



NORTHERN ILLINOIS

HUNTER & JUMPER

ASSOCIATION

2010

RULES & REGULATIONS

Northern Illinois Hunter & Jumper Association
Rules and Regulations 2010 Show Season
Affiliated with USEF and USHJA

An organization dedicated to the development of the sport of riding and equal opportunity to applicants requesting recognized shows.

USEF Sportsman Charter

That sport is something done for the fun of doing it, and that it ceases to be sport when it becomes something done for what there is in it;

That amateurism is something of the heart and spirit not a matter of exact technical qualifications;

That good manners are fundamentally important;

That the code must strictly be upheld;

That the whole structure of sport is not only preserved from the absurdity of undue importance, but is justified by a kind of romance which animates it, and by the positive virtues of courage, patience, good temper, and unselfishness which are demanded by the code;

That the exploitation of sport for profit alone kills the spirit and retains only the husk and semblance of the thing;

That the qualities of frankness, courage and sincerity which mark the good sportsman in private life shall mark the discussions of his interests at the show.

Knowledge of the rules of any sport is required of each participant and the exhibitor at a recognized competition is in no way exempt from this responsibility. A complete knowledge of and compliance with the rules are essential and the exhibitor must be fully cognizant of all rules as well as class specification in the divisions in which he/she shows.

It is obvious that however complete rules may be, they never can cover all possible situations which may arise. If a matter cannot be solved by interpreting the rules to the letter, the solution to be adopted by those responsible should lie in a principle, which follows as nearly as possible the spirit of the rules.

NIHJA Executive Board Members

NIHJA Officers effective December 1, 2009 for the 2010 show season:

President: Toni Bruns (2010 – 2011)
1510 W. Northwest Hwy
Palatine, IL 60067
847-359-0009

Vice President: Mary Goldman (2009 – 2010)
24675 Gilmer Rd.
Hawthorn Woods, IL 60047
847-337-1770

Treasurer: Krista White (2010 – 2011)
1510 W. Northwest Hwy
Palatine, IL 60067
847-359-0009

NIHJA Directors effective December 1, 2009 for the 2010 show season:

Dean Battaglia (2009-2010) 815-245-1058	Lexi Tantimonico (2010-2011) 847-526-8610
Val Bueshing (2010-2011) 847-837-8000	Audrey Symowicz (2009-2010) 630-842-2513
Nicole Boyle (2010-2011) 847-340-1742	Lesley Teichman (2009-2010) 847-942-0754
Pete Nathan (2010-2011) 847-489-6850	Nancy Zeis (2009 -2010) 847-438-3410

Administrative Positions

Association Secretary: **Kris Cwik**
847-998-0705

Points Secretary: **Stacie Cwik**
847-989-4491

Membership Liasion: **Liz Johnson**
815-341-8390

Junior Spokesperson: **XXXXXXXXXX**

Webmaster: **Stacie Cwik**
847-989-4491

Website: **www.nihja.net**

Honorary Board Advisor **Nancy Zeis**
847-438-3410

Stewards: **(NIHJA approved list)**

The above Officers and Directors will be collectively known as the Executive Board members. The Executive Board Members will act as members of the Show Standards Committee for all 2010 scheduled NIHJA shows.

1. Membership - Equal Opportunity

- A. There are no geographic limitations to memberships on individuals, stables, horses and/or shows.
- B. All persons wishing to have a NIHJA show and meeting NIHJA requirements will receive equal opportunity in obtaining a show date, subject to rules and regulations.
- C. The Annual Meeting will be open to all members and to the public. Two - (2) weeks prior notice of the Annual Meeting will be provided to the membership.

