



The Ohio Professional Horsemen's Association

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RULEBOOK

2025 / 2026

www.opha.org

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2025–2026
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POINT SYSTEM RULES

1. Owners, lessees, and equitation riders must be current members of the O.P.H.A. at the time the points are won for the points to count toward year-end awards.
2. Points remain with the horse when bought or sold, providing that new owner is a member of the O.P.H.A.

3. Each year's point system begins on December 1st and is in effect through October 31 of the following year. The dates of the final horse show that counts for points will be announced in the calendar.
4. A nomination fee must be paid for each horse with a nomination form before points will be counted toward yearly awards. This will be used to defray the cost of awards and expenses.
5. Memberships and horse nominations can be done online at www.opha.org, click the "Join" tab. Nominating and membership forms are available for printing on the website (www.opha.org) or by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to the Membership Secretary. Forms might be available at horse shows, but forms are NOT to be turned in to the show secretary, unless a special arrangement has been made with O.P.H.A. and members informed in advance. Membership/nomination begins on the postmark date or when the credit card transaction is complete.
6. Points will be counted as follows:

1st place:	10 points	4th place:	2 points
2nd place:	6 points	5th place:	1 point
3rd place:	4 points	6th place:	1/2 point

7. For hunter classes where horses must be entered in the entire division (e.g., Green Hunter, Junior and Amateur Hunter, Pony and Green Pony Hunter), points will be determined according to the number of entries in the first class over fences in each section. For hunter classes that may be entered individually (Performance, High Performance, Very Green, Children's, Adults, Modified Children's/Adults, Low Children's, Low Adults, Children's Pony, Short Stirrup, Long Stirrup), points count based on the entries for each individual class. Sections/classes with 2 to 11 entries will receive single points; 12 to 17 entries shall receive double points; and 18 or more entries shall receive triple points. This system shall apply to all O.P.H.A. approved shows regardless of USEF rating or location.
8. The OPHA abides by USEF rules and guidelines for vaccinations. All horses older than 7 months must have documentation of Equine Influenza Virus and Equine Herpes Virus (Rhinopneumonitis) vaccinations within six months prior to entering the show grounds. Horses not in compliance with this rule will be required to leave upon request by competition management. The frequency of vaccine administration should be per the vaccine manufacturers' or veterinarian's recommendations. Please see USEF General Rule 844. Members should also have their horses tested for Equine Infectious Anemia and bring require proof of a negative test (Coggins test) to horse shows.
9. Horses and riders must follow current USEF tack and equipment rules, **except standing martingales will be permitted in all classes in all Schooling Rider divisions.**
10. OPHA Horse shows are required to see proof of vaccination (within 6 months for Equine Influenza Virus and Equine Herpes Virus [Rhinopneumonitis]) and a negative Coggins test (within 12 months) for all entries. Horse shows that are found to skip this requirement will be fined \$500 for their first offense, \$1000 for their second offense, and will lose their OPHA status for the show season for the third offense or for nonpayment of fees within 30 days. Status may be regained the next show season or upon Board review.
11. The OPHA abides by USEF rules and guidelines for horse welfare.
12. The OPHA abides by USEF rules and guidelines for suspended members. If any member of the OPHA is currently on the USEF Suspension List, that member as well as anyone doing business for or acting on behalf of said member, will not be permitted to attend or participate in any capacity at any OPHA sanctioned horse show, regardless of rating. Failure to comply will result in being asked to immediately vacate the horse show as well as a retraction of any points or awards earned. Please refer to rule GR704 in the USEF rulebook for addition details.
13. If the USEF has revoked placements and points from an OPHA member and/or nominated horse, the

Board may likewise revoke OPHA points and redistribute points and awards.

In compliance with USEF ruling on headgear, all persons riding at OPHA shows may not ride anywhere on the show grounds without ASTM/SEI-approved protective headgear (including harness secured and properly fitted). Riders will be prohibited from further riding until headgear is properly in place.

DIVISIONS AND CLASSES

In order to qualify for points for the annual O.P.H.A. Championship and/or High Score Awards, the **minimum height** for fences must be observed in each division. All O.P.H.A. divisions and classes will be run in accordance with O.P.H.A. rules. A nominated horse or pony (or rider) must compete in its respective division/class at a minimum of three horse shows per year for points to count toward year-end awards.

For Hunter Classes, two horses must complete in order for points to count for OPHA. Regardless of the number of entries in the first class over fences, the OPHA will sanction any subsequent class in a division to count for year-end awards only if a minimum of two entries have completed. A horse has completed an over fences class when the horse completes the posted course and a score is recorded on the judge's card. A horse failing to complete the entire course is not eligible to receive points, awards, or prize money, nor will it be counted in the number of entries necessary to fill a class or section. A horse has completed an under saddle class when the horse has executed all the gaits required and remains in the ring until the class has lined up.

