

**2019 / 2020 Rules and Regulations  
of the  
Maclay National Championship for the ASPCA Horsemanship Classes**

**\*\* PLEASE NOTE: Membership in the National Horse Show Association (NHSA) is required for all riders competing in the ASPCA Maclay and all trainers who have riders competing in the ASPCA Maclay. The membership/qualifying year is September 1 – August 31. \*\***

The National Horse Show Association of America, Limited (“NHSAA”) is responsible for the organization, presentation and administration of the Maclay Trophy and the associated competitions, including the Maclay Regional Championship (“Regionals”) and Maclay National Championship (“Finals”) Classes. To ensure the selection of appropriate sites, judges and course designers, the NHSAA communicates with the Joint Equitation Task Force of the United States Hunter Jumper Association (USHJA), the National Horse Show Association Equitation Committee and on other matters with the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (“ASPCA”). USEF rules govern these competitions and the Maclay National Championship Qualifying Classes (“Maclay”). In case of any conflict between these Rules and USEF rules, USEF rules shall govern.

**Courses for all Maclay, Regionals and Finals Classes**

- 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 3'6"
- Maximum width of oxers 4'
- Maximum width of triple bars and hogs backs 5'
- Liverpools, water jumps or water used as decoration are prohibited

**Specifications for all Maclay, Regionals and Finals Classes**

The Maclay is open to junior members of USEF or Equine Canada who have not reached their 18th birthday in accordance with GR127. Riders must be current members of the National Horse Show Association (“NHSA”) in order to compete in all Maclay, Regionals and Finals Classes. Trainers (or coaches when applicable [see USEF GR108]) of riders competing in all Maclay, Regionals and Finals Classes must also be members of the NHSA. The NHSA 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 Maclay 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 qualifying classes held at a competition with a start date after August 31 of that competition year. Previous winners of the Finals are ineligible to compete in any Maclay Class, Regionals or Finals.

**MACLAY 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 Maclay Classes:

- Only competitions recognized by the USEF are eligible to hold the Maclay class.
- All competitions must apply to hold the Maclay 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 Maclay class three (3) competitors must complete the course.
- If there are 40 or more entries at the beginning of a Maclay 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 Maclay class, it **must** be divided by every other number and run as two separate classes.
- A Maclay 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 Regionals 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 CT,NJ,NY a rider must win 50 pts: in FL,MA,PA,RI 38 pts: in AL,CA,DE,GA,IA,IL,MD,MN,NC,NE,ND,NV,OH,OK,SC,SD,TN,VA and WI 25 pts: in all other states, Canada and Puerto Rico 13 pts.

Riders may compete in a total of fourteen (14) Maclay classes in a single qualifying period. Any rider who continues to compete after they have competed in fourteen (14) Maclay classes will no longer be eligible to compete in the Regionals (Exception: If a rider is not yet qualified for the Regionals of their official rider point state of residence with the USEF after fourteen (14) Maclay classes, that rider may continue to compete until qualified for that Region. If a rider submits a Change of Region form requesting to compete in a Region that requires a higher number of points to qualify, that rider may continue to compete until qualified for the newly declared Regionals. Any rider that has already competed in their fourteen (14) Maclay classes must stop competing in Maclay classes as soon as they are qualified or they will no longer be eligible to compete in any Regionals.) ***It is the rider's responsibility to calculate and know their points as well as the number of classes in which they have competed.***

The qualifying period for each year's Regionals ends August 31. If a horse show starts on or before August 31, Maclay points acquired at that show will count towards the current year.

## **REGIONALS**

### **Course**

The course for each Regionals shall be designed by a USEF Course Designer who must be selected and/or approved by the NHSAA. Any Regionals course must adhere to the above stated specifications and be of sufficient difficulty to typify the Finals and reflect the importance of the class. While the courses at all Regionals need not be identical, they should reflect equal difficulty and challenge.

### **Judging**

Each Regionals shall have two (2) "R" Judges. One of these judges must be selected from the approved list of judges supplied by the NHSAA. The second judge is not required to be selected from this list, but must be approved by the NHSAA. Judges for the Finals are ineligible to judge any Regionals in the same year.

Riders are to be judged on seat, hands, guidance and control of horse.

Two refusals will eliminate a rider from Regionals competition.

After completion of the jumping phase, if available, a minimum of ten (10) more riders than one-half the number of riders competing in the Regionals are required to show at a walk, trot and canter. At the sole discretion of the judges, additional flat work may be called for, but all groups must be asked to perform the same tests. No more than twenty (20) riders at a time may be asked to work together in a group at the same time. The flat performance of those riders selected to show in the flat phase shall count 50%.

