee has consented to his/her name being submitted and is a member in good standing.

ARTICLE VIII

Amendments

Section I

The Constitution and By-Laws may be altered, amended or repealed at any annual or special meeting of the Association by a two-thirds vote of the membership in attendance at such meeting, provided the membership has been notified of the proposed change, by mail or email, at least fourteen (14) days prior to the date fixed for the holding of such meeting. Any proposed rule changes must be submitted to the Secretary a minimum of 60 days preceding the annual meeting. Any rule change proposals are encouraged to be made throughout the year. The final date for the submission of Class Specification rule changes shall be 60 days prior to the annual meeting. Class Specifications may be altered, amended or repealed at any annual or special meeting of the Association by a two-thirds vote of the membership in attendance at such meeting.

ARTICLE IX

Voting

Section 1

Each Individual, Life and Trainer member shall have one vote. Each Family membership adult shall have one vote. Each member must be present in order to exercise his vote, (no proxy votes shall be allowed) and must be in good standing.

ARTICLE X

Fiscal Year Dues & Affiliation Fees

Section 1

The fiscal year of the VHJA shall be December 1 - November 30. Any shows held after the VHJA Hunter/ Equitation Finals shall count toward the following year. The show season ends with the VHJA Finals or if there is no VHJA Finals then the season ends by the third Sunday in October. For points to count towards the next year, members must renew their memberships prior to competing. Dues are based on the fiscal year, being due and payable to the Secretary before points will start accumulating toward year-end awards. Any points accrued prior to the time at which current membership payment is received will not be counted. The dues shall be such sums as the Board of Directors shall fix annually by vote and are subject to change on a yearly basis.

ARTICLE XI

Conduct of Meetings

Section 1

Robert's Rules of Order shall provide the standard conduct for Association meetings.

ARTICLE XII

Dissolution

Section 1

The VHJA may be dissolved by the written consent of a majority of the total voting members. In the event of dissolution of the Association, whether voluntary or involuntary, none of the property of the Association, nor any proceeds thereof, or any assets of the Association, shall be distributed to any member of the Association. After payments of all debts and creditors, the property shall be liquidated and assets shall be donated to an equine charity as voted upon by the membership. All perpetual trophies given through the Association shall be returned to the donors.

BY- LAWS OF VERMONT HUNTER JUMPER ASSOCIATION, INC.

VHJA shows and participants are governed by NEHC rules and United States Equestrian Federation rules, in addition to the VHJA rules. Members are responsible for a working knowledge of the rules of their governing bodies, VHJA, NEHC and USEF. Failure to comply with these rules shall render members liable to penalties. The VHJA show season is December 1st through November 30th of the following year.

RULE I - RULES GOVERNING VHJA HORSE SHOWS

A. APPLICATION FOR HORSE SHOW AFFILIATION

A completed application for affiliation for any show, including selection classes/ divisions to be held, must be accompanied by a check for the required amount. A completed show application with the correct fee will be recorded as of the date received. By making such application, it shall be deemed to have agreed to abide by the Constitution and Rules of the Association. All show related material from management must be made in writing. The VHJA Board of Directors reserves the right not to accept a show date application based on previous problems with a show or management or if the applicant is not a member in good standing. VHJA Recognized shows may only be held in the state of Vermont. Horse shows outside of the state of Vermont may become affiliates of only VHJA Medal classes. Shows that just affiliate for VHJA Medals (in-state or outside of the state of Vermont) are exempt from the two shows on the same date restriction and will be assessed a fee commensurate with the medals-only affiliation. Fully affiliated horse shows enjoy the privileges of receipt of the VHJA Rule Book, receipt of the VHJA mailing list, participation in the VHJA Show Managers Meeting and the right to advertise their shows as being conducted according to the rules of the VHJA. Competitors competing in any/all VHJA Medal Classes must be current paid members of VHJA before competing. Show managers who allow non VHJA members to participate in VHJA medal classes will be assessed a fee of \$30.00 (equal to the individual membership fee) per each non-member who participates in each/any VHJA medal/s. The show manager may pass this fee along to the exhibitor.

VHJA offers horse show managers three levels of affiliation. Non-USEF and Non-NEHC affiliated horse shows may apply for VHJA affiliation. The level of affiliation applied for is at the discretion of the horse show manager.

Level 1: USEF & VHJA Affiliation

Horse shows that are fully pointed in all recognized VHJA divisions and classes (including VHJA medals) and may hold

USEF medal classes. Show may also affiliate with NEHC and hold NEHC Medals as well as Marshal & Sterling League classes. Level 1 horse shows to be governed by USEF, NEHC and VHJA rules. This affiliation applies to Vermont horse shows only. All Level 1 shows must use the VHJA numbering system. Any show failing to use the current VHJA numbering system will pay an additional affiliation fee of \$100 per show.

