

# 2018 USHJA

## Competition Standards Resource Guide

STEPS TO OBTAINING & MAINTAINING A USEF COMPETITION LICENSE





# STEPS TO OBTAINING A NEW USEF COMPETITION LICENSE

## First Steps

- Are there dates available? Check the USEF calendar.  
[CLICK HERE](#)
- Understanding mileage required between facilities of licensed competition dates.  
Please read GR314.2 Mileage Charts.
- Facility owner – is the facility available the date(s) you would like to hold the event?
- For licensing information contact the USEF Competition Licensing Department at (859) 258-2472

## Fill out application and send to USEF for competition date

- Applications can be found on the USEF website and downloaded from the website.  
[CLICK HERE](#)
- Rules to understand when applying for a competition licensed date USEF General Rules Chapter 3.

[CLICK HERE](#)

**What standards are required for my license?**  
*(See the grid on the next page)*



# BASIC HUNTER JUMPER COMPETITION REQUIREMENTS

Produced by the United States Hunter Jumper Association

BASIC REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL RATED SHOWS (HJ203-HJ207)	LOCAL SHOW Jumper 1	REGIONAL II RATED SHOW	REGIONAL I RATED SHOW Jumper 2	NATIONAL RATED SHOW Jumper 3/4	PREMIER RATED SHOW Jumper 5/6
Number of horse entries required for rating (prize money criteria for jumper rating)	0 horses or < \$5,000 JP prize money	25 horses	50 horses or \$5,000-\$24,999 JP prize money	100 horses or \$25,000-\$49,999 JP3 and \$50,000-\$129,999 JP4 prize money	200 horses or \$125,000-\$199,999 JP5 and > \$200,000 JP6 prize money
Outdoor shows - 1 ring minimum size in sq ft.	20,000	20,000	24,000	28,000	28,000 w/ seating
Indoor ring size - 1 ring minimum size in sq ft.	14,000	14,000	16,000	18,000	20,000 w/ seating
Warm-up/Schooling areas - indoor rings	Breaks OK	Breaks OK	Breaks OK	1 additional area	1 area per jumper competition ring/ 1 area per 2 hunter competition rings
Warm-up/Schooling areas - outdoor rings	1 additional area	1 additional area	1 additional area		
Exercise area	1 hr min, no size restriction	2 hr min, no size restriction	3 hr min, 16,000 sq ft	3 hr min, 18,000 sq ft indoor, 20,000 outdoor	Open sunrise to sunset, 24,000 sq ft outdoors, 18,000 sq ft indoors
Lunging area	1 hr min, no size restriction	1 hr min, no size restriction	1 hr min, 10,000 sq. ft.	2 hr min, 10,000 sq. ft.	Open sunrise to sunset, 15,000 sq. ft.
Food service areas & times of operation	30 min prior/ 1 hr to end	30 min prior/ 1 hr to end	30 mins prior/ 1 hr to end	1hr prior/end of last class	1 hr prior/ end of last class
Veterinarian and Farrier	On call	On call	On call	Farrier - on site/ Veterinarian - on call	Onsite
Dust reduction system - competition ring & other riding areas	System in place	System in place	System in place	System & add roads/paths	System & add roads/paths
Results available in show office or online	No requirement	4 hours	4 hours	4 hours	4 hours
PA system between rings, stabling and trailer day parking area	No requirement	System in place	System in place	System in place	System in place
Seating - minimum at 1 ring	No requirement	No requirement	25 people	50 people	100 people
Overnight stabling	No requirement	No requirement	No requirement	Must be provided	Must be provided
Horse & rider shelter accessible to rings	No requirement	No requirement	No requirement	Must be provided	Must be provided
Vet area to serve as a first aid station for horses	No requirement	No requirement	No requirement	Must be provided	Must be provided
Overnight security 9pm-6am (not night watch)	No requirement	No requirement	No requirement	No requirement	Must be provided
Number of additional options not already required	0	10 (4 from Group 1)	10 (4 from Group 1)	16 (8 from Group 1)	20 (10 from Group 1)

