



SHOWHUNTER

RULES OF ESNZ SHOWHUNTER

Effective 1/08/2021

Version 14 Build 328

These Rules and Regulations cannot be reproduced in whole, or in part without the permission of Equestrian Sports New Zealand Inc. These Rules and Regulations cannot be used either in principle, in whole, or in part for the judging of competition unless that Organising Committee or body is affiliated to Equestrian Sports New Zealand.

Copyright 2013 Equestrian Sports New Zealand Inc.

EQUESTRIAN SPORTS NEW ZEALAND (INCORPORATED)

Section Six

**Show Hunter Rules
Version 14 Build 328**

Effective 1 August 2021

© Copyright 2013 Equestrian Sports

New Zealand Inc.

Contents

Use of Rules	4
A. Show Year.....	4
B. Age of Rider	4
C. Conduct.....	4
D. Requirements for Recognised Divisions	5
E. Recognised Divisions – Horses, based on 3.65m (12') stride.....	5
F. Recognised Divisions – Ponies	7
G. Introductory Classes	8
H. Equipment for Show Hunter	8
I. Judges	9
J. Scoring.....	9
K. Courses for Show Hunters	10
L. Horse of the Year Show (HOY)	11
M. National Show Hunter Championships	12
N. ESNZ Show Hunter High Points	13
O. Equitation Series Classes (Rider Classes)	14
P. Show Jumping Medal Equitation Class	15
Annex 1.....	18

Use of Rules

These Rules and Regulations cannot be reproduced in whole or in part without the permission of Equestrian Sports New Zealand Inc.

These Rules and Regulations cannot be used either in principle, in whole, or in part for the judging of competition unless the Organising Committee or body is affiliated to Equestrian Sports New Zealand.

Rules, if not specified in Show Hunter Rules but are covered in Jumping Discipline or General Regulations for ESNZ, will be applied to the Show Hunter Discipline.

A. Show Year

The ESNZ Show Hunter year for the purpose of counting HOY Qualifying points, runs from Horse of the Year exclusive, to Horse of the Year, inclusive.

B. Age of Rider

Show Season Calendar year runs from 1st August to 31st July.

1. *Pony Riders*

1.1. Competitors may take part in competitions and points series for pony riders until the end of the Show Season Calendar year that they reach the age of 17.

1.2. A pony rider eligible to compete on the 1st day of an event may continue to compete at that event as a pony rider if they turn 17 during the event. At the conclusion of that show refer to Rule B 1 regarding date of show for further eligibility as pony rider.

2. *Amateur Riders*

Amateur competitors may take part in Amateur Show Hunter competitions and points series from the first day of the season during which they turn 22. Competitors **may not** take part in Junior Show Hunter competitions and points series at the same time.

Refer to Rule E2.

3. *Junior Riders*

Junior competitors may take part in Junior Show Hunter competitions and points series until the end of the show season calendar year that they reach the age of 21. Competitors **may not** take part in Amateur Show Hunter competitions and points series at the same time.

Refer to Rule E3.

4. *Introductory Events*

Rider's may compete on a equine in recognised or Introductory (unrecognised) competitions, providing that other qualifying criteria are met for those restricted divisions or classes.

5. *Adult Riders*

Adult riders aged 17 years and older may ride ponies at Introductory events **but** will not be eligible for prizes.

C. Conduct

1. Rules regarding conduct, cruelty and prohibited substances apply for Show Hunters as for Jumping. Refer to ESNZ Rule Book Section One, Chapter VII - Article 132.

2. During the running of a Show Hunter Show a veterinarian should be either present on the grounds or on call within 10 - 15 minutes distance from the show.
3. Official warning ruling applies to Show Hunter Riders. Refer to the document "Official Warning National Procedure".
4. No competitor may use an electronic device for the purpose of outside assistance while in the competition arena unless declared for medical purposes. The penalty for using a forbidden device will be elimination from the class.
5. It is compulsory for anyone mounted on a horse or pony at the grounds of an event sanctioned by ESNZ to wear an approved hard hat. See article 151 points 2 and 3 in the General Regulations for tagging and other requirements,
6. Organising committees have the option of running classes back to back, however competitors cannot be made to ride both classes consecutively.
7. Riders of stallions must wear stallion armbands at all times while mounted. This is in addition to the stallions having to have a ESNZ approved 'stallion tags' which must be displayed on either side of the bridle or halter – as required under Article 133 in the General Regulations of ESNZ.