Exceptions: (1) If there are enough exhibitors to split a division in the first performance class and fewer than two exhibitors in subsequent classes OPHA points will count. (2) There is no minimum for Hunter Breeding classes.

Soundness: The requirement to trot a circle at the end of a round to demonstrate soundness is now required for Equitation, Adult Amateur, Low Adult Amateur, Children's Hunter, Low Children's Hunter, Low Children's Hunter Pony, as well as Junior, Amateur, Green, Pony, Green Pony, and Performance Hunter divisions.

For Jumper Classes, two horses must compete in order for points to count for OPHA. "Completed" means that the first fence has been judged with a score recorded on the judge's card.

When a division is required to be held over two days (only at USEF AA & A [Premier and National] shows) and entry requires payment with a division fee (High Performance, Green, Amateur Owner, Junior, Pony, and Green Pony), if there are fewer than two (2) exhibitors on the second day, OPHA points will count.

The OPHA will sanction Equitation on the Flat classes for year-end awards only if a minimum of two entries have completed. In flat classes, "completed" means the horse has executed all the gaits required and remains in the ring until the class has lined up.

Points will be awarded for hunter and jumper classics (not Derbies). The number of entrants for OPHA points in hunter classics is determined by the number of entrants in a) the first round of a stand-alone classic or b) the class in the division designated by the horse show as the first round of the classic.

Those who compete at a show in divisions where there are cross-entry restrictions will only receive OPHA points in the division with the higher fence height.

Please also refer to the current USEF and USHJA Zone 5 Rulebooks for any further clarifications.

Combining Divisions

See USEF Rulebook section HU166 and USHJA Zone 5 rules for information on combining USEF/USHJA Hunter divisions, even if an OPHA show is unrated by the USEF. Note: Green Pony Hunter, Pony Hunter, and Children's Pony Hunter may not be combined with any other pony division..

Adult Amateur Hunters and Children's Hunters (and their Flat Equitation classes) may be combined. Low Adult Hunters and Low Children's Hunters (and their Flat Equitation classes) may be combined. Short Stirrup Hunter and Long Stirrup Hunter and the Flat Eq may be combined ONLY if there are fewer than 2 entries in one of those divisions/classes. Short Stirrup may not be combined with any other division except at shows where the Short Stirrup division is limited to riders 11 years old and under (WEC, Brave Horse, N.E.S.T., OHJA & KHJA shows). The NAHRA and Fox Smith Medals may be combined. **Children's Hunter and Children's Pony Hunters may be combined.**

Division Specifications

VERY GREEN HUNTER: Open to horses and ponies in their first year of showing over fences at 2'6". Fences 2'6". Horses and ponies may not earn year-end points in any division with fences at 3' or higher in the same year and may only receive points in this section for one year. This division is called Baby Green Hunter in some organizations; always double check fence height and other specifications.

GREEN HUNTER 3' AND 3'3": A 3' / 3'3" Green Hunter is a horse of any age in its first or second year of showing over 3' to 3'3" fences at USEF Regular Member or Canadian Equestrian Federation shows or any national or international competition. Horses may only compete in one height section at a show, but may alternate from one show to another. Once a horse has shown 3'6" he is not eligible to compete in the Green Hunter 3' section. A horse is still eligible for the 3'3" section until it competes at 3'6" for the fifth time, then it becomes a 3'6" Green Hunter. Horses nominated for OPHA awards may only receive points in this division for two years. See USEF & USHJA Rulebooks for additional specifications.

GREEN HUNTER 3'6" AND 3'9": Horses nominated for High Score Awards may receive points in this division for two years: once as a 3'6" horse and once as a 3'9" horse. See USEF & USHJA Rulebooks for additional specifications.

HIGH PERFORMANCE HUNTER: Horses are not restricted by age or showing experience. See USEF & USHJA Rulebooks for class specifications. Fences minimum 3'9".

PERFORMANCE HUNTER: Individual classes may be entered. See USEF & USHJA Rulebooks for class specifications. Fences 3'3" or 3'6".

LOW ADULT HUNTER: Open to amateur riders. Fences 2'6". *Cross Entry:* Riders may not cross enter into any class or section at the same competition where the fences exceed 3' (Exception: All Age Group Equitation Classes) Riders who compete in the 3' Adult Amateur Hunter Section may show one horse in the Low Adult Amateur Hunter Section. Horse and Rider Combination: Low Adult Amateur Hunter Horse/rider combinations may not cross enter into any classes or section where the fences exceed 2'9" at

the same competition. (Exception: All Age Group Equitation). This division is called Intermediate Adult Hunter in some organizations; always double check fence height and other specifications.

