New 2026 Jumper Chapter Rules

Effective 12/1/25

JP109 Nominating Fees Nominating Fees.

A nominating fee may be charged for either the Jumper Division or for each Jumper Section, but not both. Exceptions:

1. An additional nominating fee may be charged for the highest prize money class at the show. If this fee is for a class offering $25,000 or more in prize money, the total amount of Entry and Nominating fees assessed must not exceed 2% of prize money per JP151.6.

2. Nominating Fees may not be charged for Young Jumper classes or sections.

JP111 Tack and Attire

3. Spurs. Spurs must be made of smooth metal. Rowel spurs with serrated edges are not permitted. Hammer spurs are allowed. Smooth metal or plastic "impulse" spurs with round hard plastic or metal knobs and "Dummy" spurs with no shank are allowed. The contact surface with the horse and all edges must be smooth rounded. When mounted, athletes may wear only one spur on each boot.

4. See GR 839.2 for Nosebands.

JP117 Young Jumpers Sections/Classes Restricted by Age of Horse

3. 0.90/.95m Young Jumper:

a. Open to horses that meet 4-, 5-, 6-, or 7-year-old age requirements listed in JP117.1. Horses cannot have shown in Open Jumper Classes offering $25,000 or more in prize money with fence heights of 1.10m or higher.

b. Classes will be scored under Table II (all clear rounds stay equal).

c. Fences to be set at 0.90-0.95m. Speed of 325 m/m.

d. Classes can be run concurrently, but the course must follow the .90m Young Jumper course requirements.

4. 1.00/1.05m Young Jumper:

a. Open to horses that meet 4-, 5-, 6-, or 7-year-old age requirements listed in JP117.1. Horses cannot have shown in Open Jumper Classes offering $25,000 or more in prize money with fence heights of 1.20m or higher.

b. Classes will be scored under Table II (all clear rounds stay equal).

c. Fences to be set at 1.00-1.05m. Speed of 325 m/m.

d. Classes can be run concurrently, but the course must follow the 1.00m Young Jumper course requirements.

5. 1.10/1.15m Young Jumper:

a. Open to horses that meet 4-, 5-, 6-, or 7-year old age requirements listed in JP117.1. Horses cannot have shown in Open Jumper Classes offering $25,000 or more in prize money with fence heights of 1.25m or higher.

b. Classes will be scored under Table II (all clears stay equal). After July 1, classes may be scored under Table II, Sec 2.a, b, or d.

c. Before July 1, courses to be set at 1.00 m to 1.15 m. After July 1 courses must be set at 1.15- 1.20 m. Speed of 325 m/m.

6. 1.20/1.25m Young Jumper:

a. Open to horses that meet 5-, 6-, or 7-year old age requirements listed in JP117.1. Horses cannot have shown in Open Jumper Classes offering $25,000 or more in prize money with fence heights of 1.35m or higher.

b. Classes may be scored under Table II, (all clears staying equal); or Table II Section 1 or 2a, b, or d.

c. Courses to be set at 1.20 - 1.25 m. Speed of 350 m/m.

7. 1.30/1.35m Young Jumper:

a. Open to horses that meet 6-, or 7-year-old age requirements listed in JP117.1. Horses cannot have shown in Open Jumper Classes offering $25,000 or more in prize money held at the National or High Performance Standard

b. Classes may be scored under Table II, Section 1 or 2 a, b, or d.

c. Courses to be set at 1.30 - 1.35 m. Speed 350 m/m.

8. Course Requirements

a. General for all ages:

1. Before July 1, all courses must be set in ascending height and the first jump of the course and the first element of any combination must be set 5cm lower than the lowest height permissible under the rule for the age category.

2. There should be at least two changes of direction, preferably more.

3. The first obstacle should be inviting, not difficult (i.e. no blind corners).

b. 0.90m, 1.00m, 1.10m Young Jumpers

1. All courses must be basic and straight forward.

2. Obstacles must be inviting.

3. Before July 1, all courses must be set in ascending height and the maximum height cannot be used in the first 30% of the course

4. The first fence and the first element of any combination must be set 5cm lower than the height specified for the class.

5. Combinations cannot be used before fence number four.

6. Triple combinations cannot be included before July 1. Triple combinations are not permitted in any 0.90m or 1.00m Young Jumper courses.

7. Only one spread obstacle may be included per combination.

8. A Liverpool cannot be used as part of a combination.

9. If a Liverpool is used, it must be used as an option. When using a Liverpool at a vertical, the rails must be in the center. When using a Liverpool at an oxer, the front edge of the Liverpool must be in line with the front element of the oxer.

10. Three (3) stride lines cannot be used before July 1.

11. Flower boxes or ground rails should used in front of obstacles to encourage a visual aid.

12. Normal distances should be used in related lines, whether straight or bending.

13. The fill must be consistent in each element of the combination and must not be a solid or visual distraction.

14. Indoor arenas: Whenever possible, obstacles should not be placed directly on the wall.

c. 1.20m Young Jumpers

1. Before July 1, all courses must be set in ascending height and the maximum fence height cannot be used in the first 30% of the course.

