

USHJA Horsemanship Quiz Challenge Specifications

1. **Minimum Eligibility Requirements:** Participants must be a current USHJA member in good standing, and must not have reached their 21st birthday as of December 1 of the current competition year. The zone of each participant is determined by the participant's home address as recorded with USHJA as of the current competition year.

2. **Nationals Qualifying Procedures:** Participants must register for the USHJA Horsemanship Quiz Challenge and complete Level One and Level Two quizzes no later than September 1 (should September 1 fall on a weekend or holiday, this date will be extended no later than the first USHJA business day following September 1). Participants must complete Level One and Level Two quizzes online using their designated Horsemanship Quiz Challenge username and password obtained during registration.
 - A. Online quizzes will be available in early February each year. Participants may track quiz scores and national standings at http://www.ushja.org/programs/youth/HQC_home.aspx.
 - B. Individual quizzes may vary; each quiz is generated from a pool of questions of comparable difficulty.
 - C. Each participant may login three (3) separate times to complete each quiz.
 - D. Each participant has one (1) opportunity to score 80% or above on the Level One Quiz in order to advance to the Level Two Quiz.
 - E. Login information for the Level Two Quiz is not valid unless the Level One Quiz is passed with a score of 80% or above. Each participant has one (1) opportunity to score 90% or above on the Level Two Quiz.
 - F. Participants must pass the Level Two Quiz with a score of 90% or above to be eligible for selection to compete in the Horsemanship Quiz Challenge Nationals.
 - G. USHJA will invite each qualified participant to the Horsemanship Quiz Challenge Nationals via email beginning in September.

3. **Nationals Competition Specifications:**
 - A. Twenty-four (24) individuals will be invited to participate in the Horsemanship Quiz Challenge Nationals. Individuals who score the highest in their zone on the Level Two Quiz will be selected first. If a top-24 individual zone finisher cannot attend, or a zone does not have a top finisher from the Level Two Quiz, that spot will be open to the next nationally ranked finisher. If there is a Level Two Quiz tie, the [tie-breaking procedure](#) will be followed until the tie is broken.
 - B. The National competition consists of three phases:
 - Written Exam – 30% of the total score
 - Horsemanship/Identification Exam – 30% of the total score
 - Practicum Exam – 40% of the total scoreAll finalists will take the Written Exam, Horsemanship/Identification Exam and one of the Practicum Exams (either A or B).
 - C. The scores from the Written Exam and the Horsemanship/Identification Exam will be combined and the 12 Individuals with the highest combined scores will compete in Practicum A on the second day of the Horsemanship Quiz Challenge Nationals.

- D. Finalists ranked 13th-24th based on their combined scores following the Written Exam and Horsemanship/Identification Exam, will compete in Practicum B on the second day of the Horsemanship Quiz Challenge Nationals but will not be eligible for prizes.
- E. In the event of a tie after the Written Exam and the Horsemanship/Identification Exam, the Written Exam score will take precedence. If a tie remains, the [tie-breaking procedure](#) for the Written Exam will be followed.
- F. Final Score Tabulation: The Written Exam is 30% of the total score, the Horsemanship/Identification Exam is 30% of the total score, and the Practicum Exam is 40% of the total score. If ties remain, the Written Test Score breaks the tie per the specifications.

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