## USEF REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL LICENSED SHOWS (HJ102 - HJ105)

Convenient and ample water for horses & potable water for people	1 restroom per 50 horses entered previous year - cleaned daily	Parking areas adequate for vans, trailers, competitors & officials	Level surface area for measurement, if there are divisions which require measurement
Competition office w/adequate staff to process timely manner	Communication between secretary, Stewards, gates, competition ring (s), announcer & stables	Permitted to haul in own hay/shavings unless noted	Federation required accident preparedness plan must be posted
Permitted to use own vet/farrier w/notification to management	Footing - safe, consistent, appropriate and maintained daily	1 horse wash area (water spigot & drain) per 50 horses entered previous year	Information regarding the use of motorized vehicles must be in prize list
Sharps containers - 1 per 50 horses & 1 per 75 horses if stabling	Designated trash & manure dumping areas	Emergency numbers plus directions to the competition available outside show office and in prize list - vet, farrier, etc.	Qualified medical personnel with appropriate equipment must be onsite with ambulance on call
If no cell service, landline must be provided	If stabling - lighting to provide safe work environment	If stabling - stalls must be sturdy construction, weatherproof, with doors and indicate type of flooring in prize list	1 adequate food/beverage service available beginning 30min prior to start of first class and ending 1hr prior to the conclusion of the competition for each day
If stabling - trash/manure remove daily or sanitary containment	Adequate knowledgeable jump crew, ingate and other personnel	Judges site with climate appropriate protection from adverse weather conditions at each ring	Lighting which provides full and complete visibility must be provided for the competition ring, schooling area, exercise area and longe area if those areas are open for use between sunset and sunrise
Water trucks, sprinklers, snow removal or another climate appropriate system to address climate related conditions			

\* Competitions with 500+ horses or held over 21+ days please see HJ208 for Additional Requirements

## BASIC HUNTER JUMPER COMPETITION OPTIONS - HJ211

GROUP 1 – OPTIONS	L J 1	RII J 2	RI J 2	N J 3/4	P J 5/6
Required Number Group 1/Total Required Number Group 1 and Group 2 Combined	0/0	4/10	4/10	8/16	10/20
Sun/rain shelter for spectators					
VIP hospitality or sponsor lounge					
Designated priority ring					
Competition website					
Night watch at exhibitor cost					
Jumbotron					
Electronic scoreboard 40 sq. ft. min					
Horse ambulance					
Award Ceremonies (time and location in prizelist)					Req
Separate horse vs motor vehicle traffic					
Camper hookups					
Ambulance onsite and/or additional medical personnel (GR1211.5)					
AED device					
Indoor/permanent bathrooms					
Indoor/permanent shower facility					
Permanent barn stabling vs. temporary stalls				Req	Req
Water trucks for dust reduction other than in ring				Req	Req
Official competition photographer					

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GROUP 2 – OPTIONS	L J 1	RII J 2	RI J 2	N J 3/4	P J 5/6
Required Number Group 1/Total Required Number Group 1 and Group 2 Combined	0/0	4/10	4/10	8/16	10/20
Wireless access at no charge					
Exhibitor appreciation party					
Sun/rain shelter for horse/rider				Req	Req
Exhibitor lounge					
Online entry system					
Dedicated schooling area per ring					Req
Acceptance of credit cards					
Equestrian equipment vendors					
Farrier on grounds for entire competition (GR1211.7)				Req	Req
Veterinarian on grounds for entire competition					Req
2 + food/beverage areas					
Golf cart rentals					
Seating for 100 spectators at main ring					Req
Implement marketing to involve community					
Press center					
Official competition videographer					
24 hour security					
Electrical outlets throughout stable area					
Storm drain in stable area					
Hot water supply in stable area					
Upgraded horse wash area with one spigot per 25 horses					
Course Designer responsible for maximum of two competition rings					
Self-service station in show office for bills, results and class counts					
Results and orders of go updated online daily					
Express checkout available					
Isolation stalls					

## HUNTER SECTIONS REQUIRED FOR EACH RATING

### HU167 Sections Required for “National” Rating.

“A” rated sections must offer an over fence class as a handy hunter. Exception Green Pony Hunter, Green Hunter 3’0” and 3’3” (See also HU113.8). A handy hunter class may be offered in the Young Hunter section and Green Hunter 3’0” and 3’3” sections, but is not required. BOD 11/13/17 Effective 12/1/17

### HU168 Sections Required for “Regional I” Rating.

At least three (3) “B” rated Hunter sections (Green Conformation Hunter 3’6” or High Performance Conformation Hunter, Green Hunter, Young Hunter, High Performance Working Hunter, Amateur Owner, Junior, Pony, or Green Pony Hunter) must be offered. One Children’s Hunter or one Adult Amateur Hunter section may be substituted for two required “B” sections. Divided sections count as a single section.

