

# **MHJA PONY Division Eligibility Requirements:**

Updated April 2010

The following requirements apply:

***Divisions are open to Junior Riders ONLY. Riders must be mounted on ponies.***

## **POINTS:**

For points to count towards Annual MHJA Championship :

1. **Equitation Divisions:** A minimum of 3 competitors must be judged in order to have points awarded. EXCEPTION: Beginner Junior Equitation & Beginner Adult Equitation where ½ points are awarded if there are less than 3 competitors in the class.
2. **Hunter Divisions:** A minimum of 3 competitors in the division must be judged in order to have points awarded. Points are awarded according to the number of horses judged in the first Hunter Over Fences class in that division at the show, even if there are less horses competing in this division during the remaining days of the show. Exception: Beginner Junior Hunter & Beginner Adult Hunter where ½ points are awarded if there are less than 3 competitors in the class.
3. **Medal Classes:** A minimum of 4 competitors must complete the course in order to qualify the winner for the Medal Finals. EXCEPTION: Pony Mini Medal and the Junior/Adult Mini Medal where the top 15 point accumulators in these classes during the season will qualify to compete in the Medal Finals. ½ points will be awarded if there are less than 3

## competitors in the class

### PONY SIZES:

- A. *Small Pony:* not to exceed **12.2** hands  
*No rider over 12 years of age may ride*
- B. *Medium Pony:* not to exceed **13.2** hands  
*No rider over 14 years of age may ride*
- C. *Large Pony:* not to exceed **14.2** hands

**D. Pony Measurements:** In order to receive a Measurement card, a pony must be measured at a recognized MHJA show by the designated MHJA representative. Ponies 6 years of age and older are issued a *Permanent Measurement card*, good for the life of the pony. Ponies younger than 6 years of age are issued a *Temporary Measurement card*, which is good for only one show season. The cost for pony measurement is \$10.00 to all.

## **DIVISIONS OFFERED AT ALL MHJA SHOWS:**

### **1. BEGINNER ADULT HUNTER**

- A. *Fence Heights:* 2'
- B. *Course*
  - 1) *Simple in nature, no oxers, no IN & OUTS*
  - 2) *Only vertical jumps allowed and no part of the top pole may exceed the maximum height*
- C. *Eligibility:* Open to Adult riders who have not won three blue ribbons in a recognized Hunter class at MHJA, MHSA, or USEF shows prior to October 1 of the preceding year. Riders do retain their Beginner status for the current show season. Riders having won in the Beginner Adult division do not lose their Novice, Primary, or Short Stirrup status. This division is not open to any riders who have shown in any Open Hunter or Equitation divisions at MHJA, MHSA or USEF Pony or Regular Member shows. Riders may not cross enter into any divisions that require jumping 2'6" or higher. Jumping 2'6' or higher will make a rider IMMEDIATELY ineligible for this division.

## **2. BEGINNER ADULT EQUITATION**

A. *Fence Heights: 2'*

B. *Course*

1) *Simple in nature, no oxers, no IN & OUTS*

2) Only vertical jumps allowed and no part of the top pole may exceed the maximum height

C. *Eligibility:* Open to Adult riders who have not won three blue ribbons in a recognized Equitation class at MHJA, MHSA, or USEF shows prior to October 1 of the preceding year. Riders do retain their Beginner status for the current show season. Riders having won in the Beginner Adult division do not lose their Novice, Primary, or Short Stirrup status. This division is not open to any riders who have shown in any Open Hunter or Equitation divisions at MHJA, MHSA or USEF Pony or Regular Member shows. Riders may not cross enter into any divisions that require jumping 2'6" or higher. Jumping 2'6' or higher will make a rider IMMEDIATELY ineligible for this division.

D. *Walk/Trot:* Optional class. No Annual Championship offered. Riders in this class are not eligible to ride in any classes over fences.

## **3. BEGINNER JUNIOR HUNTER**

E. *Fence Heights: 2'*

F. *Course*

1) *Simple in nature, no oxers, no IN & OUTS*

2) Only vertical jumps allowed and no part of the top pole may exceed the maximum height

G. *Eligibility:* Open to Junior riders who have not won three blue ribbons in a recognized Hunter class at MHJA, MHSA, or USEF shows prior to October 1 of the preceding year. Riders do retain their Beginner status for the current show season. Riders having won in the Beginner Junior division do not lose their Novice, Primary, or Short Stirrup status. This division is not open to any riders who have shown in any Open Hunter or Equitation divisions at MHJA, MHSA or USEF Pony or Regular Member shows. Riders may not cross enter into any divisions that require jumping 2'6" or higher. Jumping 2'6' or higher will make a rider IMMEDIATELY ineligible for this division.

