

**2019-2020 Rules and Regulations
of the
Taylor Harris Insurance Services National Horse Show Adult Equitation Championship
and all
Taylor Harris Insurance Services National Horse Show Adult Medal Classes**

**** PLEASE NOTE: Membership in the National Horse Show Association (NHSA) is required for all riders competing in the Taylor Harris Insurance Services NHS Medal/Championship and all trainers who have riders competing in the Taylor Harris Insurance Services NHS Medal/Championship. 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 Taylor Harris Insurance Services (THIS) National Horse Show Adult 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 Taylor Harris Insurance Services National Horse Show Adult Medal qualifying classes (THIS NHS Adult Medal). In case of any conflict between these Rules and USEF rules, USEF rules shall govern.

Courses for the THIS NHS Adult Medal 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’
- Maximum width of oxers 3’3”
- Maximum width of triple bars and hogs backs 3’6”
- Liverpools, water jumps or water used as decoration are prohibited

Specifications for the THIS NHS Adult Medal and Finals

The THIS NHS Adult Medal and Finals are open only to senior members of the USEF or Equine Canada who have reached their 18th birthday as of December 1st of the current competition year in accordance with GR101. Previous winners of the Finals are ineligible to compete in any THIS NHS Adult Medal or the Finals.

Riders must be current members of the National Horse Show Association (“NHSA”) in order to compete in all THIS NHS Adult Medal and Finals. Trainers (or coaches when applicable [see USEF GR108]) of riders competing in all THIS Adult Medal Classes and Finals must also be members of the NHSA. The NHSA Membership year is September 1 through August 31. Adult rider annual contributions shall be \$35. Trainer (or coach) annual contributions shall be \$50. A rider may enter any NHS Adult Medal anywhere in the United States according to the conditions published in the current Rule book of the USEF.

THIS NHS Adult Medal

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 the THIS NHS Adult Medal:

- Only competitions recognized by the USEF are eligible to hold the THIS NHS Adult Medal.
- All competitions must apply to hold the THIS NHS Adult Medal 30 days in advance using the forms found on www.nhs.org.
- Only one rider per horse.
- To fill a THIS NHS Medal three (3) competitors must complete the course.
- If necessary to fill a THIS NHS Adult Medal class it may be combined with any Local, Regional or National Adult Equitation Class provided there is a testing phase (either on the flat or over fences) included as part of the class routine.
- If there are 40 or more entries at the beginning of a THIS NHS Adult Medal, 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 THIS NHS Adult Medal, it **must** be divided by every other number and run as two separate classes.
- A THIS NHS Adult Medal class may not be run using a California split.

Qualifying Criteria

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic the National Horse Show is revising the Qualifying Criteria for the 2020 Hamel Foundation NHS 3'3" Medal Finals.

In order to qualify for the Finals conducted by the NHSSA, contestants must win a total of five (5) points from THIS NHS Adult Medal classes. Points to be based on the scale of 10, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 and ½ points for first through eighth place in any THIS NHS Medal class. The qualifying period for each year's Finals ends August 31. If a horse show starts on or before August 31, THIS NHS Adult Medal class points acquired at that show will count towards the current year.

****Point requirements will continue to be monitored and will be adjusted downward if specific states are unable to resume competition, or if other unforeseen circumstances effect the 2020 qualifying period. These downward adjustments, if any, will be at the discretion of the National Horse Show and will be publicized at the time of the adjustment.**

If time allows the NHS reserves the right to invite additional riders based on their total number of points accrued from competing in THIS Adult Medal classes.

Finals

Judging

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

Two refusals will eliminate a rider from competition.

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. The final round course may include tests.

Testing

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

Class Conditions

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 THIS National Horse Show Adult Equitation Championship close, and must be received by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on the last Friday in September 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 Championship, 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.

5/10/20

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