D. Requirements for Recognised Divisions

1. All Riders must be full members of ESNZ to compete in any recognised Show Hunter Class. The only exception is that riders may compete in Introductory classes on an Introductory Membership. Refer to the ESNZ website for more details about memberships.
2. Horses and ponies registered with ESNZ and with an annual start for Jumping are eligible for all recognized Show Hunter competition.
3. Horses and ponies registered with ESNZ and with a Jumping Casual Levy are eligible to compete in all recognized Show Hunter competition except series classes and HOY, National Championships and Island Championships.
4. Horses and ponies competing on a casual ESNZ Casual Equine Registration, and a Jumping Casual Levy are eligible for all recognised Show Hunter competition except series classes and HOY, National Championship Title Classes and Island Championships Title Classes. Horses can compete up to 1.10m and ponies up to 1.00m.
5. Horses and ponies competing on a Jumping Casual Levy will not earn HOY qualifying points. However, they will have their results recorded if the horse/pony has a full ESNZ registration.
6. Annual jumping starts are due for each season one year after initial registration.
7. **Note:** To show in recognised classes, **all ponies must possess a current height measurement card.** If the height of a pony changes from season to season, and the pony becomes eligible for a different height Category, then a copy of the new height certificate must be submitted to ESNZ National Office.
8. In recognised classes/divisions, classes may be run at various fence heights up to the maximum catering for the level of competition. All jump heights are to be rounded to the nearest 5cm. These are a maximum stated height with a 5cm variation **downwards** only. Adverse ground conditions have the only other effect on fence heights. This enables a class to be run at a fence height catering to the level of competitors without building to the maximum.

E. Recognised Divisions – Horses, based on 3.65m (12') stride

All Show Hunter Horse classes defined as "HOYQ" then listing the fence height for that class.

In addition, the terminology used in the following restricted classes will be acknowledged as **Recognised Classes**. Recognised classes may be combined as one class with one set of reward (prizes) with points allocated to each series respectively. E.g. Junior/Amateur.

1. Amateur - Fences range 85 cm - 1.00 m maximum (3'3")

- 1.1. Open to all horses regardless of previous experience.
- 1.2. Refer to Rule B2 for age of Rider.
- 1.3. Horses: Competitors must ride horses that are registered with ESNZ in their name as owner or part owner or registered leasee.
- 1.4. Competitors may not have placed or won prize money in **ANY** classes higher than 1.20m in Jumping or competed at 3* or above in Eventing in the current or preceding ESNZ Show Season which runs from 1st August to 31st July.
- 1.5. A horse that has accumulated points in the Amateur Division of ESNZ Show Hunter will retain those points even if the rider relinquishes his/her Amateur status during the year. The horse may continue to earn Amateur points if shown by another rider who qualifies as an Amateur.
- 1.6. A horse will retain its ESNZ Amateur Show Hunter Series points, and ESNZ Show Hunter qualifying points if sold during the season.
- 1.7. A horse showing in the Amateur Show Hunter division is eligible to cross enter at the same show into any other recognised Show Hunter division, providing that all eligibility criteria is met for those divisions.

2. Junior - Fences range 85 cm - 1.00 m maximum (3'3")

- 2.1. Open to all horses regardless of previous experience. Refer to Section B3 for definition of age of rider. (Ponies are not eligible). A horse showing in this Division is eligible to cross enter at the same show into any other recognised Division, providing that all eligibility criteria is met for these Divisions.

3. Open – Fence range 85cm -1.20 m maximum (4'.0")

- 3.1. Open to all horses regardless of previous experience and/or eligibility of rider. Horses may compete in Junior or Amateur if rider eligibility is met.
- 3.2. All Show Hunter horse classes defined as Open will list the fence height for that class.
- 3.3. Age Group Classes run within a height range of 85cm-1.15m and with maximum heights per age group category:
 - 4 year old 85cm - 1.00m
 - 5 year old 85cm - 1.05m
 - 6 year old 85cm - 1.10m
 - 7 year old 85cm - 1.15m
- 3.4. An Open class may be restricted within the Open definition.

It is recommended that shows provide some restricted classes in their programme to cater for less experienced riders and/or equines.

Some examples of possible restrictions are listed below:

- Open: Restricted to Horses which have never had a 1st placing in a recognised class

- Open: Restricted to Horses not jumping higher than 1.00m at the show.
- Open: Restricted to Horses not starting in series classes
- Open: Restricted to combinations in their season.
- Open 1.05m: Restricted to Amateur riders only.

4. Handy Hunter – Fences range 85cm – 1.2m Maximum

5.1 Open to all horses regardless of experience

F. Recognised Divisions – Ponies

All Show Hunter pony classes defined as “HOYQ” then listing the fence height for that class, will be acknowledged as Recognised classes.

Ponies must compete in their correct category for ESNZ Show Hunter Series High Points, Horse of the Year & NZ National Championships. Refer to Rules K and L.

- Category A Pony: Ponies 133cm and under
- Category B Pony: Ponies over 133cm up to and including 143cm
- Category C Pony: Ponies over 143cm up to and including 148cm

1. **Open - Open to all ponies regardless of experience.**

1.1. **Category A** - Fences maximum 70 cm based on 3.05 m (10' stride)

1.2. **Category B** - Fences maximum 80 cm based on 3.20 m (10' 6" stride)

1.3. **Category C** - Fences maximum 1 m based on 3.35 m (11' stride)

2. Handy Hunter – Open to all ponies regardless of experience

2.1. Category A – Fences max 70cm on 3.05m stride (10')

2.2. Category B – Fences max 80cm on a 3.20m stride (10'6")

2.3. Category C – Fences max 1m on 3.35m stride (11')

3. Ponies may not enter any Open (Recognised) horse fence height class or any restricted horse class i.e. Junior and Amateur.