After the flat phase the Judges may request further testing using USEF tests 1-16. Riders may only be selected for further testing if after the flat phase they are already assured an invitation (based on percentages) to compete in the Finals.

The Judges will select a Champion, Reserve Champion, and Third through Tenth place finishers at each Regionals. In addition, the judges will determine a stand-by list of all the additional entrants who returned for the flat phase. This stand-by list will be announced publicly, made available to all competitors and emailed to the NHSAA office.

When the Regionals are completed and the riders qualified for the Finals have been selected the judge's cards will be immediately sealed. The judge's cards and a detailed copy of the course diagram will be emailed directly to the NHSAA office.

### **Selecting or Changing a Region**

Riders have the option to compete in any Regionals. This may be in either their home region based upon the point requirements of their own official rider point state of residence with the USEF, or any other region based upon the highest point requirements of any state within that chosen region, whichever is greater. (Exception: Riders whose home regions are either in Region 1 or Region 2 may change into Regions 3 through 8, however, those riders may not alternate between Regions 1 or 2)

Example: If a rider from Florida, which requires 38 points, chooses to compete in the Regionals in Region 1 "Northeast" (CT,MA,ME,NH,RI,VT), he or she would have to have obtained 50 points which is the requirement of the state (CT) within the chosen region with the highest point requirement for qualifying.

A rider may only change Regions one time per qualifying year. Once a rider completes the paperwork to compete in another Regionals other than his or her own home region, no other Region changes can be made and that rider may not revert back to their home Region.

Any rider wishing to compete in a different region than their home region must notify the NHS in writing by August 15 using the official form provided by the NHSAA (forms may be downloaded from NHS.org website). On this form each rider will be asked to state his or her intention to compete in the Regionals and in which Region. Forms must be received by the NHSAA no later than 5:00 PM Eastern Time on August 15, or by 5:00 PM on the Monday

following August 15 if that date falls on a Saturday or Sunday. Absent compelling circumstances, no changes can be made to the declared Regionals after this deadline. Should a rider or trainer claim such compelling circumstances, such a claim must be made in writing to the NHSAA prior to 5 p.m. Eastern Time on August 25, regardless of its day of the week. The NHSAA shall publish its decision no later than 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on the fifth business day following August 25. The decision of the NHSAA will be final. Under no circumstances whatsoever may a rider request to change their Region after August 25.

### **Residents from any non-USEF Zone Area**

In case of a permanent residence in any non-USEF zone area, such as Canada and Puerto Rico, a rider may choose to compete in any Regionals so long as he or she meets the minimum qualifying requirement of 13 points. These riders must fill out a Change of Region form (forms may be downloaded from NHS.org website) to declare in which Region they will compete.

### **Entries and Entry Closing Dates for Regionals**

Entries for Regional Maclay Championship classes close, and must be received by, 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, September 1, at the NHSAA's office, except if that date should fall on a Sunday, in which case they must be received no later than 5 p.m. on the following Monday. Entries must be on the Official Entry Form, signed, and submitted with the \$150.00 per 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.

Entries may not be accepted directly by any Regionals competition.

Entry and class lists for Regionals shall be provided by the NHSAA to competitions hosting Regionals no later than 48 hours preceding the commencement of the class. Stall reservations and all other entry and class fees, including competition and processing fees for other classes which might be held during the same competition, must be provided directly to the competition hosting the Regionals.

### **Selection of Riders for Finals**

The number of riders to be invited to compete in the Finals shall be decided by the NHSAA. This decision will be final, and the number will be announced as soon as practical each competition year, but not later than the publication date of its Prize List. The percentage of Finalists invited to compete in the Finals from each Region will be determined by dividing the number of riders invited to compete in the Finals by the number of riders that actually compete in all Regionals. The office of the NHSAA will calculate this percentage and the numbers of riders to be invited to show in the Finals from each Region. These numbers will be published no later than 48 hours after the last Regionals is completed. The riders finishing in the top positions at each Regionals will be invited to compete at the Finals. A rider must complete the course at a Regionals to be eligible to compete at the Finals.

If a rider invited from a Regionals to compete in the Finals declines to compete in the Finals the rider with the next highest placing from the same Regionals will receive an invitation to compete in the Finals. This invitation to compete in the Finals will continue to be extended to the next highest placing rider from the same Regionals until the invitation is accepted and the spot filled. However, after the first qualified rider declines to compete in the finals, there shall only be one invitation provided for every ten competitors from any given Regionals. Example: If Region Q has 38 riders competing, then the invitation to compete at the Finals shall be provided to all those determined by the percentage formula. If any one of them declines, there shall be no more than two additional invitations provided in order to fill the spot which has been declined. Subsequent to one invitation being provided for every ten riders in the region, the invitation shall then go to the next rider from the Region which has the highest percentage of competitors. The final closing for entries will be 5 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on the first Friday of October, at the office of the NHSSA, under such conditions as are specified in the prize list. The standby list for accepting riders who are qualified for the Finals will close on the Sunday of the WIHS which is the Sunday before the Finals.

