

MHJA CLASS SPECIFICATIONS

All Hunter and Jumper courses must comply with USEF Specifications. Fence heights are listed in 3" ranges. At a USEF rated show, fences will be set to meet USEF division specifications. At MHJA shows, fences may be set within the range listed.



HUNTER DIVISION

Points toward annual awards will be given in the following sections:

SHORT STIRRUP HUNTER – Open to horses and ponies ridden by riders twelve (12) years and under. At a show where a rider competes in the Short Stirrup section, he may not cross enter except into his age group equitation. Fences 18"–2'.

LONG STIRRUP HUNTER – Open to horses and ponies ridden by riders over twelve (12) years. At a show where a rider competes in the Long Stirrup section, he may not cross enter except into his age group equitation. Fences 18"–2'.

MHJA PONY HUNTER - Open to ponies ridden by a junior rider. Age limitations and class specifications including fence heights and striding shall comply with current Zone IV Children's Hunter Pony rules. Year-end awards will be given in each section (Small, Medium and Large) which has four ponies eligible. MHJA Pony will be held as three sections according to pony size. Sections with less than four ponies will be combined. Annual Awards will be given separately to sections which have more than four competitors. Pony riders who compete in Children's Hunter Pony or Pony Hunter classes at affiliated shows will receive points in the appropriate MHJA Pony Hunter section. Fences 2' for small and medium ponies, 2'6" for large ponies.

PRE-CHILDREN'S/ADULT AMATEUR HUNTER – Open to any junior or amateur rider on a horse or pony. A rider may not compete at the same show in any class where fences exceed 2'9", except his age group equitation. Fences 2'3"–2'6".

MODIFIED CHILDREN'S/ADULT AMATEUR HUNTER – Open to any junior or amateur rider on a horse or pony. A rider may not compete at the same show in any class where fences exceed 3'3", except his age group equitation. Fences 2'6"–2'9".

BABY GREEN HUNTER – Open to horses and ponies in their FIRST or SECOND year of showing. Can not jump over 2'9" at the show where they compete as a Baby Green Hunter. Fences 2'6".

PRE-GREEN HUNTER – Open to horses which have not shown over 2'9" in the prior year. A Pre-Green horse has two competition years of eligibility once it competes in the Pre-Green section. It may not compete in a class where fences exceed 3'3" at the same show. (Zone IV Specifications) Fences 2'9"-3'.

2010 SHOW PACKET

**Mississippi Hunter Jumper Association
Post Office Box 13904
Jackson, MS 39236-3904
www.mhja.net**

CHILDREN'S HUNTER – Open to horses and ponies ridden by a junior rider. The combination is not eligible for MHJA/USEF rated classes except the rider's age group equitation. (Zone IV Specifications) Fences 2'9"-3'

ADULT AMATEUR HUNTER – Open to horses and ponies ridden by an amateur rider. The horse/rider combination is not eligible for any other classes at the same show where the fences are 3'3" or higher, except the rider's age group equitation.. (Zone IV Specifications) Fences 2'9"-3'

JUNIOR HUNTER – Open to horses ridden by a junior. Fences 3'3"-3'6".

AMATEUR OWNER HUNTER - Open to horses ridden by an amateur rider. The horse must be owned by the rider or a member of the rider's family. Fences 3'3"-3'6".

EQUITATION DIVISIONS

Points toward annual awards will be given in the following sections:

SHORT STIRRUP EQUITATION – Flat and Over Fences - open to riders twelve (12) years of age and under. At a show where a rider rides in the Short Stirrup Section, he may cross enter only into classes where fences do not exceed 2' and his age group equitation. No testing. Fences 18"-2'.

LONG STIRRUP EQUITATION – Flat and Over Fences - open to riders over twelve (12) years of age. At a show where a rider has ridden in the Long Stirrup section, he may enter only into classes where the fences do not exceed 2' and his age group equitation. No testing. Fences 18"-2'.

PRE-CHILDREN'S/ADULT AMATEUR EQUITATION – Flat and Over Fences – Open to junior and adult amateur riders. A rider may not compete at the same show in any class where fences exceed 2'9", except his age group equitation. No testing; Fences 2'3"-2'6".

EQUITATION 11 & UNDER – Flat and Over Fences. Tests 1–8. Fences 2'3"-2'6".

EQUITATION 12 – 14 – Flat and Over Fences. Tests 1–13. Fences 2'9"-3'.

EQUITATION 15 – 17 – Flat and Over Fences. Tests 1–19. Fences 3'3"-3'6".