4. Pony category classes run at the correct heights and strides may be combined as one class with one set of rewards (prizes). The correct fence heights and distances need to be adhered to for each category within the combined class. The class can be inserted into the programme for each category at the appropriate time and given one number i.e. 12a, 12b, 12c. Exception – Series Classes, refer N.

It is recommended that shows provide some restricted classes in their programme to cater for less experienced riders and or equines.

Some examples of possible restriction are listed below:-

- Restricted to ponies which have never had a win in a recognised class
- Restricted to ponies NOT jumping the highest class in their division at the show.
- Restricted to Combinations in their first season.
- Restricted to ponies not competing in series classes at the show.

G. Introductory Classes

1. Introductory Classes – Maximum fence height 90cm (horses) and 80cm (ponies)

1.1. A rider may compete in introductory classes at Recognised events on an introductory or casual membership. Horses do not have to be registered.

1.2. Introductory classes are not eligible for HOY qualifying points. Results will not be recorded.

2. Adult riders age 17 years and older may ride ponies in introductory events and classes but may not be eligible for prizes

H. Equipment for Show Hunter

1. Equipment Allowed List

- A bridle, with an allowed bit, that may have a correctly fitted cavesson noseband above the bit.
- Any form of snaffle bit where the action is on the equine's mouth, including corners of the mouth, bars, and tongue (it is the competitor's responsibility to check with an SH official to confirm the bit they use is allowed, as some bits have 'poll action' and are not allowed). A snaffle bit is where the cheek piece and the rein are correctly fitted to the same ring and can move freely.
- Pelham bits if used in their entirety (with a correctly fitted chain) where the primary action is on the equine's jaw. Must be used with either two separate reins or joiners or forked reins.
- Kimblewick bits, with a correctly fitted chain. If a slotted version is used reins must NOT be attached to the slots.
- Leather blinker cheeks that are permanently attached, maximum width 2cm.
- Spurs that are non-rowel. Spurs that have a smooth rolling ball. Spurs that have a rolling ball that is flattened top and bottom, min thickness 7mm.



- Whip – maximum length of 75cm, including the flapper. Cannot be weighted at the end.
- Boots and/or bandages (hind boots must comply with the Jumping Rule Art 257.2.6.2).
- Correctly fitted standing or running martingale.
- Breastplate.
- Neckstrap.
- Stud Guards.
- Belly Bands.
- Hoof Boots
- The following are only allowed if a veterinary injury requires protection or at judge's discretion due to ground conditions; bell boots, hoof band/heel band/protector, & fetlock rings. The judge must be informed of this before the class begins.
- Use of any equipment not listed above will result in a no-score for the round.

- Under Saddle classes: running and standing martingales boots and bandages are NOT ALLOWED.
 - Equitation classes on the flat: running and standing martingales are NOT ALLOWED. The Judges Advisor committee has the right to assess the use of any bit as allowed or not allowed equipment. Their decision will be final.
3. In the interests of safety, the stirrup iron and the stirrup leather (this also applies to safety stirrups) must hang freely from the bar of the saddle and the outside of the flap. The rider must not directly or indirectly tie any part of their body to the saddlery.
 4. Competitors are allowed to use a dressage whip when working on the flat but are strictly forbidden to use or carry a whip which is weighted at the end at any time, or to carry or use one which is more than 75cm in length (including the flapper) in the arena, exercise or schooling areas when riding over poles or any obstacle. No substitute for a whip maybe carried. Failure to comply with this paragraph will incur elimination.
 5. The total maximum weight of equipment allowed to be added to a horse's leg, front or hind (boots, bandages) is 500g (shoe excluded). Failure to comply with this paragraph will incur disqualification

I. Judges

1. All official ESNZ Show Hunter Exams and Judges Clinics will be conducted by an approved Show Hunter examiner.
2. All Judge appointments will be reviewed by the Show Hunter Executive Committee.
3. National Judges can judge both recognised and unrecognised/introductory classes.
4. Candidate Judges may only judge unrecognised/introductory classes and at Introductory shows
5. All Show Hunter judges must be current members of ESNZ.
6. Judges are encouraged to have a technical assistant if they wish when judging to help watch competitors between fences.

J. Scoring

1. Ties or equal placings are not allowed. Judges must decide preference between similar rounds.
2. Circles or crossing of paths are scored as a disobedience except for one opening or one closing "courtesy circle".
3. The following will result in elimination:
 - Three refusals or disobedience on course
 - Fall of horse and/or rider
 - Leaving ring or designated area while on course
 - Off course
 - Use of banned substance
4. In the case of a refusal at the second element of a combination (i.e. a one or two-stride line), the rider has the option to re-attempt only the second element or to re-jump the entire combination, in which case the first element is scored only the first time it is jumped.

5. Any trotting on course in a recognised class is a major fault and will typically score at less than 60%. Excludes equitation and handy hunter classes where trotting may be required in the course plan.
6. Use of equipment "Not Allowed" will result in a no-score for the performance.
7. A bell will be rung by the judge when a competitor is eliminated.