2. Officers:

- A. General: The officers of NIHJA shall be a President, Vice-President, Treasurer and a Board of Directors composed of eight members of the association. These shall be elected by a majority vote at the Annual Meeting in October and the terms will commence on the first day of December following the Annual Meeting. The President and Treasurer will be elected in a two-year term for the even years, and the Vice-President shall be elected in a two-year term for the odd years. The Officers and Directors will be collectively known as the Executive Board.
- B. Vacancies: The President with the approval of the Executive Board will appoint Vacancies.
- C. Administrative: the President shall appoint an Association Secretary, Point Secretary, Junior Spokesperson, and Membership Liaison.
- D. Association Secretary's Responsibility: The Association Secretary shall carry out all administrative matters under the direct supervision of the President. The Association Secretary shall maintain the NIHJA Membership database and provide this database to the Association Points Secretary for every show.
- E. Association Point Secretary's Responsibility: The Points Secretary shall compile the points after every show, post them on the website as soon as possible and forward copies of the point standings to Show Management prior to show dates. The point standings will be posted during shows. Year to date points will be mailed to members upon request. The Association Point Secretary is also responsible for maintaining the list of measurements for Pony, Small, and Large Hunter Divisions.
- F. Treasurer's Responsibility: The Treasurer shall have the responsibility to audit and submit a Treasury Report at the Annual Meeting and at all Executive Board Meetings, and pay any bill affiliated with NIHJA. The NIHJA Treasurer is also responsible for paying all expenses incurred by NIHJA from the NIHJA bank account. The NIHJA Executive Board is authorized by the membership to utilize the money collected for Annual memberships, Annual Award Sponsors, Show Management fines, Show date fees and other miscellaneous income for the following purposes:
 - a) Annual Membership Mailings: Postage, printing and miscellaneous office supplies expenses.
 - b) NIHJA Medal Finals: Invitation, Exhibitor party with a cap of 50% up to \$350 dollars, and flowers for Medal winners.
 - c) NIHJA Newsletter: Postage, printing and miscellaneous office supplies expenses.
 - d) USEF & USHJA Annual Affiliation Membership: Annual affiliation expense.
 - e) NIHJA Annual Awards Banquet: Invitations, Perpetual Trophy engraving and year-end Division Awards.
 - f) NIHJA Annual rulebook: Printing expense.
 - g) Compensation: -The Points Secretary and the Association Secretary will each be awarded a stipend of \$1,500 to be paid in two increments of \$750. The first of these payments will be made after 10 horse shows; the second will be made after the NIHJA Finals in late September or early October.
 - h) Web site: Annual website hosting expense, Domain name, as well as additional programming that might be needed with the Executive Board's approval.
 - i) Miscellaneous: All other expenses incurred must be approved by all members of the Executive

Board and must benefit or be used for the sole purpose of the NIHJA. (Example: NIHJA measuring sticks).

- G. Executive Board: The Executive Board shall act on all questions of discipline and any questions of interpretation of the bylaws, Rules and Regulations. The Executive Board is empowered to take any disciplinary action for violation of any of the by-laws, Rules or Regulations in the nature of specified fines, suspensions, warnings, etc.

Director's terms will be staggered as follows: Eight two year terms, four two year terms – even and odd years. The Executive Board can take discretionary action should a voting member continually miss Board meetings. After missing two meetings, a warning will be invoked, and after missing a third meeting, the Executive Board has the authority to dismiss the member.

The Executive Board may change no rules, rule changes can only be made by a majority vote at the Annual Meeting.

3. Dues:

- A. The Annual fee for individual membership and eligibility for Equitation Points and High Point Horse shall be \$30.00. Family membership, for up to three (3) horses, each with eligibility for Equitation Points and High Point Horse shall be \$50.00. Horse nominations are not allowed to be changed after initial registration. Additional horses must be registered separately. Family memberships get up to three (3) votes when applicable. If less than three (3) riders are nominated under a family membership, than each rider receives one (1) vote.
- B. Annual dues for each stable member shall be \$50.00. Stable membership includes up to ten High Point nominations owned by the same stable or family. Individuals owning multiple horses may also utilize stable membership. Stable memberships receive one vote.
- C. The fee for NIHJA recognition of horse shows will be \$50.00 per day and per 1/2-day. A \$100 dollar fee, to be paid at the time the date is awarded, with the balance payable by March 1. This fee will be forfeited if the show is not held. If the fee is not paid in full by March 1 the show date awarded may be forfeited and the date may be awarded to another applicant. Forfeited show dates must be picked up thirty days prior to the awarded show date.
- D. Transfer of Ownership: In the event of transfer of ownership of a horse during the show season, point accumulation will continue if a \$ 10.00 fee is paid to NIHJA and the horse is registered in the name of the new owner with NIHJA.
- E. Non-Members: It will be the responsibility of each show management to collect a \$20.00 non membership fee from each entry not a current NIHJA member. The fees collected must be given to the Association or Points Secretary at the end of each horse show. Payment of this fee does not entitle any rider to enter a Medal Class. Non member fee = rider per horse.