Level 2: VHJA & NEHC Affiliation (no USEF affiliation);

Horse shows that are fully pointed in all VHJA divisions and classes (including VHJA medals) but do not assess a USEF federation fee per horse. Level 2 horse shows are not eligible to hold USEF medals or USEF pointed classes. Horses are not required to have an USEF identification number to compete. Judges and stewards at these shows are not required to be USEF rated, but must be NEHC rated. If show management wishes to hire judges or stewards that are unrated by USEF, they must be NEHC rated. Level 2 horse shows to be governed by NEHC and VHJA rules. This affiliation applies to Vermont horse shows only. All Level 2 shows must use the VHJA numbering system. Any show failing to use the current VHJA numbering system will pay an additional affiliation fee of \$100 per show.

Level 3: VHJA Medal Class Affiliation:

Horse shows that are affiliated for points in VHJA medal classes only. Competitors riding in VHJA medal classes at Level 3 shows must be VHJA members. Level 3 shows may be held outside the state of Vermont.

Levels 1 & 2 VHJA shows:

- enjoy the privileges of receipt of the VHJA rule book, receipt of the VHJA mailing list, participation in the VHJA annual meeting and show managers meeting, and the right to advertise their shows as being conducted according to the rules of VHJA
- must be held in Vermont
- are subject to the same affiliation fee/s with VHJA

B. ASSIGNMENT OF SHOW DATES

Show dates are reserved until February 1st of the following year ONLY for shows that were held in the previous show year. Application for affiliation of any previously affiliated show must be filed with the Secretary prior to January 1st of each year or such show will automatically lose the reservation of their comparable date

of the year before and be considered a new show. The Secretary will handle applications for new show dates in order of receipt of written applications. The VHJA Board of Directors retains the right to not accept an application based on conflict with another show already applied for. A show that reserves a date by payment of fees and then decides not to hold a show at any time during the show year does not receive a refund. Affected membership must be notified in writing (postcard) by show management of said show at the show management's expense.

Extenuating circumstances and natural disasters causing cancellation may be discussed with the Board of Directors. The date reserved becomes an open date for that show year. Another show may use that date.

C. MANAGER & SECRETARY RULE

The Show Manager must be a member of the VHJA. Manager and/or Secretary of all shows MUST attend the mandatory Manager's Meeting in late winter/early spring. If neither the Manager nor Secretary is able to attend, they must meet with the Competition Committee within 30 days of the mandatory Managers' Meeting or their show will not be VHJA pointed. New shows applied for after the mandatory Manager's Meeting must meet with the Competition Committee.

D. LOCATION OF SHOW

A Member Show will be held within the boundaries of Vermont.

E. JUDGES & STEWARDS

1. JUDGES

(a) All VHJA Hunter/Jumper shows must use USEF approved judges who are qualified to judge classes offered. (See USEF Rule Book). To use judges not approved by USEF, a show must apply in writing to VHJA. A USEF guest judge may only be used with prior approval of the VHJA Board of Directors at Hunter/Jumper shows. Approval must be received in writing from the Board at least 60 days prior to the show date except for emergency situations.

(b) No person will be allowed to judge at two (2) VHJA Hunter/Jumper shows unless the interval between the two shows is a minimum of thirty (30) days. A judge may not officiate at the same show two years in a row.

2. STEWARDS

- (a) All shows must have as representative of VHJA and USEF, a Steward whose responsibilities include but are not limited to, informing the show committee of any rule infractions, making rule interpretations and receiving protests as per part J,2(c) of the VHJA Rule Book.
- (b) A Steward's report must be filed within seven (7) days with the VHJA Secretary and the show manager on the forms provided by VHJA and USEF. Included in this report must be comments on inadequate jump or ring fences and facilities (such as in and out gates), rule violations, handling of errors in prize list (see By-Laws, Rule H).
- (c) No Steward may officiate at more than two (2) consecutive shows run by the same governing body, Board of Directors or show management.
- (d) All VHJA shows must use Stewards who are licensed by USEF. To use a Steward not licensed by USEF, a show must apply in writing to the VHJA Secretary and to the USEF Secretary for permission.

3. Show Manager must submit the names of Judges and sStewards as soon as they are hired to the VHJA Competition Committee.
4. The Show Manager must assure that each Judge and Steward has a copy of the prize list at least ten (10) days prior to that show.
5. If a Judge or Steward cannot officiate for any reason the fact must be reported by the show management to the VHJA Secretary and USEF immediately. If possible, a written statement must be obtained from the Judge or Steward and submitted to the Secretary.
6. In a Finals Class, when issues of safety arise, horse show management, in conjunction with the show steward, may adjust the order of go or the call back order.