K. Courses for Show Hunters

1. Size of Ring

- 1.1. The recommended minimum dimensions are 40 x 80 m (135 x 270 feet) but basically the ring should be twice as long as it is wide.
- 1.2. All jumps should be located in the middle third of the ring, allowing one-third on each end for smooth wide turns.
- 1.3. All lines should be set along the long sides of the ring or lengthwise along the diagonals, avoiding setting any fences at all on the short ends of the ring so as not to surprise horses or cause abrupt turns interrupting the consistent rhythm desired.

2. Equipment

- 2.1. Obstacles should be natural, unpainted or solid colour, which means striped rails should be avoided unless insufficient natural material is available.
- 2.2. Standards or stands should be 75 cm wide and located on both sides of the front element, utilising moveable cups.
- 2.3. Rails - plain and natural in colour, using the same colour in one jump is preferable.
- 2.4. Flower boxes of greenery or large flowers
- 2.5. Brush boxes filled with manuka or greenery. Artificial brush can be used.
- 2.6. Hen Coops and Walls - painted plain colours or brick or stone wall types, brown, white grey green etc.
- 2.7. Gates - white, green or brown.
- 2.8. Flaxes - potted under or in front of poles.
- 2.9. Greenery - tied to stands or laid down on ground in front of poles.
- 2.10. Astro turf - Used on walls or half round shapes.

3. Construction of Fences

- 3.1. Fences should be well filled and solid looking.
- 3.2. All fences must have ground lines.
- 3.3. The highest element of any fence, including the top front rail of oxers must be faultable.
- 3.4. Fences are not flagged or numbered. There is no starting bell, saluting is not required or desired.

4. Vertical Fences

- 4.1. These can be any upright and may be jumped from both directions.
- 4.2. Planks or hanging fill may be used, but must have at least one or two faultable rails above the plank or hanging fill.

5. OXER Fences

- 5.1. May only be ascending with the back rail about 10 - 15 cm (3-6") higher than the front rail.
- 5.2. Front element can be of rails, plank or hanging fill. If a plank or hanging fill is used, then at least one or two faultable rails above the plank or hanging fill must be used.
- 5.3. Back rail must be only a single horizontal rail.
- 5.4. Width must be commensurate to height.
- 5.5. An oxer can only be jumped from one direction.

- 5.6. An oxer is more conducive to a horse using his knees well. As a rule the horses jump into a line over a vertical and out over an oxer.
- 5.7. Triple bars, Swedish oxers, fan jumps, hogsback and treble combinations of three fences related by one or two strides are not allowed on a Show Hunter course.
- 5.8. At least one side of the back rail of an oxer must have a breakaway cup.

6. Design of Course

- 6.1. The course should consist of 8-10 fences; with at least one, preferably two changes of direction.
- 6.2. One or two double combinations, never a triple combination.
- 6.3. All turns should be wide angle or 'u' turns, never acute.
- 6.4. Lines should consist of 1, 2 or 3 fences set on the longer sides of the ring or across the diagonal.
- 6.5. Lines can be straight or gently bending, never so severe as to interrupt the natural rhythm of the stride. Broken lines are permissible for use in equitation classes.

7. Exercise and Schooling Areas and Practice Obstacles

Refer ARTICLE 201 "ARENA, SCHOOLING AREAS AND PRACTICE OBSTACLES" in the jumping rules.

- 7.1 The Organising Committee must provide at least one exercise or schooling area sufficiently large for good training conditions.
- 7.2 There must be a minimum of one straight and one spread obstacle. The ground has to be in good condition. When there are many competitors and sufficient space, additional obstacles should be provided.
- 7.3 All obstacles must be constructed in the usual manner and provided with red and white flags, indicating direction in which they are to be jumped.
- 7.4 Where space permits and the number of competitors is large, a separate Schooling area may be designated for horse and pony competitors.
- 7.5 The use of fence material not provided by the Organising Committee is forbidden under penalty of disqualification and/or fine (Article 241 and 242). Practice obstacles may only be jumped in the direction for which they are flagged. No part of the practice obstacles may be held by anyone.
- 7.6 A ground pole may be placed up to 1 metre in front of the fence and the ground pole must always be placed in front of the fence.
- 7.7 If crossed poles are used as the top part of an obstacle, they must be able to fall individually. The top end of the poles must be in a cup.
- 7.8 There can be a horizontal top pole behind the crossed poles, which must be at least 20 cm higher than the height of the place where the poles cross each other.
- 7.9 The top poles of a fence must always be in cups at both ends. If the pole is resting on the edge of a cup it must be on the far edge and never on the near edge.
- 7.10 Obstacles in the practice arena may not exceed in height and width 10cm more than the maximum height and width of the obstacles of the competition in

L. Horse of the Year Show (HOY)

1. **Note: Whilst there is no minimum qualifying level in these rules, the SH HoY organising committee may elect to put qualification conditions in their show conditions in which case the following applies:**

- 1.1. Only recognised classes will count as qualifiers for the Horse of the Year Show

1.2. Horse of the Year Qualifying Points will only be awarded to Horses and Ponies with an annual jumping start and full ESNZ equine registration.

