

**2019 / 2020 Rules and Regulations  
of the  
Hamel Foundation National Horse Show 3'3" Equitation Championship  
and all  
Hamel Foundation NHS 3'3" Medal Classes**

The National Horse Show Association of America, Limited ("NHSAA") is responsible for the organization, presentation and administration of the Hamel Foundation National Horse Show 3'3" Equitation Championship (Finals). To ensure the selection of appropriate judges and course designers for the Championship, the NHSAA communicates with the National Horse Show Association Equitation Committee. USEF rules govern this competition and the Hamel Foundation National Horse Show 3'3" Medal qualifying classes (Hamel Foundation NHS 3'3" Medal). In case of any conflict between these Rules and USEF rules, USEF rules shall govern.

**Courses for all Hamel Foundation NHS 3'3" Medal Classes and Finals**

- To be shown over a course of not less than eight obstacles.
- Course must include:
  - One combination (including an oxer)
  - At least two changes of direction after the first obstacle
  - At least three of the following
    - Bending Line
    - Narrow Jump (5'6"-8')
    - Roll back turn
    - Fence at the end of the ring
    - Long approach to a single jump
- 1/3 of the obstacles must be oxers
- Obstacle height to be set at 3'3"
- Maximum width of oxers 3'6"
- Maximum width of triple bars and hogs backs 4'
- Liverpools, water jumps or water used as decoration are prohibited

**Specifications for all Hamel Foundation NHS 3'3" Medal Classes and Finals**

The Hamel Foundation NHS 3'3" Medal Class and Finals are open only to junior members of the USEF or Equine Canada who have not reached their 18th birthday in accordance with GR127 and who have never competed in any of the following National Equitation Finals with fences at 3'6": ASPCA Maclay Finals, US Medal Finals, USEF Talent Search (East or West), WIHS Equitation Classic Finals, Jump Canada Medal Finals or the North American Equitation Championship. Riders who compete in a Hamel Foundation NHS 3'3" Medal Class may show in the ASPCA Maclay and in any other classes for which they are eligible at the same horse show. Riders may not show in both the Hamel Foundation National Horse Show 3'3" Equitation Championship and the ASPCA Maclay Finals in the same competition year. Previous winners of the Hamel Foundation National Horse Show 3'3" Equitation Championship are ineligible to compete in any Hamel Foundation NHS Medal Class or the Finals.

Rider and trainer (or coach when applicable [see USEF GR108]) must be current members of the National Horse Show Association ("NHSAA"). The NHSAA Membership year is September 1 through August 31. Junior rider annual contributions shall be \$35. Trainer (or coach) annual contributions shall be \$50. A rider may enter any Hamel Foundation NHS 3'3" Medal Classes anywhere in the United States according to the conditions published in the current Rule book of the USEF. Any rider in his or her final junior year may not compete in any Hamel Foundation NHS 3'3" Medal Classes held at a competition with a start date after August 31 of that competition year.

## Hamel Foundation NHS 3'3" Medal Classes

### Judging

To be judged on seat, hands, guidance and control of the horse. After completion of the jumping phase 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%. USEF Tests 1-16.

### Conditions for holding Hamel Foundation NHS 3'3" Medal Classes:

- Only competitions recognized by the USEF are eligible to hold the Hamel Foundation NHS 3'3" Medal Class.
- All competitions must apply to hold the Hamel Foundation NHS 3'3" Medal Class 30 days in advance using the forms found on [www.nhs.org](http://www.nhs.org).
- Only one rider per horse.
- To fill a Hamel Foundation NHS 3'3" Medal Class three (3) competitors must complete the course.
- If there are 40 or more entries at the beginning of a Hamel Foundation NHS 3'3" Medal Class, it **may** be divided by every other number and run as two separate sections.
- If there are 50 or more entries at the beginning of a Hamel Foundation NHS 3'3" Medal Class, it **must** be divided by every other number and run as two separate classes.
- A Hamel Foundation NHS 3'3" Medal class may not be run using a California split.

### Qualifying Criteria

#### **INCREMENT SYSTEM and NUMBER OF ENTRANTS**

Placings	Number of Exhibitors Who Complete the Course			
	3-5 Exhibitors	6-15 Exhibitors	16-30 Exhibitors	31+ Exhibitors
1st	5	10	20	40
2nd	4	8	16	32
3rd	3	6	12	24
4th		4	8	16
5th			4	8
6th			2	4
7th				2
8th				1

In order to qualify for the Finals conducted by the NHSAA, contestants must win the following based upon the point requirements of their own official rider point state of residence with the USEF in Hamel Foundation NHS 3'3" Medal Classes: in CT, NJ, NY a rider must win 25 pts: in FL, MA, PA, RI 18 pts: in all other states, Canada and Puerto Rico 12 pts.

The qualifying period for each year's Finals ends August 31. If a horse show starts on or before August 31, Hamel Foundation NHS 3'3" Medal Class points acquired at that show will count towards the current year.

## **Finals**

### **Judging**

To be judged on seat, hands, guidance and control of the horse.

### **Preliminary Round**

To be shown over a special course of jumps set to the above stated specifications and posted one hour before the start of the class. The course for the Finals shall be designed by a USEF Course Designer who must be selected and/or approved by the NHSSA. The Judges for the Finals will have input and give approval on the course design.

### **Flat Phase**

A minimum of fifteen (15) 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%.

### **Final Round**

A minimum of fifteen (15) riders will be asked to return for a final round over a second course following the above listed specifications.

### **Testing**

Testing of up to six riders is optional using USEF Tests 1-16

### **Class Conditions**

The Finals is open only to junior members of the USEF or Equine Canada who have not reached their 18th birthday in accordance with GR127 and who have never competed in any of the following National Equitation Finals with fences at 3'6": ASPCA Maclay Finals, US Medal Finals, USEF Talent Search (East or West), WIHS Equitation Classic Finals, Jump Canada Medal Finals or the North American Equitation Championship.

Provided they are otherwise eligible, riders may compete in any ASPCA Maclay Regional Championship Class and in the Hamel Foundation National Horse Show 3'3" Equitation Championship in the same year.

Riders may not show in both the Hamel Foundation National Horse Show 3'3" Equitation Championship and the ASPCA Maclay Finals in the same competition year.

Previous winners of the Hamel Foundation National Horse Show 3'3" Equitation Championship are ineligible to compete in any Hamel Foundation NHS Medal Class or the Finals.

Only one rider per horse.

Conventional tack per USEF EQ 105.5a. Martingales not permitted for the flat phase.

Trainers/Coaches permitted to ride and school competitors horses.

Trainers/Coaches permitted to walk any and all courses with competitors.

In the event a horse becomes incapacitated in any phase of competition, upon examination of the Horse show's veterinarian and a judge or steward, a substitution may be permitted by the National Horse Show.

**Awards**

The Judges will select a Champion and a Reserve Champion.

Ribbons through tenth place

Trophy to the Trainer of the winning rider.

**Entries and Entry Closing Dates**

Entries for the Finals close, and must be received by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on the Friday following the completion of the last ASPCA Maclay Regional competition at the NHSAA's office. Entries must be on the Official Entry Form, signed and submitted with the class entry fee made payable to the NHSAA. The NHSAA reserves the right to reject any late or unsigned entries or entries not submitted with all entry fees.

**Questions and Disputes**

Any questions or disputes relating to the qualifying classes or the Finals, other than that specifically described above, shall be decided according to the rules of the USEF, if applicable, or according to the Prize List if such question is not covered by the rules of the USEF.