F. PRIZE LIST

1. Approval and submission of prize list to VHJA.

One (1) copy of the prize list must be emailed to the Prize List Editor in final form by March 1 of the show year in order to be included in the Omnibus. Prize lists whose wording differs in any way from the requirements of VHJA, USEF and/or NEHC will require correction. A minimum of two (2) weeks is required for approval before printing. When extensive correction is necessary, more time will be required. In the event a show fails to comply, upon instructions of the Board of Directors, the Secretary shall notify all members that the show is not recognized by VHJA and points will not apply toward VHJA awards. Once the prize list has been approved by the prize list editor, show manager must

submit the prize list, entry form and other supporting documents to the Omnibus Editor no later than March 15.

2. Required content of prize list:

- (a) If a USEF affiliated show, then the United States Equestrian Federation, Inc. page must be included (downloadable from the USEF website).
- (b) If a USEF affiliated show, list the USEF competition number, classification of competition, and ratings of divisions or sections on the USEF page.
- (c) Show Manager must create an entry form that meets the requirements of affiliated organizations be they USEF, VHJA and/or NEHC. Include space for VHJA number(s).
- (d) Prize list must include Judge's name, rating, qualifying organization(s) and divisions they will be judging.
- (e) Name and address of USEF Steward.
- (f) Name, address and phone number of all show management officials including Show Manager, Secretary and course designer.
- (g) Name of veterinarian on-call and telephone number where he/she can be reached during competition.
- (h) The following statement must be published in **BOLD** type for all Regular Competitions (does not apply to local member shows):

Life, senior active and junior active members shall be eligible to participate in all classes at Regular Competitions, Eventing Competitions at the Preliminary Level or above and Combined Driving Competitions at the Advanced Level, Dressage, Reining and Vaulting Competitions and Endurance Rides. A nonmember may participate as a handler, rider, driver, owner, lessee, agent, coach or trainer at Regular Competitions, Eventing Competitions, Dressage Competitions, Reining Competitions and Combined Driving Competitions upon payment of a \$30 nonmember registration fee. Participants in the following classes are exempted from the Requirements of this rule: 1) leadline; 2) exhibitions; 3) games and races; 4) classes for 4-H members; 5) walk trot and academy classes (academy classes are classes limited to horses used regularly in a lesson program); 6) USDF introductory level tests, pas

de deux and quadrille classes; 7) NRHA Endorsed Reining Competitions. 8) Opportunity classes, 9) citizens of other nations who have proof, in English, of current membership in good standing of their own National Federation, 10) USEA beginner novice division; and 11) assistant handlers in Dressage Sport Horse Breeding classes.

- (i) Prize list must state: Exhibitors in all classes must be attired in appropriate show attire. Appropriate attire does not include T-shirts, tank tops or shorts.
- (j) Prize list must include complete class descriptions and judging specifications for all classes offered that are not included in USEF/VHJA/NEHC Rule Books. Any class at a VHJA approved show that is similar in specs to an existing VHJA pointed class must change the title of the class and add "NO VHJA POINTS".
- (k) Statement as to entry fees, prizes offered and registration fees.
- (l) Prize lists must state when and how prize money will be paid.
- (m) Statement concerning post entries.
- (n) A tentative schedule of classes by sections.
- (o) Statement as to which of the USEF Medal Classes and USEF Classes are to be offered.
- (p) Statement concerning a particular system of judging to be used.
- (q) Name, exact date and location of show.
- (r) A map and/or directions to the show grounds.
- (s) For local member competitions, the designation "LOCAL COMPETITION MEMBER" must be on the cover.
- (t) Statement as to type of stabling, whether stall doors will be provided, stall fee and instructions concerning arrival and removal of horses.
- (u) The prize list for competitions offering "A" rated hunter sections must state that stabling will be offered and the cost must be included on the entry blank.
- (v) Statement as to method for establishing a jumping order for jumping classes.

- (w) Statement as to method for breaking ties for other than first place in jumper classes.
- (x) The prize list for competitions offering "A" rated hunter sections must be printed and available to exhibitors at least fifteen (15) days prior to the closing date of entries.
- (y) Name of farrier, either on grounds or on-call, and phone number.
- (z) As an added protection against any omissions in class specifications it is recommended that if show is affiliated with organizations other than VHJA, the following statement be included in a prominent place: "Every class offered herein is covered by the rules and specifications of the current USEF, VHJA, NEHC (or other) Rule Books and will be conducted and judged in accordance therewith."

(aa) Shows must print the USEF helmet rule in the prize list. (or on Common Rules List when prize list appears in Omnibus)

(bb) Time and place for measuring and schooling.

(cc) Listing of affiliations with USEF/VHJA/NEHC or other organizations and show or division rating (AB,C, Local Show).

(dd) Statement; "junior" riders may be asked to show proof of age.

(ee) VHJA Membership Application shall be included in prize list (or in Omnibus).

(ff) Emergency rescue number printed in prize list with before and after hours.

G. DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZE LIST

The prize list must be sent to the prize list editor by March 1 and the Omnibus editor by March 15 for inclusion in the Omnibus. Otherwise, prize list must be mailed or e-mailed to the VHJA membership at least fourteen (14) days prior to the show or the deadline of post entries if post entries are charged.