2. Rings and Heights

2.1. Horse, Pony, Junior and Amateur Show Hunter of the Year title classes will be run in the same applicable ring as the previous day's classes. There will be no practice rounds in the ring of the title classes on the day of competition.

2.2. The following will apply for the HOY Show Hunter title classes.

- Junior Fence height max 1 m
- Amateur Fence height max 1m
- Open Fence height max 1.15m
- Category A Pony Fence height max 70cm
- Category B Pony Fence height max 80cm
- Category C Pony Fence height max 90cm

2.3. Each category will have its own title class at H.O.Y.

2.4 Ponies may only enter the category appropriate to their height.

2.5 All fence heights at H.O.Y will be set at maximum or according to ground conditions.

2.6 Courses at H.O.Y. should have at least one change of direction and at least one combination of 1 or 2 strides, there should be 8 - 10 fences.

2.7 H.O.Y. title classes will be judged by two judges who shall judge independently

2.8 Show Hunter title classes at H.O.Y. will be judged with a call back.

2.9 Any area that runs a North Island/ South Island Championship Show has the option of running a Show Hunter Championship competition.

M. National Show Hunter Championships

1. Horse, Pony, Junior and Amateur National Show Hunter title classes will be run in the same applicable ring as the previous days' classes. There will be no practice rounds in the ring of the title classes on the day of competition.

2. The following will apply for National Championships Show Hunter title classes.

Horses

- Junior Fence height max 1 m
- Amateur Fence height max 1 m
- Open Fence height max 1.15m

Ponies

- Category A Pony Fence height max 70cm
- Category B Pony Fence height max 80cm
- Category C Pony Fence height max 90cm

Ponies may only enter the category appropriate to their height.

3. All fence heights at the National Show Hunter Championships will be set at maximum or according to ground conditions.

4. Courses at the National Show Hunter Championships should have at least one change of direction and at least one combination of 1 or 2 strides, there should be 8 - 10 fences.

5. Show Hunter title classes at National Show Hunter Championships will be judged with a call back.

N. ESNZ Show Hunter High Points

All riders competing in Show Hunter High Points Series classes must have a full ESNZ rider membership and horses/ponies must have a full ESNZ equine registration and an Annual Jumping Start.

1. Awards will be presented for all High Points Series classes in New Zealand for first to sixth place in the appropriate national series classes each show season.
 - 1.1. From the Placings that a Horse/Pony gains in the High Points Series in the current season, the Top 12 placings will be tallied prior to the series final class.
 - 1.2. The series final class will be considered a bonus round. Points achieved in the series final class will be added to the accumulated points.
 - 1.3. Points for the series final class will be awarded as follows: Each placing to receive one bonus point e.g. 1st 7 points, 2nd 5 points, 3rd 4 points, 4th 3 points, 5th 2 points 6th place 1 point.
 - 1.4. In the event of a tie then the placings shall be decided by a count back of most wins of the 12 counting rounds for the season. If still tied, then the number of second placings down to fifth will be taken into account until a final result is achieved. If the result is still tied, then the result will be decided by the highest placing in the Series Final class.
2. **Four Show Days** per area are eligible to be registered as N.Z. High Point Shows for all N.Z. High Point Awards. These show days must be registered with the appropriate N.I. or S.I. Coordinator by 1st May.
3. There may be ESNZ Show Hunter Series classes for horses only, held at the National Young Horse Jumping and Show Hunter show. The National Young Horse Jumping Show will be a stand-alone show (in terms of points allocation) therefore will not count as one of the Area series days.
4. All N.Z. High Point Classes will be nominated by the show organising committee.

4.1. Horses

One nominated Junior class per show 90 cm - 1.00 m and one nominated Amateur class per show 90cm - 1.00 m.

Or one nominated combined Junior/Amateur class per show 90 cm - 1.00 m

One nominated Open class per show that is jumped at 1.10 m up to December 31st and from the 1st January up to and including the Series Final Show can be jumped at a height of 1.10m up to and including 1.15m max

Note: If a combined Junior and Amateur High Points Series class is run, series points must be awarded for both the Junior and Amateur High Point Series. There may be only one set of Prize Money for the combined class.

4.2. Ponies. The following will apply for Pony Show Hunter High Points.

Each category will have its own year-end awards.

Category A Pony

Ponies 133 cm and under, 3.05 m (10') stride, Fence height max 70cm

Category B Pony

Ponies over 133 cm up to and including 143 cm, 3.20 m (10'6") stride, Fence height max 80cm

Category C Pony

Ponies over 143 cm up to and including 148 cm, 3.35 m (11') stride, Fence height max 1.00m

These are the **only** Pony and Horse fence height classes that will count for ESNZ Show Hunter High Points Awards.

Ponies can only enter the category appropriate to their certified height.

NB. If a combined (Category A, B & C) ESNZ Show Hunter Pony High Points class is run, results must be split for the ESNZ Show Hunter series points, with series points awarded for all three categories.

5. Results to **fifth** place from the nominated classes must be forwarded ESNZ Head office for all series classes.

Full points for all NZ High Points series classes held, including HOY and National Championships title classes will be awarded as follows if the competitor receives a judges' score of 66% or over- 1st - 6, 2nd - 4, 3rd - 3, 4th - 2, 5th - 1. Show Hunter Horse Age Group classes do not count as points towards any N.Z. High Points award for Show Hunter Horses.