ADULT AMATEUR HUNTER: Horses to be ridden by amateurs. Fences 3', spreads not to exceed fence heights. Riders entered in Adult Amateur Hunter sections may not compete in any other class in which obstacles exceed 3'5" at the same competition (except for Amateur Owner Hunter; see USHJA Zone 5 rules for other exceptions). **Riders competing in the Amateur Owner Hunter sections may compete on one different horse in the Adult Amateur Hunter section. Horses cannot cross enter into 3'3" or 3'6" Amateur Owner Hunter sections at the same competition.** Ponies may be shown by Adults, suitability to count. Handy Hunter Classes are optional and can be added at the competition management's discretion.

AMATEUR OWNER HUNTER: See USEF & USHJA Rulebooks for class specifications. Fences 3'3" or 3'6".

ADULT EQUITATION ON THE FLAT: Open to all amateur riders **eligible for the Adult Amateur Hunter or Amateur Owner Hunter divisions.**

LOW ADULT EQUITATION ON THE FLAT: Open to amateur riders eligible for the Low Adult Hunter division.

N.A.R.H.A. ADULT EQUITATION: Open to all Amateur members. To be shown over a minimum of eight fences 2'9" to 3' in height, spread not to exceed fence height. The course may be either a hunter or jumper type and must include at least two changes of direction and a combination. Water obstacles are not permitted. A numerical score must be announced at the completion of the first round. Top four riders are required to return for further testing (USEF tests 1-19). Classes with fewer than 12 riders in the original class may have the test included in the original course. If a show does not offer the N.A.R.H.A. class, points in one class with corresponding specifications (e.g., Ariat Medal) will count as N.A.R.H.A. points.

MICHAEL RHEINHEIMER LOW CHILDREN'S/LOW ADULT MEDAL: Open to riders eligible for Low Children's and Low Adult Hunter section. To be shown over a minimum of eight fences 2'6" in height, spreads not to exceed fence height, and must include at least two changes of direction. A numerical score must be announced at the completion of the first round. Top four riders are required to return for further testing (USEF tests 1-19). Classes with fewer than four riders in the original class may have the test included in the original course. If a show does not offer the Mike Rheinheimer Medal, points in one class with corresponding specifications will count as Mike Rheinheimer Medal points.

JUNIOR WORKING HUNTER: See USEF & USHJA Rulebooks for class specifications. Fences 3'3" or 3'6".

THE O.P.H.A. HUNTER SEAT MEDAL: Open to Junior members who have not yet reached their 18th birthday. To be shown over a course of not less than 8 fences at 3'6", with two changes of direction. In addition, the course must include at least two of the following: an in and out, an end jump, a narrow jump, a wingless jump, a broken line, a roll back, a triple combination, a bounce. Additional testing of the top four riders is required; test(s) are at the judge's discretion (USEF tests 1-23). Two riders must complete the course and return for testing in order for points to count. If a show does not offer the O.P.H.A. Medal Class, points in one class with corresponding specifications (e.g., USEF Medal) will count as O.P.H.A. Medal points.

THE TAYLOR ORLOWSKI MEMORIAL 3'3" JUNIOR RIDER MEDAL: To be judged on seat, hands, guidance, and control of the horse. After completion of the jumping phase (Fences 3'3") a minimum of twelve (12) riders, if available, are required to show at a walk, trot, and canter. The flat performance of those riders selected to show in the flat phase shall count 50%. Changing of bit/bridle between phases is permissible. Use of the open numerical system of judging is not to be used. USEF Tests 1-23. Riders may compete in any other class at the same competition for which they are eligible. Two riders must complete the course in order for points to count for OPHA, and only riders who have completed the course and competed in the flat phase may receive ribbons or points. If a show does not

offer the Taylor Orłowski Memorial Medal class, points in one class that has corresponding specifications regarding jump height, etc. (for example, NHS 3'3" Medal) will count toward the Taylor Orłowski Memorial Medal year-end award.

CHILDREN'S HUNTER: To be ridden by a Junior exhibitor. Fences 3', spreads not to exceed fence height. A Children's Hunter rider may only compete one different horse in the Junior Hunter Sections. Riders entered in Children's Hunter Horse sections may not compete in any other class in which obstacles exceed 3'5" at the same competition (except for Junior Hunter classes; see USHJA Zone 5 rules for other exceptions). **A Junior Hunter rider may only compete one different horse in the Children's Hunter Horse section. Riders entered in the Children's Hunter Horse section may only compete on one Children's Hunter Pony at the same competition. Horses/Ponies: Horses entered in Children's Hunter classes may not cross enter into Junior Hunter sections at the same competition.** Handy Hunter Classes are optional and can be added at the competition management's discretion.