H. ERRORS IN PRIZE LIST DISCOVERED AFTER PRINTING

If an error is detected, notice must be given to VHJA members by newsletter, postcard or via email if discovered up to ten (10) days before the show. If errors are discovered after that date, notify exhibitors in writing when they arrive to pick up their numbers.

I. REQUIREMENTS OF SHOW DAY

1. There must be on the grounds:
 - (a) VHJA Rule Book
 - (b) United States Equestrian Federation Rule Book
 - (c) NEHC Rule Book if affiliated with NEHC
 - (d) A USEF approved measuring stick for horses and ponies furnished by the Steward.
 - (e) Furnish the Judge in each class a scorecard CONTAINING EXACT CLASS SPECIFICATIONS (from the VHJA Rule Book), except rated hunter classes in which case only the percentage of conformation must be noted. Fence heights must be noted for unrated classes. Method of breaking ties in jumper classes must be included. Course must be supplied for hunter and jumper classes.
 - (f) The exact number of horses actually competing in each class when the gate is closed must be recorded by the Secretary and Judge; not the number of horses signed up for the class.
 - (g) Forms supplied by the VHJA Secretary for the Steward's required report.
 - (h) Provide on the show grounds qualified medical personnel with no other duties and suitable medical equipment during scheduled schooling sessions over fences and during all scheduled performances. Qualified medical personnel are defined as a person who is currently certified or licensed in their profession and trained in pre-hospital trauma care. EMT/paramedics would serve as the highest qualified for that responsibility followed next by doctors, nurses and/or certified athletic trainers (certified by National Athletic Trainers Association). An ambulance must be on the grounds or on call. Competitions *using more than three performance areas simultaneously*, and all first year A or AA rated competitions, must have *at least one* additional person who *is CPR certified* to assist the medical personnel of record for that competition. *The additional person may have other duties related to the competition provided they can be immediately available to respond to an emergency.* This person must be identified to officials and staff. *Dressage arenas do not count as performance areas. If more than six performance areas are used simultaneously there must be at least two additional people who are CPR-certified to assist the medical personnel of record for that competition.* An operational telephone and/or other emergency call priority system must be provided by the

competition. Management must post in the office and by the telephone and/or emergency call equipment emergency telephone numbers plus directions to the competition which could be quickly relayed to the off site responder. USEF will impose a fine on recognized competitions failing to comply with this rule.

- (i) VETERINARIAN: who has agreed in writing to be on call if one is not present on the show grounds. Each recognized USEF show with an A or B rating must have a qualified veterinarian present throughout the show. Shows with C rated divisions and local shows may have a veterinarian on call. (One who has agreed in writing to be on call). The name of the veterinarian on call and phone number of where he/she will be staying during the competition. If not known, the prize list must state where this information will be posted during the competition. Telephone number must be posted at the Secretary's stand.
- (j) FARRIER: Every show which offers a division or sections with an A or B rating must have a farrier qualified in those divisions or sections available during all performances. Shows with a C rated divisions and local shows may have a farrier on call. (One who has agreed in writing to be on call). The name of the farrier on call and phone number of where he/she will be during the competition. If not known, the prize list must state where this information will be posted during the competition. Telephone number must be posted at the Secretary's office.
- (k) Badges for Judges and Officials.
- (l) Adequate public address system.
- (m) Accurate timing equipment
- (n) Proof of insurance
- (o) Competition management shall place a minimum of one sharps container per each competition, whether or not stabling is provided. Notice to trainers: USEF rule states: "Competition management may fine any individuals including trainers, owners, exhibitors, or their agents up to \$100 for improper disposal of needles or other sharp disposable instruments." Competition management will place a notice of this requirement either in its prize list or on a specific handout given to trainers upon check in at the competition.

2. GENERAL

- (a) No entries may be accepted after and all fees must be paid before the first horse enters the ring

including classes that require individual workouts. Any show which accepts entries without payment of the requisite entry fee(s) does so at its own risk.

- (b) All specifications not covered in the VHJA Rule Book shall be in accordance with the rules of governing organizations. At any show affiliated with USEF the rules of that organization shall prevail over these rules.

(c) Protests must be handled as follows; at a show affiliated with the USEF, protests concerning infraction(s) of USEF rules must be handled according to USEF rules. Protests concerning infraction(s) of only VHJA rules (which are not covered by USEF) must be handled according to VHJA rules (See By-Laws, Rule II, Grievance Process).

- (d) Measurement cards are required to be checked for VHJA classes for which entries call for ponies (i.e. Hunter Pleasure-Pony, Hunter Hack-Pony).