4. USEF Rules:

USEF Rules will apply unless otherwise stated by the rules of NIHJA within this book. Affiliated with USEF, we are required to uphold their rules and regulations, and also their penalties and suspensions.

5. By-Laws:

- A. Annual Meetings: The Annual Meeting will be held in October of each year. Two weeks notice of the Annual Meeting will be provided to all NIHJA Members. Voting by official proxy will be allowed at the Annual Meeting.
- B. Horse Show Meeting: The Horse Show Meeting will be held in October or November of each year. Two weeks notice of the Horse Show Meeting will be provided to all NIHJA Members. All parties interested in holding a NIHJA show will be able to apply for a show date at this time.
- C. Amendments of By-Laws: The by-laws of NIHJA may be amended only by a 3/4 majority vote of all members of the Association. All proxies not returned will be construed as a "YES" vote. The President and one other Executive Board Member will administer the proxy vote and will certify in writing that proxies were sent to all current members of the Association. The President and other Executive Board Members will further certify as to the accuracy of the results of the proxy. Only the Board may send out proxies.
- D. Rules & Regulations: Rules and Regulations of the Association may be amended by a majority vote at an annual Meeting.
- E. Quorum: A minimum of five (5) Board Members is required to constitute a quorum at Executive Board meetings.
- F. Protest: the Executive Board will handle questions of protest and discipline. Protests at shows shall be made to both the Show Secretary and a Show Steward in writing. This is to be accompanied by a check payable to NIHJA for \$25.00. This check will be refunded if the protest is determined to be valid by the Executive Board Members. After completion of the show, protests may be made in writing within 72 hours to the President or the Association Secretary accompanied by a check for \$25.00 payable to NIHJA. Minors may protest. Trainers should be aware of all NIHJA rules. Should discrepancies occur causing riders to lose accrued points, NIHJA will not be responsible.
- G. Mailing Lists: Are made available to any member of the Association upon request, but cannot be used, given out or sold for solicitation purposes.

6. Awards:

- A. Annual Awards Dinner: An Annual Awards Dinner will be held each year at which time the Annual High Point Awards, Sportsmanship Awards and Horse-Show of the Year Award will be made.
- B. Junior Sportsmanship Award: A Sportsmanship Award will be given at the end of each year to a Junior rider based upon the junior's attitude, sportsmanship and horsemanship for the entire show season. The Vice-President will select five amateur adults from different stables who will be responsible for selection of the individual most worthy of this award. The Vice-President will make sure that this selection is completed one month prior to the Awards Banquet.
- C. Amateur Adult Sportsmanship Award: A Sportsmanship Award will be given at the end of each year to the Amateur Adult rider based on the individual's attitude, sportsmanship and horsemanship for the entire show season. The President and the Junior Spokesperson(s) will select five Juniors from different stables that will be responsible for selecting the individual most worthy of this award. The President will make sure that this selection is completed one month prior to the Awards Banquet.
- D. NIHJA Horse-Person of the Year Award: This award will be given to the individual whom the membership feels has contributed the most to the Association. Ballots will be mailed to all members for their vote.

- E. NIHJA Horse-Show of the Year Award: This award will be given to the show and show management whom the membership deems most worthy of special recognition. Ballots will be mailed to all members for their vote. All recognized NIHJA Horse Shows are eligible for this award.
- F. Special Awards: Special Awards may be provided by the Executive Board.
- G. Perpetual Trophies: An attempt will be made to obtain perpetual trophies in all divisions. Perpetual trophies may not be retired.
- H. Trophy Replacement: The Board reserves the right to identify trophies that need to be replaced due to the age/condition while preserving the history of the trophy.

7. Recognized Shows:

- A. The annual show season shall start December 1 and continue through the Final Show - which will be no later than the 2nd weekend of October - with the boards approval. Final Show - management must have an USEF Steward present. The weekend prior to the final show date will be an off-weekend.
- B. To participate in the show date lottery, you must represent, or be the management of, that show for the entire length of the horse show. The show must be billed under that show management name. Show Managers must be present throughout the entire horse show. Only one person per applicant can select a show date.
- C. There shall be no co-recognition with other Hunter and Jumper associations with the exception of USEF.
- D. Fees for NIHJA recognition are as stated in Section 3C.
- E. Show management requesting dates at the Annual Meeting must meet the following requirements. Show Management is a member in good standing in the current year and that held a recognized NIHJA show with at least 40 NIHJA member entries are eligible for the first drawing. The Show season will be divided into (two) 2 separate horse show draw seasons:
 - 1) A winter season ending on April 15
 - 2) A summer season ending with NIHJA Finals.