CHILDREN'S EQUITATION ON THE FLAT: Open to all riders eligible for the Children's Hunter section.

FOX SMITH MEMORIAL MEDAL CLASS: Open to all Junior members who have not competed in a national medal finals with fences at 3'6". To be shown over a minimum of eight fences 2'9" to 3' in height, spreads not to exceed fence height. The course may be either a hunter or jumper type and must include at least two changes of direction and a combination. Water obstacles are not permitted. A numerical score must be announced at the completion of the first round. Top four riders are required to return for further testing (USEF tests 1-19). Classes with less than 12 riders in the original class may have the test included in the original course. If a show does not offer the Fox Smith Medal class, points in one class with corresponding specifications (e.g., THIS Medal) will count as Fox Smith Medal points.

MODIFIED CHILDREN'S/ADULT HUNTER: To be ridden by a junior or amateur exhibitor. Fences 2'9". Spreads not to exceed fence height. Riders may not cross-enter into any class where fences exceed 3' at the same show.

LOW CHILDREN'S HUNTER: To be ridden by a junior exhibitor. Fences 2'6". *Cross Entry:* Riders may not cross enter into any class or section at the same competition where the fences exceed 3' (Exception: All Age Group Equitation Classes) Riders who compete in the 3' Children's Hunter Horse Section may show one horse in the Low Children's Hunter Horse Section. Horse and Rider Combination: Low Children's Hunter Horse/rider combinations may not cross enter into any classes or section where the fences exceed 2'9" at the same competition. (Exception: All Age Group Equitation). This division is called Intermediate Children's Hunter in some organizations; always double check fence height and other specifications.

LOW CHILDREN'S EQUITATION ON THE FLAT: Open to all riders eligible for the Low Children's Hunter section.

CHILDREN'S HUNTER PONY: Open to ponies ridden by a Junior exhibitor. *Cross Entry:* Rider: Age restrictions in the regular pony sections do not apply. Riders may only show one children's pony when showing multiple ponies in the Regular or Green Pony Sections. Or if a rider is showing multiple ponies in the children's pony section, then they can only show one pony in the Regular or Green Pony Section. Horse/Rider Combination: The same pony/rider combination may not show in the Green or Regular pony Section at the same show. Fences 2' for small and medium and 2'6" for large ponies; spreads not to exceed fence height. Distances for this section should be set on the 12-foot stride.

CHILDREN'S PONY EQUITATION ON THE FLAT: Open to all riders eligible for the Children's Pony Hunter Section. Rider may nominate for points in only this class or the Pony Equitation on the Flat class.

GREEN PONY HUNTER: A Green Pony Hunter is a pony not exceeding 14.2 hands, of any age, in its first or second year of showing (not necessarily consecutive) in any classes that require ponies to jump the regulation height or higher in their respective sections (2'3" small, 2'6" medium, 2'9" large). A pony that

has changed height sections in its green years may complete the green years at its new height. A green pony may also compete in the Regular Pony Hunter section at its respective height.

PONY HUNTER: OPHA shows offering the Pony Hunter division will be required to change the distances of in and outs and lines less than 100 feet to accommodate the different size of pony strides. Fences 2'3" small, 2'6" medium, 2'9" to 3' large. The exhibitor may be asked to validate the size of the pony.

PONY EQUITATION ON THE FLAT: Open to all riders eligible for the Pony Hunter section.

DICK GASCOIGNE MEMORIAL PONY MEDAL: Open to riders eligible for the Pony Hunter division. To be shown over a course of not less than six obstacles at fence heights 2'3" small, 2'6" medium, 2'9" to 3' large. Two tests (USEF tests 1-22, excluding test 15) are required during the first round. Only one rider per pony permitted. Ponies need not be nominated. Two riders must complete the course in order for points to count for OPHA. If a show does not offer the Gascoigne Pony Medal class, points in one class with corresponding specifications (e.g., USEF Pony Medal) will count as Gascoigne Pony Medal points. **No Junior over 12 years of age may compete on a small pony. No Junior over 14 years of age may compete on a medium pony.**