O. Equitation Series Classes (Rider Classes)

1. Requirements for Equitation

- 1.1. All Horses and Ponies must be registered with ESNZ.
- 1.2. All riders must be members of ESNZ.
- 1.3. Riders may only compete on one mount in an equitation class.
- 1.4. Equitation classes are to be recognised thus enabling them to have prize money offered.
- 1.5. Equitation will not count as qualifying points for Show Hunter classes at H.O.Y. National Show Hunter Championships or as points towards any of the ESNZ High Point awards.
- 1.6. The same equipment rules apply to equitation over fences as for Show Hunter. See Rule H. For equitation on the flat this rule applies except that the use of martingales is prohibited.
- 1.7. The Jumping NZ Equitation Medal Class of the Year will be held at H.O.Y. Refer to Jumping Rules, Annex 6.

Fence Heights Horses 1.15 m, Ponies 90 cm on an 11' stride only or as ground conditions dictate.

2. Hunt Seat Equitation Series

A Hunt Seat Equitation Series will be held on an annual basis, with separate series for Pony Riders, Juniors and Adults. Refer Annex 1 Show Hunter Rules.

P. Show Jumping Medal Equitation Class

Refer to Jumping Rules Annex 6

1. This class is run in two phases: The first phase is the jumping phase, that counts for 60% of the overall score and the second phase is a call back portion; and can be on the flat or a combination of on the flat and over fences, that counts for 40% of the score (see section 11 below).
2. All horses and ponies must be registered with ESNZ. Riders must be members of ESNZ. Note: Article 130.1 of the ESNZ General Regulations
3. Riders can only compete on one mount in each class and under the specific rules of each class.

4. Horses and ponies must have separate classes, ie they may not compete against each other.
5. Classes may be divided up by age groups (for example: Ponies – Riders aged 12 and Under / Ponies – Riders aged 13 yo to 17 yo).
6. If classes are divided, they must be judged and awarded prizes per class, not as one combined class.
7. Equipment for First Phase (Jumping Phase)
 - Equipment including bits, boots, bandages and martingales are allowed as per ESNZ Showjumping Rule 257
8. Equipment or Second Phase (call back phase; on the flat and which may include jumping):
 - All equipment rules are as in ESNZ Showjumping Rule 257 with the exception of martingales; see below:
 - a. If only on the flat ie with NO JUMPING; martingales are not allowed. No other equipment changes are allowed.
 - b. If on the flat combined with jumping as well; martingales are allowed. No other equipment changes are allowed.
9. Course
 - A. Riders are allowed to walk the course before the class begins. ESNZ Showjumping Rule 202
 - B. All courses (including Second Phase- call back) must be posted at the gate; at least one hour before the class starts.
 - C. The course plan must include:
 - All distances in both feet and metres
 - Separate course plans for each phase (ie First Phase: Jumping / Second Phase [call back] Flat, possibly with Jumping)
 - Individual course plans for horses and ponies: can be the same course with correct distances for horse/ponies - just needs to be individual plans.
 - D. The course plan should include:

- Triple and a double combination (with at least one oxer)
- Equal number of oxers/spreads to verticals
- At least one single spread fence from a non-related line

E. Obstacles must be built within the legal boundaries of ESNZ Showjumping: ESNZ Showjumping Rule 218

F. For horses:

- Height between 1.10 – 1.15m maximum
- Triple bar spreads maximum width: 1.35m
- Distances built on a 12-foot horse's cantering stride; or as ground conditions dictate
- Speed: (must be listed on course plan) 350m per minute

G. For ponies:

- Height: 90cm maximum
- Triple bar spreads maximum width: 1.10m
- Distances built on an 11-foot pony's cantering stride; or as ground conditions dictate
- Speed: (must be listed on course plan) 300m per minute

10. Judging

a. Time faults (if any) plus other penalties will be taken into the judge's consideration of the rider.

b. Normal rules of rider conduct, equipment, mount disobediences and eliminations apply. Run under normal ESNZ Showjumping Rules.

c. Overall, this show jumping equitation class is judged on the effectiveness, style and execution of excellent horsemanship skills of the rider. Each aspect of the course(s) is marked individually.

d. The ESNZ Showjumping Medal Equitation Class will be judged by an approved judge with 60% of the score from the over fences First Phase; and 40% from the flat/jumping Second Phase.

e. Note: there must also be a timekeeper; and a show official to record jumping faults and disobediences as per ESNZ Showjumping Rules.