In order to participate in a Pony Hunter class at an USEF recognized competition; the person exhibiting the animal must be in possession of one of the following:

- (1) Certified Measurement Card applied for prior to December 1, 1987; or
- (2) Copy of a valid measurement form (i.e. measurement performed within preceding forty-five (45) days;
- (3) Measurement Card issued by the USEF bearing the date of August 15, 1991 or thereafter.

3. SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES

Entries must be made in writing and signed by the Exhibitor, Owner/ Agent, Trainer and/or Coach. Failure to do so may invoke a \$250.00 (two hundred fifty dollar) fine.

4. LIGHTNING RULE

If lightning is observed and reported, the determination as to whether to suspend the show will

be conducted by a majority vote of the EMT, the Steward, and the Show Manager. These same three officials will collectively determine when it is appropriate and safe for the show to resume.

J. POST SHOW REPORTS

1. File report to VHJA Secretary as outlined by the VHJA Competition Committee within ten (10) days. If this is not done within the allotted time, additional penalties may be imposed including, but not limited to, loss of affiliation. Any exception to this rule will be made only by vote of the Board of Directors pending written or email receipt within ten (10) days of the close of the show, a request for additional time due to hardship. The VHJA Secretary may require further correspondence to clarify results. A response is required within seven (7) business days of being contacted. The report must contain:
 - (a) A copy of the final prize list.
 - (b) A list for each class with exact number of entries judged
 - (c) Results from each class. Results shall list full name of horse, owner(s) and rider of all entries with their VHJA numbers and placings.
 - (d) Shows affiliated with NEHC may use the NEHC form, which covers USEF and VHJA.
 - (e) Any VHJA forms submitted at the horse show, including VHJA membership, Futurity forms and dues.
2. Report any protests and disciplinary measures.
3. Monies due VHJA.

and/or suspension or loss of affiliation/membership at the discretion of the Rules Committee and/or Board of Directors.

VHJA will support USEF and/or NEHC in any disciplinary action/s against an exhibitor/s which involve sportsmanship, the good conduct of shows, or indebtedness, and will extend these actions to all VHJA Affiliated shows.

At all shows, which must be affiliated with USEF, the rules of USEF shall prevail over VHJA rules. At a show affiliated with the USEF, protests concerning infraction(s) of USEF rules must be handled according to USEF rules. Protests concerning infraction(s) of VHJA Rules, which are not covered by the USEF, must be filed in accordance with the VHJA Grievance Process. Where a conflict exists that is not covered by USEF rules, the protest will be handled as follows:

1. Any rider, handler, exhibitor, owner, agent, trainer or parent of a junior exhibitor, or the VHJA Board of Directors may file a protest with the Steward of a VHJA recognized show or with the VHJA Rules Committee alleging violation of any VHJA rule(s). The protest must contain all information as specified below and must be:
 - (a) In writing. A protest must state the full name and address (if known) of the accused, must list each rule alleged to have been violated, must include a complete statement of the acts which constitute the alleged violation, and must include an explanation of what damages were sustained by the protestor. The maker of the protest must be prepared to substantiate the allegation at a hearing if one is deemed necessary by the Rules Committee. The proponent of a protest has the burden of proof by a preponderance of the evidence.
 - (b) Signed by the protestor,
 - (c) Accompanied by a deposit of \$100 if made by a VHJA member or the parent of a junior exhibitor member or \$200 if made by a non-member; said deposit will be refunded in the event the protest is sustained. In the event that the protest is not sustained, the fee shall revert to the agency that processed the protest,
 - (d) Received by the Steward or the Show Manager within 48 hours of the alleged violation or received by the Rules Committee. The protest must be received by the VHJA Secretary by the tenth business day following the last recognized day of the competition, or by the tenth business day following the date on which the alleged violation occurred if it occurred other than at a VHJA recognized show.

2. When a protest is submitted to the show steward, the protest will be ruled on by the Show Steward. If the Show Steward cannot reach a decision on a protest, the protest fee, the original protest, all affidavits and other appertaining papers, and a complete record of

RULE II- GRIEVANCE PROCESS

- A. To promote the best interests of VHJA exhibitors and shows alike, it is essential that all rules be adhered to. At any time, members are encouraged to make inquiries regarding rules and results with a Steward or the Rules Committee without paying fees. Deviation from and infraction of VHJA rules shall be subject to penalties, which may include, but not be limited to: fines, censures

the hearing shall be submitted to the Rules Committee for action.