CHILDREN'S/ADULT AMATEUR EQUITATION – Flat and Over Fences. Open to junior and amateur riders. Tests 1–19. Fences 2'9"-3'.

MISSISSIPPI HUNTER JUMPER ASSOCIATION HORSE MEDAL

Open to junior and amateur members of the MHJA. Application for membership must be made and membership fee paid before entering the class. Class

requirements are the same as for the USEF Hunter Seat Medal Class except that only three riders must enter and complete the course. Riders may continue to compete after winning a medal; points determine those eligible for competing in the MHJA Horse Medal Final Class. Tests 1–19. Fences 2'9"-3'.

MISSISSIPPI HUNTER JUMPER ASSOCIATION PONY MEDAL

Open to junior riders on ponies who are members of the MHJA. Application for membership must be made and membership fee paid before entering the class. Class requirements are the same as for the USEF Pony Equitation Class except that only three riders must enter and complete the course. Riders may continue to compete after winning a medal since points determine those eligible for competing in the MHJA Pony Medal Final Class. Tests 1–9. Fences 2' for small and medium ponies, 2'6" for large ponies.

MHJA MEDAL FINALS – All riders receiving points in MHJA Pony or Horse Medal classes during the show year shall be considered eligible for the MHJA Medal Final classes. Eight entries shall be accepted in the finals class in descending order of points earned. Class requirements will be the same as the Horse and Pony Medal classes. No Entry Fee.

JUMPER DIVISIONS

Points toward annual awards will be given in the following sections:

HOPEFUL JUMPER – Open to any horse or pony which does not jump higher than 3'6" at the same show. Meter .80

LOW SCHOOLING JUMPER – Open to horses and ponies. Meter .80

HIGH SCHOOLING JUMPER – Open to horses and ponies. Meter .1.05

PONY JUMPER – Open to junior riders on ponies. Meter .90 – 1.05

CHILD/ADULT AMATEUR JUMPER – Open to horses and ponies ridden by a junior or adult amateur rider. Horse/rider combination may not enter any other USEF rated section excluding Equitation. Meter 1.05 – 1.10

JUNIOR/AMATEUR OWNER JUMPER – Open to horses ridden by a junior or amateur owner rider or an amateur member of the owner's family. Leased horses are not eligible and multiple ownership is not permitted unless all owners are members of the same family. Meter 1.25

HEADS UP EQUITATION

Points toward annual awards will not be awarded in the Heads Up Section. Recognition will be given to MHJA members who compete in the Heads Up

section of a MHJA sponsored show. The Heads Up section is open to beginner riders who **MAY NOT CROSS ENTER INTO ANY OTHER CLASSES at a horse show where they compete in the Heads Up section.** Fences 12”.

Walk, Trot Canter – riding on the flat under control at all three gates

Trot X’s- Four X fences placed on the rail. Riders go twice around the ring.

X to Vertical – Four fences on the rail, an X fence leading to a vertical fence.

Mini Stirrup – a course of six (6) jumps. Fences 12”.

ANNUAL TROPHIES

In addition to points earned according to the following specifications, points earned in equitation classes and medal classes will be counted. Permanent trophies are kept by the winner until the end of the show year when they are returned to the Association for presentation to the next winner.

The **C.B. Rutledge Memorial Trophy** is given to the Pony Hunter rider accumulating the most points annually in all MHJA rated divisions, except classics and jumper classes, while riding a pony.

The **John H. Bianchi Memorial Trophy** is given to the Children’s Hunter rider accumulating the most points annually in all MHJA rated divisions, except classics and jumper classes, in which the fence height does not exceed 3’.

The **James N. McLeod Memorial Trophy** is given to the Junior Hunter rider accumulating the most points annually in all MHJA rated divisions, except classics and jumper classes, in which the fence height is 3’3” or higher.

The **Kurt Allen Baskin Memorial Trophy** is given to the Adult Amateur Hunter rider accumulating the most points annually in all MHJA rated divisions, except classics and jumper classes, in which the fence height does not exceed 3’.

The **Providence Hill Farm Memorial Trophy** is given to the Amateur Owner Hunter rider accumulating the most points annually in all MHJA rated divisions, except classics and jumper classes, in which the fence height is 3’3” or higher.

The **Annie Laurie and Robert M. Hearin Sportsmanship Award** is given bi-annually to a member of the MHJA who best exemplifies the qualities of good sportsmanship. Some characteristics to be considered may include: fairness, attitude, helpfulness to others, care of animals, and dedication to the sport of riding and showing horses. Three members in good standing of the Association shall be required to complete the nomination form. Members may nominate only one person each year. Nominations shall be submitted in writing as specified by the announcement of the award each year. Election shall be at the Annual Awards Banquet by MHJA members in good standing.