11. Expectations regarding this class

a. Riders could be asked to perform any or all of the following in either of the Phases of this class:

Ride a line in a designated number of strides

Ride a bending or broken line accurately

Smoothly and effectively ride an offset distance e.g. short or long line

Narrow jump

Roll back

Single fence placed at shorter ends of ring

Long approach to single fence

b. Second phase of this class

i. The Second Phase course plan must be posted at the gate at least one hour prior to the Second Phase starting.

ii. Riders selected to participate in the Second Phase will receive notice of their selection upon the conclusion of the First Phase.

iv. In the Second Phase, riders could be asked to perform any of the following (either individually or in a group)- not in any order:

- Working Walk
- Collected Walk
- Lengthened Walk
- Working Trot: sit or rise
- Collected Trot: sit or rise
- Lengthened Trot: sit or rise
- Working Canter
- Collected Canter
- Lengthened Canter
- Counter Canter
- Simple Lead Change
- Flying Lead Change
- Halt
- Rein Back
- Work without stirrups
- Trot or canter jumps
- Incorporate any of the above with a line or related jumps



Annex 1

SHOWHUNTER NZ HUNT SEAT EQUITATION SERIES CONDITIONS

General Conditions:

1. Goals

- Increase the participation in the events involved in the series described below and, in the discipline.
- Promote the discipline
- Promote excellence in equitation and all other technical aspects of the discipline
- Provide a competitive structure which assists in the development of younger and/or less experienced riders, encourages the continued participation of older and/or more experienced riders, and also the further development of rider experience.

2. Principles

The term “series” refers to a number of competitions held successively, at different events leading to a final competition or to qualify horses/ponies and or combinations for a final event or competition.

A series cannot commence before 1st August and must conclude at the final event (“Final”) as defined below.

The series may be restricted to horses or ponies and/or different categories of competitors. These qualifications will be specified in the particular conditions for each series.

Each area may run a maximum of four show days, with the exception of NZ Nationals, Horse of the Year, and Series Finals.

A “Final” event for each series will be held at the New Zealand Series Final Show.

Only one competition at each show day will qualify for points in each series.

Awards will be presented to all Equitation Series Classes in New Zealand for first – sixth accumulating the most points in each show year in the appropriate national series classes.

- a) From the placings that a Horse/Pony gains in the series classes in the current season, the top 12 placings will be tallied prior to the series final
- b) The series final class will be considered a bonus round. Points achieved in the series final class will be added to the accumulated scores
- c) In the event of a tie, then the placings shall be decided by a count back of most wins of the counting rounds for the season. If still tied, then the number of second placings down to fifth will be taken into account until a final result is achieved. If the result is still tied, then the result will be decided by the highest placing in the Series Final Class.

3. Points

Points will be awarded to the first five place getters in each series class, regardless of number of starters providing that they receive a judges’ score of **66% and over**.

1st - 6, 2nd-4, 3rd - 3, 4th - 2, 5th -1

Series Final Class: Refer Rule 2.8c

Points will be awarded to the first six place getter in each series finals class, regardless of the number of starters providing that they receive a judge's score of 66% and over. Points will be awarded in the following way providing that they receive a judges' score of **66% and over**.

1st-7, 2nd- 5, 3rd-4, 4th-3, 5th-2, 6th-1 point.

If a combined Junior and Adult Equitation Series Class is run, series points must be awarded for both the Junior and Adult Equitation Series. There may be only one set of Prize Money for the combined class.

4. Prizes

Prizes in cash or kind. Awards for overall series will be 1st – 6th.

5. Conduct, Obstacles and Courses

All Series Finals will be conducted in draw order.

Courses will consist of 7-10 fences, typical of the verticals and ascending oxers that are found in a Showhunter Course.

A series equitation course should include two or more related distances that may be jumped using a roll back turn or as a related line, at least one single oxer from a non-related line and a single vertical.

A vertical may be jumped more than once and may be jumped from both directions providing there are suitable grounds lines on each take-off side.

An oxer may be jumped more than once but may **ONLY** be jumped in the direction of the ascending back rail.

An equitation course **may** include one or more rider tests as follows:

SIMPLE

- Roll back turn
- Sitting Trot
- Halt on the course, but not in a line. Place of halt to be designated by course designer and/or judge.
- Trotting a single fence (max height 90cm for horse, 70cm for pony rider, 60cm for pony rider 12 years & under)
- Simple change of lead

MEDIUM

- Trotting a fence into or out of a line in a related distance (max 90cm for horses, 70cm for pony rider, 60cm for pony rider 12 years & under)
- Ride without stirrups
- Figure of eight
- More forward canter to a single fence

ADVANCED

- Flying lead change
- Rein back
- Hand gallop

- Halt in line, to be 7 strides or more. Place of halt to be designated by course designer and/or judge
- Counter canter
- Jumping without stirrups

Note – a trot fence should be a vertical

Courses for ponies will **not** include lines or related distances of less than four strides.

6. Participation

Competitors may only take part in any of the series if they are current financial members of the ESNZ.

Horses/Ponies taking part in the series must be currently registered with the ESNZ, with a Jumping/Show Hunter Start.

Participation in Series classes being held at HOY, National SH Championships are covered in the SH Rule book (Section D 1 & D 8).

7. Finals

The series “Finals” will be held at the Series Final Show.

Points will be awarded to the first six place getter in each series finals class, regardless of the number of starters providing that they receive a judge’s score of 66% and over. Points will be awarded in the following way: 1st-7, 2nd- 5, 3rd-4, 4th-3, 5th-2, 6th-1 point.