### HU169 Sections Required for “Regional II” Rating.

At least two (2) “C” rated sections (Green Conformation Hunter 3’6” or High Performance Conformation Hunter, Green Hunter, Young Hunter, High Performance Hunter, Amateur Owner Hunter, Junior Hunter, Pony Hunter, or Green Pony Hunter, Children’s Hunter, Adult Amateur Hunter, or Thoroughbred Hunter) must be offered. Divided sections count as a single section. Competitions restricted to side saddle may offer a Ladies Hunter Side Saddle Section as the only “C” rated Hunter section.

### HU161 Scheduling

1. “A” rated Hunter sections may be held and judged on one or more days. If held on one day “A” sections are limited to a maximum of four classes per section (3 over fences and 1 under saddle). If held on two or more days, three to five performance classes must be offered (Exception: Pony Hunter and Junior Hunter sections).
  - a. At National and Premier rated competitions the High Performance Working Hunter section must be offered. Exception: competitions restricted to Juniors and Amateurs.
  - b. National rated competitions must be held and judged over a minimum of three (3) days on the same competition grounds. A minimum of ten “A” rated hunter sections listed in GR313.6 must be offered. Additionally, a minimum of five (5) “A” and/or “C” rated hunter sections listed in GR313.6 must be held and judged. Ladies Side Saddle does not count towards these requirements. A minimum of two performance classes from two different “A” rated Hunter sections must be scheduled and judged on each of the three



days. A minimum of \$5,000 in prize money, must be paid in the rated Hunter sections of a National competition. A maximum of \$2,000 of Hunter Classic, USHJA Pony Hunter Derby, USHJA National Hunter Derby, USHJA Green Hunter Incentive, and/or USHJA Green Hunter Challenge prize money can be used towards calculating the \$5,000 of required prize money for a National rated competition. Exception: A minimum of \$3,000 in prize money, must be paid in the rated Hunter sections of a National competition restricted to Juniors and/or Amateurs. A maximum of \$1,000 of Hunter Classic USHJA National Hunter Derby, USHJA Green Hunter Incentive, and/or USHJA Green Hunter Challenge prize money can be used towards calculating the \$3,000 of required prize money for a National rated competition restricted to Juniors and/or Amateurs.

c. Premier rated competitions must be held and judged over a minimum of five (5) days on the same competition grounds. A minimum of fifteen "A" rated Hunter sections listed in GR312.6 must be offered. Additionally, a minimum of ten "A" and/or "C" rated hunter sections listed in GR312.6 must be held and judged, a maximum of four which can be "C" rated sections. Ladies Side Saddle does not count towards these requirements. A minimum of two performance classes from two different "A" rated Hunter sections must be scheduled and judged on four of the five days. At premier rated competitions, "A" rated Hunter sections must be held on two or more days. (Exception: High Performance Working Hunter, Performance Hunter 3'6" and Performance Hunter 3'3"). A minimum of \$24,000 in prize money, including add-back money if any, must be paid in the rated Hunter sections of a Premier competition. A maximum of \$5,000 of Hunter Classic, USHJA International Hunter Derby, USHJA International Hunter Derby Welcome Stake, USHJA Pony Hunter Derby, USHJA National Hunter Derby, USHJA Green Hunter Incentive, and/or USHJA Green Hunter Challenge prize money can be used towards calculating the \$24,000 of prize money, including add-back money if any, which must be paid for a Premier rated competition. If an add-back is offered, the minimum required prize money for that section must be guaranteed, and the add-backs must be clearly indicated in the prize list. Exception: If sections are canceled or entries are insufficient to award all prize money, then additional money not awarded must be pooled and redistributed 60% to the champions, and 40% to the reserve champions of the remaining "A" rated hunter sections.

d. Rated competitions which restrict entries in the rated Hunter sections to juniors and amateurs must be held on a minimum of two consecutive non-school

days within the public school system, at the location of the competition, on the same competition grounds. A minimum of six "A" rated Hunter sections listed in GR 312.6 must be offered. Additionally, a minimum of three "A" and/or "C" rated hunter sections listed in GR 312.6 must be held. Ladies Side Saddle does not count towards these requirements. National rated competitions must state their National or Premier rating clearly on the cover of the prize list

e. At Federation licensed Junior/Amateur competitions the only rated Hunter sections that may be held are those which are restricted by definition to the participation of juniors and amateurs (example: Junior, Amateur, Children's, Adult and Pony). Exception: Pony Hunter Breeding and Hunter Breeding classes.