SHORT STIRRUP HUNTER: Open to riders 12 years of age and younger. Riders age 12 who are eligible for Short Stirrup under OPHA rules may earn points for Short Stirrup in the Limit Rider or Long Stirrup division only at shows where the Short Stirrup division is limited to riders 11 years old and Limit Rider(or Long Stirrup) is limited to riders 12 and older, as long as the rest of the division specifications match. Fences 2': oxers and in & outs not permitted. It is strongly recommended that tall boxes and double boxes with rails not be used. **Short Stirrup riders may not compete in any classes with fences higher than 2' or in any Pony Hunter or Children's Pony Hunter classes (except for age group equitation).**

LONG STIRRUP HUNTER: Open to riders 13 years of age and older. Fences 2': oxers and in & outs not permitted. It is strongly recommended that tall boxes and double boxes with rails not be used. **Long Stirrup riders may not compete in any classes with fences higher than 2' or in any Pony Hunter or Children's Pony Hunter classes, (except for age group equitation).** This division is sometimes called "Limit Hunter" at some OHJA shows. Limit Hunter classes that have an age restriction will count for OPHA points, as long as the rest of the division specifications match.

SHORT STIRRUP EQUITATION ON THE FLAT: Open to riders eligible for the Short Stirrup Hunter division. Riders age 12 who are eligible for Short Stirrup Equitation on the Flat under OPHA rules may earn points for this class in the Limit Rider Equitation on the Flat only at shows where this class is limited to riders 11 years old and under, as long as the rest of the class specifications match.

LONG STIRRUP EQUITATION ON THE FLAT: Open to riders eligible for the Long Stirrup Hunter division. Riders who 13 years of age and older who are eligible for Long Stirrup Equitation on the Flat under OPHA rules may earn points for this class in the Limit Rider Equitation on the Flat only at shows where this class is limited to riders 12 years and older, as long as the rest of the class specifications match.

JUMPER DIVISIONS

Draw reins and German martingale may not be used in any competition/class restricted to Ponies, Juniors, and/or Amateurs, or by age of horse. Draw reins and German martingales may only be used in a conventional manner when schooling or in classes with no prize money that are offered at 1.20m or below. Draw reins and/or German martingales may not be used on Ponies at any time when ridden by a Junior. No other head set devices (chambon, etc.) are permitted in any class.

Hooded blinkers, sunglasses, fly masks, goggles, etc. that cover the horse's eyes are only allowed with a veterinary certificate stating the necessity. Blinkers or cheek pieces attached to the bridle may not exceed 5cm (2").

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 5'1" in height

BEGINNER JUMPER 2'6" (0.8 m): Awards for the year in this division are restricted to Junior and Amateur riders. If a show offers a 2'6" jumper division with specifications matching this division that is restricted to juniors and amateurs (e.g., Novice Child/Adult Jumper at some of our local unrated shows and Intermediate Children's/Adult Jumper at, for example, Brave Horse and WEC), only that division will count for OPHA points. If a show allows professionals to ride in Beginner Jumpers, and there is no 2'6" jumper division restricted to juniors and amateurs, only horses ridden juniors and amateurs will receive OPHA points. Beginner Jumper classes scored under Table II, Sec .1 (see USEF JP 146.2) or Table III (USEF see JP 148) will not count for OPHA points. Courses must not include combinations of fewer than three strides. Horse/rider combination may not earn points in any other OPHA Jumper division except for Intermediate Children's Jumper or Intermediate Adult Jumper.

INTERMEDIATE CHILDRENS JUMPER: Open to junior riders. Fence height 2'9" – 3' (0.85 – 0.95 m. This division is called Novice Children's Jumper at some shows (WEC and Brave Horse, for example; always double check fence height and other specifications.

1.0/1.05m JUNIOR JUMPER: Open to junior riders. This was previously called Low Children's Jumper. Fence heights to be set at 1.00–1.05 m (3'3"–3'5"). 1.0/1.05 Junior Jumper riders may not cross enter into any classes held above 1.15 m (3'9") at the same competition. **1.0/1.05m Junior Jumper horse/rider combinations may cross enter into the 1.10/1.15 Junior Jumper Jumpers at the same competition.**

1.10/1.15m JUNIOR JUMPER: Open to horses and ponies ridden by a junior exhibitor. This was previously called Children's Jumper. Fences 1.10–1.15 m (3'6"–3'9"). 1.10/1.15m Junior Jumper riders may not cross enter into High Junior Jumper classes or any other jumper class exceeding 1.30 m (4'3") at the same competition with the exception of classes that do not offer prize money (including add back money). **1.10/1.15m Junior Jumper horse/rider combinations may cross enter into the 1.0/1.05 Junior Jumpers at the same competition.**

1.20 +JUNIOR JUMPER: See USEF & USHJA Rulebooks for class specifications. Fences 1.20-1.25 (3'11"–4'1"); 1.30-1/35 (4' 3"–4' 5"); or 1.40-1.45 (4' 7"–4' 9").