The **Laurie McRee Equestrian of the Year Award** is given bi-annually to a member of the MHJA whose year long performance has demonstrated outstanding horsemanship and has contributed to the overall improvement of the hunter/jumper equestrian discipline. Three members in good standing of the Association shall be required to complete the nomination form. Members may nominate only one person each year. Nominations shall be submitted in writing as specified by the announcement of the award each year. Election shall be at the Annual Awards Banquet by MHJA members in good standing.

JUMPER HEIGHTS AND SPREADS

0.70 m = Fences 2’3” in height
0.75 m = Fences 2’5” in height
0.80 m = Fences 2’7” in height
0.85 m = Fences 2’9” in height
0.90 m = Fences 2’11” in height
0.95 m = Fences 3’1” in height
1.00 m = Fences 3’3” in height
1.05 m = Fences 3’5” in height
1.10 m = Fences 3’7” in height
1.15 m = Fences 3’9” in height
1.20 m = Fences 3’11” in height
1.25 m = Fences 4’1” in height
1.30 m = Fences 4’3” in height
1.35 m = Fences 4’5” in height
1.40 m = Fences 4’7” in height
1.45 m = Fences 4’9” in height
1.50 m = Fences 4’11” in height
1.55 m = Fences 5’1” in height
1.60 m = Fences 5’3” in height

At all heights, to qualify as a spread fence, the fence must be 5 cm (2”) up to 15 cm (6”) wider than the height. At least three out of the eight efforts must be spreads. (see JP122.6). Any full width square oxer may be set 5 cm (2”) lower than the height indicated

MHJA SPECIAL RULES

1. At least three (3) horses or ponies must compete ~~and place~~ in a class for points to be earned toward annual awards.
 - a. Hunter Sections: **Three (3) horses must complete the course of the first class and three horses must contest the under saddle class.**
 - b. Jumper Sections: Three horses must compete. A horse is considered to have competed when he has entered the ring and been present when the

start signal is given. If 3 horses are not available per division, that division can be combined with a division of same height and pinned accordingly but points to be given in the appropriate division.

2. The following sections can be combined at MHJA shows if one of the sections does not have the minimum number of entries (three) required to hold the section. Points will be allowed in the section in which the horse/rider meets the entry specifications:

Short Stirrup Hunter and Long Stirrup Hunter;
Small, Medium and Large MHJA Pony Hunter
Children's Hunter and Adult Amateur Hunter;
Junior Hunter and Amateur Owner Hunter;
Children's/Adult Amateur Jumper and Level III Jumper; and
Equitation Sections which require the same fence height.

3. Dividing Sections: The MHJA will divide Short and Long Stirrup sections when there are more than eight (8) entries in the division. Divisions will be divided as the judge specifies. The MHJA holds rated sections separately when there are a minimum of four (4) horses in each section (ex. Large and Small Junior).

4. **A rider can always enter his age group equitation.** Cross entering restrictions apply to hunter and jumper sections but may not restrict a rider from riding in his age appropriate equitation.

5. The Jumper Division must be conducted in accordance with USEF rules regarding courses, tables, officiating and timing equipment. Tables must be printed in the prize list and posted with the courses at the show.

6. After the prize list has been mailed, show management may not add a section which receives end of year points to the show schedule.

7. Horses or ponies may not enter an under saddle class unless they have entered an over fences class in that section. Entries not to be judged are allowed only at the discretion of show management.

8. A horse or pony may compete with only one rider in any class at the same show (Exception: Heads Up division).

9. MHJA members are awarded points for placing in MHJA sponsored or recognized shows. These awards are presented at the annual awards banquet.

a. Only those **current in their MHJA membership at the time of the competition** are eligible for points toward annual awards.

b. To be eligible for an annual award, the rider (equitation classes) and horse (hunter and jumper classes) must compete **in at least one MHJA sponsored horse show** during the show year.

10. In Hunter and Jumper sections, it is the horse which accumulates points. Membership at the time of competition is required of the owner and the rider for a

horse to receive points toward annual awards. When the horse competing is leased but not owned, the lessee is considered the owner by the MHJA and the lessee and the rider must be members of the MHJA.

11. In Equitation sections, it is the rider who accumulates points. Membership is required only for the rider (and not the owner) to be eligible for points toward annual awards.