In the event of a tie then the placings shall be decided by a count back of most wins of the 12 counting rounds for the season. If still tied, then the number of second placings and so on will be taken into account until a final result is achieved. If the result is still tied, then the result will be decided by the highest placing in the Series Final class.

8. Pony Rider 12 & Under Equitation Series

Qualifications

Open to riders 12 & under only.

PONIES - This series is open to any pony registered with ESNZ with RAS Life Certificate or current RAS height certificate who is registered for SHNZ.

COMPETITORS – Competitors will be eligible to take part in this series until the end of the season during which they reach the age of 12, the season being from 1st August to 31st July.

Participation

This series is a pony rider competition, so the rider retains the points gained from this Pony Rider Equitation Series competition for accumulation for this series only. Points are not transferable to another series where rider eligibility criteria have been met.

A rider may only ride one pony in a class but may accumulate rider points on different ponies during the series.

A rider may only compete in one equitation series class at any given show either Pony Rider 12 & Under Equitation Series or Pony Rider Equitation Series.

Competition

Courses and Obstacles

Fence Height Maximum 70cm

Stride Length – 10’ (3.05m)

Course will consist of 7-10 obstacles made up of verticals and oxers and will include related distances and single fences.

Related distances of less than four strides are not used.

Verticals may be jumped from both directions providing correct ground lines are in place.

Oxers may be jumped more than once, but only in the direction of the ascending back rails.

A series of rider questions may be asked during the course. See Rule 5 for further details.

Points

Points will be awarded for the series classes for 1st – 5th place in each class – 6,4,3,2,1.

9. Pony Rider Equitation Series

Qualifications

Open to Ponies only.

PONIES - This series is open to any pony registered with ESNZ with RAS Life Certificate or current RAS height certificate who is registered for SHNZ.

COMPETITORS – Competitors will be eligible to take part in this series until the end of the season during which they reach the age of 17, the season being from 1st August to 31st July.

Participation

This series is a pony rider competition, so the rider retains the points gained from this Pony Rider Equitation Series competition for accumulation for this series only. Points are not transferable to another series where rider eligibility criteria have been met.

A rider may only ride one pony in a class but may accumulate rider points on different ponies during the series.

A rider may only compete in one equitation series class at any given show either Pony Rider 12 & Under Equitation Series or Pony Rider Equitation Series.

Competition

Courses and Obstacles

Fence Height Maximum 80cm

Stride Length – 11' (3.35m)

Course will consist of 7-10 obstacles made up of verticals and oxers and will include related distances and single fences.

Related distances of less than four strides are not used.

Verticals may be jumped from both directions providing correct ground lines are in place.

Oxers may be jumped more than once, but only in the direction of the ascending back rails.

A series of rider questions may be asked during the course. See General Conditions Rule 5 for further details.

10. Junior Rider Equitation Series

Qualifications

The series is open to any horse registered with the ESNZ who is also registered for SHNZ.

Competitors will be eligible to take part in this series until the end of the season during which they reach the age of 21, the season being from 1st August to 31st July.

A competitor is ineligible to compete in both Junior Rider and Adult Rider Equitation Series at the same time.

Participation

Open to Riders on horses only.

This series is a Junior Rider competition, so the rider retains the points gained from this Junior Rider Equitation Series competition for accumulation for this series only. Points are not transferable to another series where rider eligibility criteria have been met.

A rider may only ride one horse in a class but may accumulate rider points on different horses during the series.

If a combined Junior and Adult Equitation Series Class is run, series points must be awarded for both the Junior and Adult Equitation Series. There may be only one set of Prize Money for the combined class.

Competition Courses and Obstacles

Fence Height Maximum 1m

Course will consist of 7-10 obstacles made up of verticals and oxers and will include related distances and single fences.

Verticals may be jumped from both directions providing correct ground lines are in place.

Oxers may be jumped more than once, but only in the direction of the ascending back rails.

A series of rider questions may be asked during the course. See Rule 5 for further details.

11. Adult Rider Equitation Series

Qualifications

The series is open to any horse registered with the ESNZ who is also registered for SHNZ.

Competitors will be eligible to take part in this series the first day of the season during which they turn 22, the season being from 1st August to 31st July.

A competitor is ineligible to compete in both Junior Rider and Adult Rider Equitation Series at the same time.

Participation

Open to Riders on horses only.

This series is an Adult Rider competition, so the rider retains the points gained from this Adult Rider Equitation Series competition for accumulation for this series only. Points are not transferable to another series where rider eligibility criteria have been met.

A rider may only ride one horse in a class but may accumulate rider points on different horses during the series.

If a combined Junior and Adult Equitation Series Class is run, series points must be awarded for both the Junior and Adult Equitation Series. There may be only one set of Prize Money for the combined class.

Competition Courses and Obstacles

Fence Height Maximum 1m

Course will consist of 7-10 obstacles made up of verticals and oxers and will include related distances and single fences.

Verticals may be jumped from both directions providing correct ground lines are in place.

Oxers may be jumped more than once, but only in the direction of the ascending back rails.

A series of rider questions may be asked during the course. See General Conditions Rule 5 for further details.