3. When a hearing is deemed necessary by the Rules Committee, the maker of the protest must be prepared to substantiate the allegation in person. The accused show/individual and maker of the protest will be sent a notice of a hearing and it will contain a brief statement of the facts constituting the alleged violation, the VHJA rule(s) allegedly violated and the time and place at which the hearing is to be held. This notice will be sent within thirty (30) days by certified mail from receipt of the protest by the Association. The accused show/individual may attend his/her hearing, with or without counsel, and may bring witnesses, and/or submit notarized statements of other evidence on their behalf.
4. The accused show/individual or protestor may request a continuance of a scheduled hearing. A request for a new hearing date must be made in writing and received at least 21 days prior to the hearing date. Requests for hearing date changes will only be granted at the discretion of the Rules Committee upon good cause shown. Prior engagements of counsel may or may not be considered good cause. The protest will be dismissed and the matter will be considered closed without opportunity for appeal should the protestor fail to attend the hearing without giving prior notice to the Rules Committee unless the protestor can show reason for not notifying the Committee due to a last minute emergency. The Rules Committee's ruling regarding closure due to lack of attendance will be final.
5. The Rules Committee will make a ruling. A written summary of the ruling outlining the facts and ruling of the protest will be submitted to the VHJA Secretary. A copy will be sent to the protestor and accused.
6. If the show/individual wishes to appeal this decision to the Board of Directors, they must file an appeal accompanied by a deposit of \$100 if made by a VHJA member or the parent of a junior exhibitor member or \$200 if made by a non-member; said deposit will be refunded in the event the appeal is upheld. The ruling of the Board of Directors is final. A protest appeal must be filed within 30 days of the committee ruling. The Board of Directors will review whether the rules in question were interpreted and applied appropriately, but will not re-hear all of the facts of the case.
7. Upon discovery of new facts not discoverable by due diligence prior to a hearing, a party may request a rehearing before the Rules Committee. This request must be in writing and must contain a statement of new facts upon which it is based, and must be accompanied by \$100 fee if made by a VHJA member or the parent of a junior exhibitor member or \$200 if made by a non-member. If the Rules Committee elects to uphold the protest following a rehearing, the total fees paid may be refunded. Re-hearings will not be granted as a matter of right but are at the discretion of the Rules Committee.
8. Withdrawal of a protest or charge. If, prior to a hearing being held, the maker of a protest wishes to

withdraw it, he or she must make written application to the Rules Committee. If a protest is withdrawn, the protest fees will be non-refundable.

NON-PROTEST-ABLE DECISIONS

1. The soundness of a horse, when determined by an official veterinarian of the competition or by the judge, is not protest-able.
2. A judge's decision, representing his/her individual preference or opinion, is not protest-able unless it is alleged to be in violation of USEF rules. Such protest must be made to the show steward or USEF.
3. A protest questioning the height of a horse or pony may only be made to the show steward, and must be done on the same day of competition.

INDEBTEDNESS Any indebtedness to a VHJA show or to VHJA owed by an exhibitor, owner, rider, trainer, agent, or member, shall be settled within thirty (30) days or fourteen (14) days for bad checks. No points toward annual high score awards will be credited to that exhibitor for that show or any subsequent show held while indebtedness is outstanding. No membership applications received from said persons may be accepted until such indebtedness is cleared up. Life memberships can be suspended due to indebtedness. Show management must report such indebtedness to VHJA Secretary within five (5) weeks of show date.

VIOLATIONS

A violation is an act prejudicial to the best interests of the Association, including, but not limited to the following:

1. Violation of the Rules of the Association
2. Disqualification by a Recognized Show
3. Penalization by another Horse Association, Humane Society or Court of Law for violation of Association Rules
4. Acting or inciting or permitting any other to act in a manner contrary to the rules of the Association, or in a manner deemed improper, unethical, dishonest, unsportsmanlike, intemperate or prejudicial to the best interests of the Association.
5. Any act committed or remark made in connection with the show considered offensive and/or made with intent to influence or cast aspersions on the character or integrity of the judging or licensed officials; approaching a Judge before or after a decision without first obtaining permission from the Show Committee or Steward; inspecting a Judge's card without the permission of the Judge; or public verbal abuse of competition officials.
6. Failure of a Judge or Steward to perform his duties at a show in accordance with the rules.

7. Failure of an exhibitor or his representative to sign the entry blank of a show in which he/she competes.
8. Physical assault upon a person and/or cruelty to a horse.
9. Failure to obey any penalty imposed by the Association.
10. Exhibiting any horse while in the care, training or custody of a suspended trainer.
11. Riding, exhibiting, coaching or training for the benefit, credit, reputation or satisfaction of a suspended person.
12. Participating in any manner at a recognized competition while not in good standing.

13. Failure to pay indebtedness to the Association or to an affiliated show.

G. PROTESTING OF STANDINGS

All members and parents of a junior member are encouraged to check the up-to-date point standings throughout the season. If a person believes that the results were not entered correctly and that there is a discrepancy in the point standings, they must notify the VHJA Secretary of the problem so that results can be verified; no fee will be charged. If the member or parent of a member disagrees with the decision of VHJA once the results have been verified, the member or parent of a member may file a protest by following the VHJA Grievance Process. The protest must be filed within 10 days after being notified of VHJA's finding.