12. In Hunter sections, the Champion horse will receive 10 additional points; Reserve Champion will receive 5 additional points.

13. Points are tabulated at MHJA shows in this manner:

First Place	10 points
Second Place	6 points
Third Place	4 points
Fourth Place	2 points
Fifth Place	1 point
Sixth Place	1/2 point

In hunter sections, only the top four (4) horses with points over fences are eligible to receive points toward Champion and Reserve Champion in the Under Saddle classes. When points are totaled, should there be a tie, the horse with the most points over fences is Champion. If horses are tied in points over fences, championship shall be determined by an under saddle competition between the tied horses.

In jumper sections, ties shall remain tied and the tied horses will receive equal points.

14. For MHJA end of year awards, the Point Chairman shall use the following scale for tabulation of points:

MHJA Sponsored Show	2 x point value
MHJA Recognized Show	1 x point value
USEF Recognized Show	1 x point value

15. Hard hats are required of all riders while on the grounds of a MHJA horse show. Junior riders are required to wear USEF regulation headgear.

16. Negative coggins must be presented before numbers will be issued. Coggins must be valid according to the laws of the state in which the competition is held. It is not the responsibility of the show office to keep a record of coggins.

17. Any MHJA sponsored or recognized show will be conducted in accordance with USEF rules, except where modified by MHJA rules as listed in this Show Packet. The MHJA honors all suspensions and penalties imposed by the USEF.

18. The MHJA Board of Directors reserves the right to limit the number of classes to be held at a MHJA recognized show.

19. In the event of a dispute at a MHJA member show, a written protest may be filed with the Show Manager or any member of the MHJA Board of Directors. The protest must be accompanied with a \$50.00 protest fee and filed within 49 hours of the conclusion of the horse show where the protested action occurred. The Hearing Committee of the MHJA Board will consider the protest within 14 days and recommend action to the Board of Directors.

20. When the MHJA affiliates with a horse show of another association, points toward annual awards may be earned only in divisions where class specifications are identical to those of the MHJA. Exceptions: In hunter divisions, the fence heights may vary 3"; in jumper divisions, the fence heights may vary .05 meters. Fence heights for MHJA Pony Hunter may vary up to 6.

21 This rule book will be the authority in any conflict. In matters not covered by MHJA rules, or when the rules conflict, the USEF rule book shall take precedence.

SPECIFICATIONS FOR HORSE SHOW APPROVAL

The MHJA will recognize unrated horse shows whose management is a current MHJA member. **The MHJA disclaims any and all liability for personal injury incurred by riders, visitors, invitees, trespassers or others at a show sponsored or recognized by the MHJA.**

For MHJA members to obtain recognition of a proposed barn show and to qualify as a recognized MHJA show for end of year awards, show management must comply with the following procedures:

1. To apply for MHJA recognition, a **MHJA member** should mail a letter of application and an application fee of \$50.00 to the MHJA post office box address. An alternate date may also be requested at the time of application in the event of cancellation of the show date (see #2).

The application form and fee must be postmarked 45 days in advance of the proposed show date. Applications will be considered in order of postmarks. Barn shows will be limited to five shows per year by the same sponsor.

When more than one horse show applies for MHJA recognition on the same date, the USEF mileage rule will apply. **No horse show will be recognized on a date on which the MHJA is sponsoring a horse show.**

2. Receive approval of the show date from the MHJA Affiliated Show Committee, said date to be acknowledged by the committee by letter or telephone within five (5) days of the receipt of the application. Once approved, a barn show can be cancelled (and money refunded) only for reasons beyond the control of show management (ex. inclement weather, cancellation by the judge).

If a show must be cancelled and an alternate date has not been designated, show management will be allowed up to two weeks after the date of the cancelled show to request another show date. If a new date is agreed upon by show management and the MHJA, show management may utilize the existing prize list but must inform all members in writing of the rescheduled show date. This written notification must be postmarked at least two weeks prior to the date of the rescheduled show. **If a cancellation notice or rescheduling request is not received by the Affiliated Show Committee within the two weeks following the date of the cancelled show, show management will forfeit the original application fee and begin the entire show approval process again.**

3. Submit for approval by the Affiliated Show Committee at least thirty (30) days prior to the horse show:

- a. A draft of the proposed schedule;
- b. Name of the judge who must be an equine professional or a USEF approved judge;
- c. Name of the show manager; and
- d. Name of the show secretary.

4. Receive approval of the information listed above – before printing and mailing the prize list. The MHJA will provide mailing labels of MHJA members.