2. Triple combinations may only include one spread obstacle before July 1.

3. Water jumps cannot exceed 11' (3.30m) and must use a rail over the water with a lath on the landing side. Water jumps should be in the second half of the course, and another obstacle must be offered as an option. The rail must be judged and if the lath is also judged, it must be marked on the course.

4. A Liverpool cannot be used as part of a combination.

d. 1.30m Young Jumpers

1. If a Liverpool is used in a combination, it may only be used as the first element, and may not be used before July 1.

2. Water jumps cannot exceed 12' (3.60 m) and must use a rail over the water with a lath on the landing side, and another obstacle must be offered as an option.

9. Restrictions. See also specific restrictions in each age category above.

a. Horses may only compete in one Young Jumper height section each competition day.

b. 4-year-olds may only compete in Young Jumper classes up to and including 1.10m.

c. 5-year-olds may only compete in Young Jumper classes up to and including 1.20m.

10. Classes may be combined and run as one class when there are less than 4 in a given height category. Course guidelines, class specifications, and scoring must conform to those specified for the lowest height section jumping in the combined class.

11. Classes may be combined with an open jumper class held at the same height. Course requirements, class specifications, and scoring must conform to those specified for the lowest height section jumping in the combined class.

12. National and Zone Horse of the Year points

a. Horses may compete in age restricted classes in the month of December but they will not be eligible for HOTY points (GR 1134.2).

b. Horses will receive National and Zone HOTY points in the height section they competed in.

JP118 Sections/Classes Restricted to Junior, Amateur or Young Riders

6. Restrictions

a. Any athlete that competes in an FEI Championship for Seniors (i.e. World Equestrian Games, Olympic Games, Pan-American Games, World Cup Finals) is ineligible to compete in any Junior and/or Amateur Jumper class with the same horse for a period of one year.

b. Any athlete that competes in a CSI4*, a CSI-W or CSIO is ineligible to compete in a Junior and/or Amateur Jumper class held below 1.40m at that same competition.

c. Any athlete that competes in a CSI5* is ineligible to compete in a Junior and/or Amateur Jumper class at that same competition.

d. Any athlete competing in open jumper classes held at the USEF High Performance Standard or CSI3*, CSI4*, or CSI5* FEI Grand Prix classes offering $25,000 or more in prize money is ineligible to compete in any Junior and/or Amateur Jumper class held below 1.20m at the same competition.

e. At competitions offering multiple height sections of Junior and/or Amateur Jumper classes at 1.20m and above, athletes are ineligible to compete in the class offering the most prize money in the lowest height section at the same competition in which they compete in the USEF High Performance Standard or CSI3*, CSI4*, or CSI5* FEI Grand Prix classes offering $25,000.

JP124 Jump Equipment

4. Flags. All obstacles must be both flagged and numbered at competitions offering over $2,500 in the Jumper Division. When flags are used at obstacles, they must be placed at the outside extremities of the elements to be jumped, the red flag on the right, white on the left. Only material (rails, gates, planks, walls, etc.) between the flags of an obstacle may be scored.

JP136 General

18. If a judging error occurs during a class that adversely impacts the results of that class, those results, may be corrected by the Judge that officiated that class, provided there is irrefutable proof of the error (to be determined by the Judge), and it is done within 24 hours of the original awards. If more than one judge officiated the class, then they must unanimously agree to the correction.

If the original Judge is not available, a “R” Jumper Judge, approved by the Federation, may make the correction after reviewing all the necessary evidence.

All persons affected by the correction must be notified by Competition Management within 24 hours of the decision. Any corrections made must be included in the steward's report.

JP141 Knockdowns

3. Only material (rails, gates, planks, wall, etc.) between the flags of an obstacle (red on right, white on left) may be scored.

JP145 Table of Jumping Faults

1. Knockdown: a. Of obstacle (jump material between the red and white flags) with any portion of horse, rider or equipment (excluding the horse's shoe/s when not attached), when jumping that obstacle, …. 4 Faults

4. Second cumulative disobedience anywhere on course (Exception: Young Jumper classes held at 1.20m or below where penalty is 4 faults) …. Elimination

5. Third cumulative disobedience anywhere on course in Young Jumper classes held at 1.20m or below …. Elimination

USEF JUMPER SCHOOLING RULES

5. When schooling for a Young Jumper class in progress, jumps in the schooling area may not exceed the height or width by more than 10cm of the jumps in the class.

20. For scheduled Young Jumper classes, any schooling jump 1m (3'3") or over must have a minimum of two rails, in cups, on the take-off side of the jump, regardless of whether a ground line is used. The lower rail must always be below 1 m (3'3").

21. Only a Liverpool or materials used to simulate a Liverpool that are provided by Management may be used. No other materials may be used in the schooling area except as outlined in Schooling Rule #22.

22. Only a blanket, cooler, or tarp may be laid over the rail of a vertical or an oxer. If laid over an oxer, the blanket, cooler, or tarp must only be laid over the front rail or rails.

23. Any tack used in an unconventional manner or considered against the welfare of the horse will incur possible elimination from the class (upcoming or class in progress) or disqualification from the show. Items such as cables, wire, exposed chains, or unconventional materials are prohibited (curb chains used in the conventional manner are excluded).