INTERMEDIATE ADULT JUMPER: Open to amateur riders. Fence height 2'9" – 3' (0.85 – 0.95 m. This division is called Novice Adult Jumper at some shows (WEC and Brave Horse, for example; always double check fence height and other specifications.

1.0/1.05m AMATEUR JUMPER: Open to amateur riders. This was previously called Low Adult Jumpers. Fence heights to be set at 1.00–1.05 m (3'3"–3'5"). 1.0/1.05. **1.0/1.05m Amateur Jumper riders may not cross enter into any classes held above 1.15 m (3'9") at the same competition. This was previously called Low Adult Jumpers. 1.0m Amateur Jumper horse/rider combinations may cross enter into the 1.10/1.15 Amateur Jumpers at the same competition.**

1.10/1.15m AMATEUR JUMPER: Open to horses and ponies ridden by Amateurs. This was previously called Adult Jumpers. Fences 1.10–1.15 m (3'6"–3'9"). 1.10/1.15m Amateur Jumper riders may not cross enter into High Amateur Jumper classes or any other jumper class exceeding 1.30 m (4'3") at the same competition with the exception of classes that do not offer prize money (including add back money).

1.10/1.15m Amateur Jumper horse/rider combinations may cross enter into the 1.0m Amateur Jumpers at the same competition.

1.20+ AMATEUR JUMPER: See USEF & USHJA Rulebooks for class specifications. Fences 1.15 m to 1.25 m (3'9" to 4' Fences 1.20-1.25 (3'11"–4'1"); 1.30-1/35 (4' 3"–4' 5"); or 1.40-1.45 (4' 7"–4' 9").

OPEN JUMPER: At shows that do not offer Open Jumper classes; but do offer Modified Jumper classes with no restriction on eligibility; those Modified Jumper points will count toward the Open Jumper year-end award. Fences 1.20 m to 1.55 m (3'11" to 5').

HUNTER BREEDING: See current USEF Rulebook for individual class specifications.

SPECIAL CLASSES: Hunter and Jumper Classics and other special classes may be awarded OPHA points, provided the class in no way restricts entries (by requiring membership in a particular association, for example). Mini-prix and other classes open to all jumpers will be awarded open jumper points.

SCHOOLING RIDER CLASS DESCRIPTIONS & RULES

The OPHA will offer awards for the following divisions: **Walk/ Trot X-Rails, Walk/Trot/Canter X-Rails, Pre-Limit, Limit Rider, Novice Rider.** In addition, the **Schooling Rider Medal, Leadline, Walk/Trot Groundpoles, Walk/Trot/Canter Groundpoles, Intro Jumper, and Novice Rider Jumper** divisions may be offered.

Points needed to receive year-end awards are: Platinum = 100, Gold = 50, Silver = 30, Bronze = 17.

Riders must compete in at least three shows in their division in order to receive a year-end award.

These classes are geared toward riders in a lesson program who are just starting to go to horse shows, or moving up in level of difficulty. Safe, simple courses are recommended. Emphasis will be placed on suitability of mount to rider's ability level. Safety will be the foremost concern in these classes. Demonstrating control of mount is extremely important. Excessive speed will be penalized and may cause elimination from the show ring.

Horses and riders in the Schooling Divisions must follow current USEF tack and equipment rules, **except standing martingales will be permitted in all classes in all Schooling Rider divisions.**

LEADLINE: This division is for riders 8 years of age and under who have never shown in any equestrian discipline. Rider may not enter in any other class or division except Hunter Breeding. "Special needs" riders may have age requirements waived by show committee. Leadline Riders must compete in three shows to be eligible for an award.

WALK/TROT GROUNDPOLES: To be shown over a simple course with a minimum of four poles on the ground. The poles should be trotted, and riders may walk in the corners to re-establish control if needed. Slight mistakes will not be heavily penalized. Participants are no longer eligible once the rider has competed in any other OPHA division or classes, except for Walk/Trot/Canter Groundpoles.

WALK/TROT/CANTER GROUNDPOLES: To be shown over a simple course with a minimum of four poles on the ground. The poles should be cantered, and riders may trot in the corners to re-establish control if needed. Slight mistakes will not be heavily penalized. Participants are no longer eligible once the rider has competed in any other OPHA division or classes, except for Walk/Trot Groundpoles. In flat classes in this division, no more than six entries to canter at one time.

WALK/TROT X-RAILS: Open to all ages. There must be a minimum of four (4) fences. Ground lines are required. Flower boxes and brush boxes are optional.