2. National rated competitions must state their National or Premier rating clearly on the cover of the prize list.
3. Competitions cannot offer more than the required amount of classes for an "A" or "B" section rating. Model classes and Classics do not count toward the number of classes required, (Model classes must be offered in "A" rated Conformation sections in addition to the four or five required classes), therefore, they can be offered as additional classes. In addition, Model and Classics do not count towards the number of required classes to meet the rating requirement, therefore the prize money offered in Model and/or Classic classes cannot be used to determine the amount of required prize money to calculate the Premier rating. (Exception: see HU158.1c).
4. No more than three (3) classes in any "A" rated hunter section at a National or Premier rated competition may be held in one day if the section is held over two days. (Exception: Model classes in Green Conformation Hunter 3'6" and High Performance Conformation Hunter sections may be held as a fourth class. High Performance Working Hunter, Performance Hunter 3'6" and Performance Hunter 3'3" at National and Premier rated competitions and Pony Hunter sections at National rated competitions may be held on one day.)

a. At National and Premier rated competitions, classes in recognized sections must be run on consecutive days.

b. (Exception, hunter classics).

5. At all Regular Competitions, an Under Saddle class cannot be the first performance class held in a section. (Exception: Ladies Hunter Side Saddle and unrated sections).
6. A Model class must be offered as the first class in an "A" rated Conformation Section.
7. All Amateur Owner classes should be scheduled in as short a period of time as possible.

## HU162 Cancellations.

“A” or “B” rated sections with four (4) or more entries cannot be canceled.

## HU163 Prize Money.

1. Prize money offered in the open sections must be awarded on an escalating scale related to the height of fences.
2. No more than 60% of the prize money in the required classes for an “A” rated section may be offered on any one day when the division is held on two or more days, exception: “A” rated sections in which all required classes are held on one day. Prize money offered in Model classes at “Premier” rated competition including add-back money, if any, in rated Hunter sections does not count toward the minimum prize money required for a section’s rating nor is it considered for purposes of determining 60% to be offered.

## PRIZE LIST REQUIREMENTS

Refer to General Rules Chapter 9.

[CLICK HERE](#)

## COMPETITION OFFICIALS, EMPLOYEES, AND VOLUNTEERS

Refer to General Rules Chapter 12.

[CLICK HERE](#)

## USEF HUNTER RULE LINKS

[CLICK HERE](#)

## USEF JUMPER RULE LINKS

[CLICK HERE](#)

## USEF HUNTER/JUMPER COMPETITIONS LINKS

[CLICK HERE](#)

### What if the competition cannot meet the standards due to unforeseen circumstances?

- HJ100.6 states “A single competition may receive a one time specific exemption by the Federation for application of the HJS due to unforeseen and/or extenuating circumstances (see ring size exemption provision H/J 102). Exemptions are not permanent and do not modify the requirement to meet the HJS in the future.” For exemption information, contact USEF Competition Licensing Department at (859) 258-2472

### What if the competition ring does not meet the standard(s) requirement?

- HJ102.1(a) states “Beginning 12/01/2011 and ending 11/30/2016, competitions may apply in writing to the

Federation for a “Temporary Waiver” of the HJS size requirement of a competition ring, schooling area, exercise area and/or lunge area as set forth in the Federation HJS. A Temporary Waiver may not exceed a five percent (5%) reduction from the HJS. The Temporary Waiver must be based on facts and circumstances that are beyond the control of the competition. Any Temporary Waiver request may only be approved for the period beginning 12/01/2011 and ending 11/30/2016. Full compliance with Federation HJS for competition rings, schooling areas, exercise areas and lunge areas will be required beginning 12/01/2016.”

### What if the minimum horse entries are not met for the rating I applied for?

- HJ202.7(a) states “For competitions with three or more years of operation, a competition License may be renewed if they have achieved the HJS Horse Entry Number in at least two of the last three years.” Please read all of HJ202 for all rules regarding the Horse Entry Number.



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