### **3. BEGINNER JUNIOR EQUITATION**

A. *Fence Heights: 2'*

B. *Course*

1) *Simple in nature, no oxers, no IN & OUTS*

2) Only vertical jumps allowed and no part of the top pole may exceed the maximum height

C. *Eligibility:* Open to Junior riders who have not won three blue ribbons in a recognized Equitation class at MHJA, MHSA, or USEF shows prior to October 1 of the preceding year. Riders do retain their Beginner status for the current show season. Riders having won in the Beginner Junior division do not lose their Novice, Primary, or Short Stirrup status. This division is not open to any riders who have shown in any Open Hunter or Equitation divisions at MHJA, MHSA or USEF Pony or Regular Member shows. Riders may not cross enter into any divisions that require jumping 2'6" or higher. Jumping 2'6' or higher will make a rider IMMEDIATELY ineligible for this division.

D. *Walk/Trot:* Optional class. No Annual Championship offered. Riders in this class are not eligible to ride in any classes over fences.

### **5. JUNIOR/ADULT MINI MEDAL**

1. FENCE HEIGHT- 2'

2. COURSES:

Courses to be simple in nature. No oxers. No In & Outs.

Only

vertical jumps allowed. No part of the top pole may exceed the maximum fence height.

3. ELIGIBILITY: Open to Junior and Adult riders who have not won three

blue ribbons in a recognized Equitation class at MHJA, MHSA, or USEF

shows prior to October 1 of the preceding year. Riders do retain their

status for the current show season. Riders having won, do not lose their

Novice, Primary, or Short Stirrup status. This division is not open to any riders who have shown in any Open Hunter or Equitation divisions at the MHJA, MHSA, or USEF Pony or Regular Member shows. Riders may not cross enter into any divisions that require jumping 2'6" or higher. Jumping 2'6" or higher will make a rider IMMEDIATELY ineligible for this division.

4. **FINALS QUALIFIERS:**

The top 15 point accumulators in this class during the season will qualify to compete in the Medal Finals.

5. **LOCAL MEMBER SHOWS:**

This class cannot be offered at a Local Member show

## *Pony Division Eligibility Requirements: JUNIORS*

### **1. SHORT STIRRUP EQUITATION**

A. *Fence Heights:* Small and Medium – 18 "  
Large – 2'

B. *Eligibility:* Open to Junior riders who are 11 years old and younger. Riders may not have won three blue ribbons in a recognized equitation class at a MHJA, MHSA, or USEF show prior to October 1 of the preceding year. Riders who win in Short Stirrup do not lose their Maiden or Novice status. Riders having won nine blue ribbons in Short Stirrup equitation on the flat are still eligible to compete in the Short Stirrup equitation over fences classes. Riders having competed in ANY open hunter or equitation divisions at MHJA and USEF shows (classes such as Pony Medal, Pony Hunter, Pony Equitation, Junior Hunter, Junior Equitation, or Junior Medal) are not eligible for this division. Riders in the Short Stirrup Walk/Trot class are not eligible to ride in any classes over fences. Short Stirrup riders may not cross enter into Children's Pony Equitation or Children's Pony Hunter divisions.

## **2 NOVICE RIDDEN PONY EQUITATION**

- A. *Fence Heights:* not to exceed 2' for all ponies
- B. *Eligibility:* Open to Junior riders who have not won 3 blue ribbons over fences in equitation classes at MHJA Pony or Regular Member shows. Ribbons won in the Short Stirrup division DO NOT affect a rider's eligibility. Riders winning 15 USEF points are IMMEDIATELY ineligible for this division. Riders may NOT cross enter into Open Equitation divisions.

## **3. CHILDREN'S SMALL/MEDIUM PONY EQUITATION**

- A. *Fence Heights:* 2'
- B. *Eligibility:* Open to Junior riders on Small and Medium ponies, who have not won six blue ribbons over fences in equitation classes at MHJA Pony or Regular Member shows. Ribbons won in the Short Stirrup or Novice Pony Equitation divisions DO NOT affect a rider's eligibility. Riders winning 15 USEF points are IMMEDIATELY ineligible for this division. A rider MAY NOT ride a different pony in the Children's Large Pony Equitation division at the same show.