Management that has been continually fined for contract infractions will not be able to draw from the first lottery winter or summer draws. A second lottery draw for winter or summer will be open to all Show Management desiring to host a show. Show facility will be limited to host only two (2) shows per season, unless due to emergency type situation (closure or quarantine of a facility, loss of use of facility, safety concerns at a facility) and the approval of the NIHJA Board a third (3rd) show may be hosted at the facility.

The NIHJA Finals have no restrictions on facilities and may be the third (3rd) show at any facility meeting the requirements of our Association and with the capabilities to host the event. A majority vote of the Executive Board can make exceptions to show date availability. "Good Standing" is determined at the discretion of the Executive Board. Any applications for show dates after the Annual Meeting will be awarded to the residual requests kept from the lottery.

- F. Show Managements will be limited to not more than two recognized draw shows per season. All Show Management must inform the NIHJA Show Secretary by December 1, of the location of their NIHJA show. If the location of the declared facility changes, the NIHJA board must approve and requires 30 days change notice.

- G. Simultaneous NIHJA recognized shows are permitted provided they are greater than 50 miles apart. Simultaneous recognized shows within the 50-mile limit may be permitted provided the Show Management's of both shows agree.
- H. Cancellations, change of show dates and new show dates will be permitted provided the new show date does not conflict with any NIHJA rules and the Show Management sends notice by postcard or letter via first class mail to all current members at least thirty days prior to the invalid show date. Failure to do so will result in loss of recognition at future shows for the remainder of that show season and for the following show season, forfeiture of any fees paid, and further disciplinary or punitive action as the Executive Board may see fit. Horse shows can not be traded, sold or transferred. Any cancellations will be awarded to the next party on the waiting list.
- I. At a recognized show, the decision of the show steward(s) is final and supersedes all others made by the Show Management
- J. Mandatory and Optional Divisions, see Section 8K.
- K. Either two (2) day or three (3) day shows are allowed. There are to be no more than two recognized shows in any month when there are four Sundays in that month, and no more than three recognized shows in a month when there are five Sundays in that month. When the Finals are in September, there may be three (3) shows. There may not be more than two (2) shows in any three week period. The Finals may be four full days. The final horse show must have a minimum of 2 rings.
- L. The Show Standards Committee appointed by the Board, reserves the right to refuse show dates to applicants when it deems the facilities to be unsuitable for a NIHJA show. "Suitability" is determined at the discretion of the majority of the Show Standards Committee. The committee will attempt to inform the applicant in time to make corrections, but in any event, the applicant will be advised of the reasons for the show date being withheld. Applicant must meet all standards sixty (60) days prior to the Horse Show date.
- M. All recognized shows must conform to the NIHJA standards for recognized shows (Appendix A) and sign the appropriate Show Agreement.
- N. A \$50.00 penalty for each violation of a NIHJA Show Standard, NIHJA rule or USEF rule may be assessed by the Executive Board.

8. Show Management Responsibilities

- A. **Judges:** All judges must be recognized by USEF and all judges names must be submitted to the Association Secretary at least sixty (60) days prior to the show otherwise there will be up to a \$500 fine imposed. No judge shall judge more than two NIHJA recognized shows per year. No judge shall judge any show within sixty (60) days of the last show he/she have judged. Judges names submitted by the Show Management's are to be approved on a first-come, first-serve basis if conflicts should arise. If a second judge is called in at the last minute, it will not count as a second show judging. Regardless of the reason for the change, the Executive Board MUST approve all change in judges otherwise there will be up to a \$500 fine imposed. All judges at Finals must be "R" rated in H, J, and H/E and cannot have judged any other NIHJA show that year. The Executive Board must approve the judges for the Medal Finals sixty (60) days prior to the show.
- B. In the event of a time problem with a show, a second judge may be utilized with both permission and judge approval given by a majority of the Show Standards Committee present.