5. Mail a prize list to the judge and **ALL** members of the MHJA. The prize list must be postmarked at least two weeks prior to the date of the show. The prize list must contain the following:

- a. Five (5) hunter sections recognized by the MHJA. Sections listed in the current MHJA Show Packet as receiving end of year awards are recognized sections (See MHJA Class Specifications). **One** jumper section may be substituted for one of the required hunter sections. MHJA approval is contingent on the sections and classes conforming to the descriptions contained in this Show Packet.
- b. The MHJA Horse Medal Class and MHJA Pony Medal Class being offered if possible.
- c. Name, date and location of the show, including directions.
- c. Name of judge, course designer and show manager.
- d. Name and address of the show secretary.
- e. Entry blank stating entry fees, closing date of entries and policy regarding post entries. If late fees are to be charged for class changes made after registration, that policy should be indicated.
- f. Tentative schedule of classes showing fence heights.

- g. Number of ribbons offered per class and policy regarding championship and reserve championships.
- i. Statement noting when and where schooling will be allowed.
- j. Information about availability of concessions.
- k. The following statements:
 “A negative coggins must be presented before numbers will be issued. Coggins must be valid according to the laws of the state in which the competition is held.”
 “Hard hats are required of all riders while on the grounds of a MHJA horse show. Junior riders are required to wear USEF regulation headgear. “

- 6. Ensure that the following provisions are available at the show:
 - a. Ample stabling, with lighting and bedding available for sale, for all shows lasting longer than one day.
 - b. Clean water, restrooms and a telephone on the show grounds.
 - c.. Secretary’s office/desk with adequate personnel.
 - d. Adequate communication between horse show personnel.
 - e. A current MHJA Show Packet.
 - f. MHJA Membership applications
 - g. Back numbers and string for exhibitors
 - h. Adequate and safe schooling area large enough for two fences.
 - i. Show ring large enough that at least 8 fences may be safely used by horses and riders.
 - j. Jumps the meet USEF specifications for hunter and jumper courses.
 - k. Courses posted at least 1 hour before the start of classes.
 - l. A paddock master at the in-gate.
 - m. Farrier and veterinarian on call, names and telephone numbers readily available in show office.
 - n. Adequate medical resources on the show grounds throughout the horse show; Name and contact information to be posted in the show office.

THE MHJA DISCLAIMS ANY AND ALL LIABILITY FOR ANY PERSONAL INJURY INCURRED BY RIDERS, VISITORS, INVITEES, TRESPASSERS OR OTHERS DURING A MHJA AFFILIATED BARN SHOW.

- 7. Within 10 days of completion of the show, submit to the MHJA copies of the prize list, class sheets for all classes, medal and pony medal result cards and

completed championship sheets indicating winners through sixth place. To provide a permanent record in the case of dispute, show management must also maintain the official records of the show for two calendar years. **Results should be mailed to: MHJA, P.O. Box 13904, Jackson, MS 39236.**

- 8. Report to the MHJA Treasurer all outstanding monies.
- 9. **Failure to adhere to these specifications will result in disallowance of affiliation at shows by the offending sponsor in the next calendar year.**

APPROVAL FOR USEF RATED SHOWS

- 1. Recognition must be requested 45 days in advance of the requested horse show date. The MHJA will provide requesting management with an information/affiliation form to be completed with the request.
- 2. ALL current members of the MHJA MUST receive a prize list. Labels will be provided by the MHJA at the time approval is given
- 3. The MHJA will not recognize any show on a date conflicting with a MHJA sponsored horse show.

MHJA 2010 SHOW SCHEDULE	
MHJA Holiday Classic	December 3 – 6, 2009
MHJA Spring Fling	March 19 – 21, 2010
MHJA May Madness	May 9 – 11, 2010
MHJA Oktoberfest	October 15 – 18, 2010

MHJA BOARD

	President	Russ Gatlin	
	Vice President	Patti Shoemaker	
	Treasurer	Tom Lott	
	Secretary	Trish Murrell	
Ad/Sponsorships	Beth Hays	Membership	Gail Evans
Awards	Vera Coleman	Points	Kim Ray
Canton Facility	Jamie Martin	Publicity	Stephanie Garriga
Hospitality	Donna Hodges	Shows	Laurie McRee
Becky Brown	Ashley Harris	Priscilla O’Donnell	
Callie Cooper	Mary Lou Keegan	Stephanie Scott	
Crystal Gaylor	Lauren Moore	Melissa Townsend	