Provided they have competed in a Regionals, riders who do not finish in the top positions apportioned by the Regionals may qualify to compete at the Finals if they place in the top ten at the US Medal Finals, Pennsylvania National Horse Show; the top ten at the WIHS Equitation Classic, Washington International Horse Show and the

four-top placed junior riders at the USEF Talent Search Medal Finals West and USEF Talent Search Medal Finals East.

### **Conditions Governing Regionals**

The NHSAA shall select any and all appropriate sites, competitions, and dates for Regionals. All competitions shall be held beginning no earlier than the first weekend in September of each year and shall conclude no later than the last weekend of September of each year. No Regionals may publish class specifications, entry closing dates, judges, or entry fees without the express written permission of the NHSAA.

Each show requesting to hold a Regionals must be willing to run the class in accordance with the following requirements:

- a) Regionals should be held at an indoor or covered indoor venue whenever possible.
- b) Regionals must have two "R" judges.
  - a. One from the NHSAA approved list
  - b. A second to be approved by the NHSAA
- c) Regionals must have a USEF licensed Course Designer to be approved by the NHSAA.
- d) Regionals must display two (2) National Horse Show Banners

All Regionals must realize that the purpose of this class is to select the top riders from around the country to compete at the Finals held in November each year. With this in mind, it is of the utmost importance that each of the 8 Regions are held within the closest similar standards possible, not only to each other but also to the Finals as well.

A Regionals must have at minimum 6 competitors for the class to be held.

The following Regionals will be included in the percentage formula. Please contact the appropriate regional horse show for a prize list. **Locations for the Regionals are subject to change.**

Region 1, Northeast (CT,MA,ME,NH,RI,VT)

Old Salem Farm, North Salem, NY – 914-669-5610 [mary.silcox@stadiumjumping.com](mailto:mary.silcox@stadiumjumping.com)

Region 2, East (NJ,NY,PA)

Old Salem Farm, North Salem, NY – 914-669-5610 [mary.silcox@stadiumjumping.com](mailto:mary.silcox@stadiumjumping.com)

Region 3, Southeast (AL,DC,DE,FL,GA,MD,MS,NC,SC,TN,VA,WV)

South East Fall Classic, Tampa FL – 407-619-0891 [devita124@aol.com](mailto:devita124@aol.com)

Region 4, Midwest (IL,IN,KY,MI,OH)

Kentucky National, Lexington, KY – 615-838-7560 [wldwoo@aol.com](mailto:wldwoo@aol.com)

Region 5, Central (IA, KS, LA,MO,MN,ND,NE,OK,SD,TX,WI)

St. Louis National Charity, Lake St. Louis, MO – 314-308-1162 [stlnhorseshow@aol.com](mailto:stlnhorseshow@aol.com)

Region 6, Mountain (AZ,CO,NM,UT)

Colorado Horse Park, Parker, CO – 303-841-7461 [ceskinner@earthlink.net](mailto:ceskinner@earthlink.net)

Region 7, Northwest (AK,ID,MT,OR,WA,WY)

NorthWest Autumn Finals, Monroe, WA – 360-805-6711 [DIANJNSN@aol.com](mailto:DIANJNSN@aol.com)

Region 8, West (CA,HI,NV)

Oaks Blenheim Fall Tournament, San Juan Capistrano, CA – 949-443-1841 [showpark@aol.com](mailto:showpark@aol.com)

## **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. At the sole discretion of the judges, additional flat work may be called for, but all groups must be asked to perform the same tests. No more than twenty (20) riders at a time may be asked to work together in a group at the same time. 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 stated specifications. The second round course may include tests.

### **Testing**

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

### **Conditions Governing Finals**

Finals are open to junior members of USEF or Equine Canada who have not reached their 18th birthday in accordance with GR127, who have qualified through one of the eight Regionals. Previous winners of the Finals are ineligible to compete in the Finals.

Only one rider per horse.

Riders that show in the Hamel Foundation National Horse Show 3'3" Equitation Championship are ineligible to compete in the Maclay National Championship Class (ASPCA Maclay Finals) in the same competition year.

Two refusals will eliminate a rider from Finals competition.

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 NHSAA.

### **Awards**

The Judges will select a Champion and a Reserve Champion.

Ribbons through tenth place

Trophy to the Trainer of the winning rider.

**Questions and Disputes**

Any questions or disputes relating to the Regionals 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.