RULE III - VHJA HIGH SCORE CHAMPIONSHIP AWARDS

A. AWARDS

1. The Association annually offers High Score Championship Awards in numerous divisions and classes to encourage participation in VHJA shows. The awards in all classes/divisions, EXCEPT LEADLINE AND VHJA MEDAL CLASSES, shall consist of: Champion ribbon and trophy/prize, Reserve Champion ribbon and trophy/prize and ribbons for 3rd up to 8th place, as entries warrant.
2. The decision of how many places for year-end awards to award in each class/division will be at the discretion of the Board of Directors of VHJA and will be decided on at a board meeting prior to the publication of the list of winners. The number of horses/riders that have accumulated points, the number of points accumulated (relative to other divisions), the typical number of entries per show in a given division, and other objective data will be used to make this determination. The spirit of this rule is to be inclusive and reward owner/riders for effort and achievement and not to obligate the Board to cut off the number of ribbons awarded at an arbitrary total. The Board's decision regarding the number of ribbons to be awarded per division/class shall be considered final.
3. In addition, the Association will certify that all the winners of year-end awards (except LEADLINE AND VHJA MEDAL CLASSES: see below) shall meet the following criteria:
 - (a) horse's registrar/rider is a VHJA member in good standing (paid) for the calendar year of the award;
 - (b) horse/rider has a point registration completed and paid for **prior to** participation in competition in which points are earned;
 - (c) horse/rider is eligible according to VHJA rules and specifications to compete in the division/class of the award;
 - (d) horse/rider has earned points in AT LEAST THREE VHJA affiliated (pointed) shows in the division/class of the award in the calendar year of the award. If a jumper division is offered only at three shows in given season, an exception will be made to count only two shows points toward the year-end awards.
4. LEADLINE awards will only be subject to the first, second, and third criteria (a,b,c) and all entrants who meet these criteria and who have participated in at LEAST THREE (3) LEADLINE classes during the calendar year shall earn a year-end award.
5. MEDAL awards will be subject to the first, second, and third criteria above. (a,b,c). In the VHJA MEDAL CLASSES each qualified win per medal division will be recorded. At the final award banquet, Medal Class riders will receive a bronze medal for

one win, a silver medal for two wins, and a gold medal for three (3) or more wins. Medal Class riders are subject to criteria a, b, c (NOT d) listed above. The exhibitor with the most Medal wins will receive the end-of-year trophy for the class. In the event that no exhibitor wins three Medals, the exhibitor with the most number of Medals wins will earn the trophy (as per above) will be awarded the trophy. At all VHJA affiliated and Medal-affiliated shows, in order for a Medal win to be awarded, a minimum of two (2) riders must complete the course.

6. An exhibitor must accumulate 10 points to qualify for the VHJA Finals. Points are awarded regardless of the number of riders that complete the course.

1 st ... 10 Points	4 th ... 5 Points	7 th ... 2 points
2 nd ... 8 Points	5 th ... 4 Points	8 th ... 1 point
3 rd ... 6 Points	6 th ... 3 Point	

7. The categories in which awards are offered are listed under their respective classes/divisions under Section B of

this Rule. The categories may be expanded or deleted by majority vote of the members at the annual meeting. All awards will be made at an annual awards banquet.

B. AWARD TITLES: The classes/divisions listed below will be receive YEAR-END AWARDS when they have been held at 3 or more VHJA sanctioned shows in one competition year. If a division is not offered at three shows in a given season, an exception can be made to count only two shows' points toward the year-end award. This is at the discretion of the board. The Finals Classes are not to count towards the annual point or medal total.

EQUITATION CLASSES

LEADLINE

OPEN EQUITATION DIVISIONS

OPEN EQUITATION 11 and Under

OPEN EQUITATION 12-14

OPEN EQUITATION 15-17

OPEN ADULT EQUITATION

EQUITATION DIVISIONS

BEGINNER EQUITATION

ADVANCED BEGINNER EQUITATION

SHORT STIRRUP EQUITATION

JR/ADULT NOVICE EQUITATION (formerly long stirrup)

CHILDREN'S EQUITATION 2'

CHILDREN'S EQUITATION 2'6"

CHILDREN'S EQUITATION 3'-3'3"