WALK/TROT/CANTER X-RAILS: Open to all ages. There must be a minimum of four (4) fences. Ground lines are required. Flower boxes and brush boxes are optional. In flat classes in this division, no more than six entries to canter at one time.

PRE-LIMIT RIDER (fence height 1'6"): Course may be trotted. Slight mistakes will not be heavily penalized. In flat classes in this division, no more than six entries to canter at one time. Riders may also compete for points in either the Walk/Trot/Canter division or Limit Rider division. This division is called Walk/Trot/Canter 18" at some shows.

LIMIT RIDER: Fences 1'6" to 2'. Oxers not permitted.

NOVICE RIDER: Fences 2' to 2'3". Oxers optional.

INTRO JUMPER: Open to riders eligible for the Limit Rider division. Points will follow the rider for OPHA, regardless of how points are awarded at individual shows for that show's championship. If a rider shows more than one horse or pony in the Intro Jumper division at the same show, only the highest scoring mount's points will be awarded to that rider for that show. Speed classes Table II, Sec .1 (see USEF JP 146.2) or Table III (USEF see JP 148) will not count for OPHA points. Jumps at 2', no oxers, and no combinations of fewer than three strides.

NOVICE RIDER JUMPER: Open to riders eligible for the Novice Rider division. Points will follow the rider for OPHA, regardless of how points are awarded at individual shows for that show's championship. If a rider shows more than one horse or pony in the Intro Jumper division at the same show, only the highest scoring mount's points will be awarded to that rider for that show. Speed classes Table II, Sec .1 (see USEF JP 146.2) or Table III (USEF see JP 148) will not count for OPHA points. Jumps at 2'3". No combinations of fewer than three strides.

The following class will receive points toward year-end awards as outlined in Point System Rules, No. 6 and 7:

Schooling Rider Medal

Open to riders of all ages participating in Limit or Novice Rider. Fences offered at 2' and 2'3" (oxers not permitted). Minimum 7 jumps. Roll back, broken or bending lines are permitted. One test (USEF 1 – 8) is required and should be included in the course. Distances to be set as per all other 2' and 2'3" divisions. Shows may offer two Schooling Rider Medals, one at each height, but riders may not enter both classes.

SCHOOLING RIDER RULES

1. In order to receive points for High Score Honors riders must be current members and have selected Schooling divisions on their membership form. Horses need not be nominated.
2. Riders nominated for other OPHA regular divisions are not eligible for Schooling Show High Score Honors.
3. Points will not carry from one division to the next
4. A rider's age will be determined according to USEF rules – age as of December 1st of the current competition year.
5. Horse shows applying for OPHA Schooling Rider class recognition must offer at least 3 of the 4 listed divisions.
6. There will be two over fences, one under saddle, and one flat equitation class in each division. Divisions should be set up so points follow the rider and that all four classes count equally toward the Championship.
7. In all Schooling Rider Divisions, at least two entries per class must complete for points to count. A horse has completed an over fences class when the horse completes the posted course and a score is recorded on the judge's card. A horse failing to complete the entire course is not eligible to receive points, awards, or prize money, nor will it be counted in the number of entries necessary to fill a class or section. A horse has completed an under saddle class when the horse has executed all the gaits required and remains in the ring until the class has lined up.]
8. Points will follow the **rider** in all divisions. If a rider shows more than one mount in a Schooling Show section, only the highest scoring mount's points will count for that rider at that show.

JUDGING SCHOOLING RIDER CLASSES

1. Standing martingales **will be permitted** in all classes.
2. Only six to canter at one time in Walk/Trot/Canter, Pre-Limit Rider, Limit Rider, and Novice Rider flat classes.
3. Riders in Walk/Trot X-Rails may trot in and canter out of lines, but should exhibit control and return to the trot before the next line.
4. In the Walk/Trot/Canter, Pre-Limit Rider, Limit Rider, and Novice Rider sections, trotting to obtain a simple change of lead is permitted and is not to be penalized.
5. It is recommended that show management print out the OPHA specs for Schooling Rider classes to provide to the judges.

O.P.H.A. HORSE SHOW REQUIREMENTS

ATTENTION HORSE SHOW MANAGERS: The following specifications must be met in order to be an OPHA approved show and to have points count toward the year-end high score awards.