## **4. CHILDREN'S LARGE PONY EQUITATION**

- A. *Fence Heights:* 2'6"
- B. *Eligibility:* Open to Junior riders on Large ponies, who have not won six blue ribbons over fences in equitation classes at MHJA Pony or Regular Member shows. Ribbons won in the Short Stirrup or Novice Pony Equitation divisions DO NOT affect a rider's eligibility. Riders winning 15 USEF points are IMMEDIATELY ineligible for this division. A rider MAY NOT ride a different pony in the Children's Small/Medium Pony Equitation division at the same show.

## **5. OPEN PONY EQUITATION (12 & Under)**

- A. *Fence Heights:* Small – 2'  
Medium – 2'3"  
Large – 2'9"
- C. *Eligibility:* Open to Junior riders 12 years old and younger.

## **6. OPEN PONY EQUITATION (13 – 17)**

- A. *Fence Heights:* Small – 2'  
Medium – 2'3"  
Large – 2'9"
- B. *Eligibility:* Open to Junior riders 13 years and older.

**7. PONY MEDAL**

- A. *Fence Heights:* Small – 2'  
Medium – 2'3"  
Large – 2'9"
- B. *Eligibility:* Open to Junior riders. Only one rider per pony is allowed. Riders must be current MHJA members "in good standing". Riders winning one blue OR one red ribbon qualify to ride in the annual Medal Ride-Off. Riders winning one blue ribbon are not eligible to continue competing in this Medal for the rest of the show season.

**8. PONY MINI-MEDAL**

- A. *Fence Heights:* 2'
- B. *Eligibility:* Open to Junior riders mounted on ponies. Only one rider per pony. Riders must be current MHJA members. Riders MAY NOT have won three blue ribbons in equitation classes at MHJA Pony or Regular Member shows. Ribbons won in Short Stirrup or Novice Pony Equitation divisions DO NOT affect a rider's eligibility. Riders CAN NOT "point out" with MHJA points during the show season. Riders may not have competed or cross-enter into the following divisions: MHJA Small/Medium, or Large Pony Hunter, Pony Equitation 11 & Under, Pony Equitation 12-17, or Pony Medal. Riders MAY NOT have won 15 USEF points (not including Short Stirrup). Winning 15 USEF points will make a rider IMMEDIATELY INELIGIBLE for this class. The top 15 point accumulators in this class during the season will qualify to compete

*in the Finals Ride-Off.*

*c. This class cannot be offered at Local Member shows.*

## **8. SHORT STIRRUP PONY HUNTER**

- A. *Fence Heights:* Small and Medium – 18"  
Large – 2'
- B. *Eligibility:* Open to Junior riders, 11 years old and younger. Riders may not have won 9 blue ribbons in a recognized hunter class over fences at MHJA, MHSA, or USEF shows prior to October 1 of the preceding year. Riders having won the Short Stirrup division DO NOT lose their Maiden or Novice status. Riders who have shown in ANY open hunter or equitation division at MHJA or USEF shows are not eligible for this division. Short Stirrup riders may not cross enter into Children's Pony Equitation or Children's Pony Hunter divisions.

## **9. NOVICE PONY HUNTER**

- A. *Fence Heights:* 2'
- B. *Eligibility:* Open to Junior riders who have not shown in any open hunter or equitation divisions at MHJA or USEF shows. Riders may not have won three blue ribbons in hunter classes at MHJA Pony or Regular Member shows. Riders may not have won 15 points in recognized USEF hunter classes. Winning 15 USEF hunter points will make the rider IMMEDIATELY INELIGIBLE for this division. Open Divisions include: MHJA/USEF Pony Medals, Small-Medium or Large Pony Hunter divisions, Pony Equitation 11 & Under or 15-17 years, Junior Hunter, Junior Equitation 14 & Under or 15-17 years, MHJA Open Junior Medal, and USEF Medal classes. Riders who win Novice Pony Hunter classes DO NOT lose their Children's Pony Hunter status.

## **10. CHILDREN'S PONY HUNTER**

- A. *Fence Heights:* Small and Medium – 2'  
Large – 2'6"
- C. *Eligibility:* Open to Junior riders. Riders who have won 15 USEF points are IMMEDIATELY ineligible for this division. Riders in this division may cross enter into the MHJA Pony Hunter division. However, those riders who have cross

entered will then become ineligible to compete in the MHJA Children's Pony Hunter division the following year.

**11. PONY HUNTER**

- A. *Fence Heights:* Small – 2'  
Medium – 2'3"  
Large – 2'9"
- B. *Eligibility:* Open to Junior riders.