HIGH/LOW MODIFIED ADULT EQUITATION

MEDAL CLASSES

VHJA SHORT STIRRUP MEDAL

VHJA JR/ADULT NOVICE MEDAL

VHJA HIGH/LOW MODIFIED ADULT MEDAL

VHJA CHILDREN'S 2' MEDAL

VHJA NOVICE MEDAL

VHJA PONY MEDAL

VHJA ADULT MEDAL

VHJA JUNIOR MEDAL

VHJA JOHN CORLEY HORSEMANSHIP

VHJA PRESIDENT'S MEDAL

HUNTER AND PLEASURE CLASSES

BEGINNER PLEASURE

ADVANCED BEGINNER PLEASURE

HUNTER PLEASURE PONY

HUNTER HACK PONY

HUNTER PLEASURE HORSE

HUNTER HACK HORSE

OPEN MODEL HUNTER

VHJA YOUNG HUNTER FUTURITY

HUNTER DIVISIONS

SHORT STIRRUP HUNTER

JR/ADULT NOVICE HUNTER

PRE-CHILDREN'S HUNTER

H/LOW MODIFIED ADULT HUNTER

CHILDREN'S HUNTER PONY

CHILDREN'S HUNTER HORSE

ADULT AMATEUR HUNTER

SPECIAL WORKING HUNTER PONY

SPECIAL WORKING HUNTER HORSE

LOW WORKING HUNTER

YOUNG WORKING HUNTER

PRE-GREEN WORKING HUNTER

JUNIOR WORKING HUNTER

INTERMEDIATE WORKING HUNTER

SMALL/MEDIUM PONY WORKING HUNTER

LARGE PONY WORKING HUNTER

JUMPER DIVISIONS

PONY JUMPER

ELEMENTARY JUMPER

SHOOLING JUMPER

USEF/NEHC CHILDREN'S / ADULT AMATEUR JUMPER

OPEN JUMPER

C. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

1. AWARDS: YEAR-END AWARDS shall be given in every VHJA recognized class or division as previously listed whenever that class or division is offered a minimum of three (3) times in a given show season. If a division is not offered at three shows in a given season, an exception can be made to count only two shows' points toward the year-end award. This is at the discretion of the board. Winners shall be those entries who score the highest number of points in their award categories with points earned in at least 3 different member shows.

2. ELIGIBILITY: No equitation points will be credited for year-end awards before an equitation rider has submitted a membership application and paid the membership fee and therefore holds a current membership for the show year in which points accrue. Life members must fill out a membership application each year in order to have equitation points accrue. No hunter/jumper/pleasure points will be credited for year-end awards before a horse/pony, belonging to or leased by a current member, has been registered and paid for year-end point registration. A registration fee is required for each horse/pony that a current member wishes to put forward for points to accrue toward year-end awards. If a life member wishes to register a horse/pony for points they do so at the same cost as annual members. All fees must be paid **by check or money order** (show managers and VHJA Secretary cannot accept cash for horse/pony registration or annual membership fee). Membership and registrations must be current and paid **prior to** the equitation rider and/or horse/pony shows in any classes or divisions if points are to be credited for year-end awards. Show Secretaries may require proof of membership and/or horse/pony registration to be submitted with show entries. The burden of proof for current membership is on the members who should carry their VHJA card or a copy of their card or a copy of their completed membership application signed by the show Secretary.

In summary:

In order to earn points for year-end awards, prior to entering a class in a VHJA sanctioned show, you must:

- Complete a VHJA membership application,
- Pay annual membership fee and/or horse/pony registration fee **by check or money order** to the VHJA Secretary or to the Show Secretary at the show where you wish to compete,
- Save a dated receipt of this transaction,
- Keep a copy of your VHJA membership card to present upon request.

3. AMATEUR CARDS: Amateur cards accepted from either USEF, NEHC or other organizations for applicable classes.

4. DEFINITION OF HORSE AND PONY: The term horse as used in these rules denotes either a horse or pony.

- (a) When the term horse or pony is used or intended in prize lists and catalogues or Recognized Shows where height is one of the qualifications of the class, the word horse denotes animals over 14.2 hands. (A mature horse is one that is over four (4) year of age).
- (b) Adults or Professionals may not ride ponies in any USEF or VHJA rated Pony classes (Pony Hunter, Pony Hack, Pony Pleasure, Green Pony Hunter, Special Pony Hunter, Children's Hunter Pony) in the same show at which a Junior competes that pony.

5. TERMS OF COMPETITION

- (a) No credit will be given for classes whose specifications are not in accordance with VHJA rules. No credit will be given for a class which does not appear on the approved list. (Rule III)
- (b) No credit will be given for a point class which is restricted in any way (that is a class which is not open) unless the point class(es) which is complementary to said restricted class is also offered, so that all entries have equal opportunity to acquire points.
- (c) Credit will be given for the first eight place ribbons only, regardless of the number of ribbons offered.
- (d) For points to count in Hunter Seat Equitation, shows must offer both flat and over fences classes.
- (e) Exhibitors must wear the correct show number for a class to count for points.
- (f) Equitation divisions **must** include two over fences classes, with the exception of the VHJA finals.

6. POINT VALUE: (a) Points in all classes, except where otherwise provided in these rules, will be scored as follows for year-end awards:

<i>Exhibitors</i>	<i>Placings</i>								
	<i>In Class</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	1								
2	2	1							
3	3	2	1						
4	4	3	2	1					
5	5	4	3	2	1				
6	6	5	4	3	2	1			
7-10	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	.5	
11-14	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	
15-18	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	
19-22	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	
23-26	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	
27 & Over	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	