1. All horse show dates must be applied for in writing on the appropriate form, available online at OPHA.org, and submitted with payment of \$50 per show to OPHA, P. O. Box 23421, Chagrin Falls, OH 44023. Address labels for mailings to members available on request.
2. Any horse shows wishing OPHA approval must apply in writing on the appropriate form; the form may be emailed.
3. A check for \$50.00 made payable to the OPHA must be sent to the OPHA **at least 30 days prior** to the date of the show.
4. Prize list and show results, including number of entries in OPHA rated classes, must be sent to the OPHA Championship Point Secretary, **within 10 days** of the close of the show. Failure to send results will incur a \$100.00 fine. Failure to return results within three months will prevent next year's protected date approval.
5. Only one OPHA recognized show that has a USEF rating will be allowed within 75 miles on the same day **unless** the party holding the protected show date agrees to waive the restriction
6. OPHA will not sanction any show outside of Ohio **that is unrecognized by te USEF**. Only one OPHA recognized show that is unrated by the USEF will be allowed within 125 miles on the same day **unless** the party holding the protected show date agrees to waive the restriction.
7. It is recommended that all OPHA shows have a USEF Recorded or Registered judge. Shows that are not USEF sanctioned may select from our OPHA Approved Judges list, consisting of professional horsemen. Request for permission to use a judge that is not listed on the "approved judges" list must be made at least 90 days in advance. Only a professional horseman may be requested. This list is located on our website (www. opha.org) under docs & forms.
8. Loss of points for failure to meet the above requirements is the responsibility of horse show management.
9. Any extraordinary circumstances on date approvals or changes will be handled by the Horse Show Committee.
10. For all non-USEF recognized/rated shows, the following statement is to be printed on all member show prize lists: "The _____ Horse Show is operated in accordance with the current rules of the Ohio Professional Horsemen's Association.
11. OPHA Horse shows are required to see proof of vaccination (within 6 months for Equine Influenza Virus and Equine Herpes Virus [Rhinopneumonitis]) and a negative Coggins test (within 12 months) for all entries. Horse shows that are found to skip this requirement will be fined \$500 for their first offense, \$1000 for their second offense, and will lose their OPHA status for the show season for the third offense or for nonpayment of fees within 30 days. Status may be regained the next show season or upon Board review.

12. Nonpayment of Entries and/or Horse Show Fees. OPHA point shows that accept entries without the payment of the required fees do so at their own risk. However, if a person makes payment for fees that is not negotiable, the horse show/horse show manager may report the name and address of the person in writing or email to the OPHA within 30 days of notification of denied payment, providing the names of the horses and the names and owners/riders for which the non-negotiable funds were to cover. The OPHA will not be involved in collection of funds owed to the horse show; however, horses/riders will not receive OPHA points until the OPHA receives confirmation from the horse show/horse show manager that payment has been received. Payment must be received within 10 days from the time of notification of denied payment, unless some other arrangement with the show management has been made. Once the show manager has notified OPHA that payment has cleared, points will be restored. Disagreement about whether an account has been paid will be referred to the Horse Show Committee.

ADDITIONAL OPHA AWARDS

OPHA Scholarship

The OPHA gives scholarship(s) to OPHA members who are seniors in high school and who intend on attending an accredited college, university, technical or trade school. Applications can be found on the OPHA website.

Laddie G. Andahazy Horsemen's Cup, OPHA Sportsmanship Award

This award is given to a Junior OPHA member who best exemplifies the qualities of good sportsmanship, not just in the show ring but outside the show ring as well. Professional members of the OPHA nominate riders of their choosing and vote on the nominees.

The award is in memory of Laddie G. Andahazy. Laddie started the first accredited equestrian program, at Lake Erie College in Painesville, Ohio, in 1955. He also brought The Cleveland Grand Prix, the first Grand Prix Jumping Competition in the United States, to Moreland Hills, Ohio, in 1965. He was a horse show judge in ten disciplines, including Western, and he spoke four languages fluently. He introduced dressage, vaulting, and carriage driving to Northeast Ohio, and he was a trick rider. In addition to his contributions as a classical horseman, he served the United States in World War II as an interpreter. He was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds suffered during the invasion on D-Day.

GLOSSARY

Compete. OPHA follows USEF Rule JP136.13 for jumper classes: A competitor is considered to have competed only after they have entered the ring, and received the signal to start. Competitors who are unable to complete the first round of a competition have no right to any prize, with the exception of Fault & Out, Gamblers Choice, or other classes with special rules with requirements as to the finish.

Complete. OPHA follows USEF Rule HU120 for hunter classes, medal classes, equitation on the flat classes, and Schooling Rider classes: A horse has completed an over fences class when the horse completes the posted course and a score is recorded on the judge's card. A horse failing to complete the entire course is not eligible to receive points, awards, or prize money, nor will it be counted in the number of entries necessary to fill a class or section. A horse has completed an under saddle class when the horse has executed all the gaits required and remains in the ring until the class has lined up.