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Resource List

- USPC website www.ponyclub.org
- USPC Show Jumping web page www.ponyclub.org/Members/Disciplines/ShowJumping
- USPC Show Jumping Facebook Page www.facebook.com/ShowJumpinginUSPC
- USEF website www.usef.org

Reminder: This is a new rulebook for 2019. Additions, deletions and changes have been made since the last rulebook was issued. Be sure to read the *entire* publication carefully so you will be aware of all the rules for the upcoming rally season.

This rulebook should be kept in a 3-ring binder to allow for addition of revisions and new instructional sections. Do not remove pages from your rulebook; be sure to make copies of all forms and charts before writing on them.

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bility. Adult members and leaders should refrain from using alcohol or other substances that may adversely affect their judgment at any time that they are acting, or may be called upon to act in a responsible position.

A notation must be on the medical card/bracelet that a prescription medication is being used. This policy applies for the duration of the Pony Club activity. Duration of a Pony Club activity is defined in USPC Policy 0500 as being "A period of time beginning with the official opening of the activity and ending with the official closing of the activity."

Any underage Pony Club member found to be using, in possession of, or under the influence of alcohol, tobacco, or other age restricted or illegal substances during a USPC sponsored activity shall be disqualified and barred from further participation in that activity. Any adult Pony Club member found to be using, in possession of, or under the influence of illegal substances during a USPC sponsored activity shall be disqualified and barred from further participation in that activity.

Any adult attending, participating, assisting with, officiating or chaperoning at any USPC sponsored activity whose behavior is inappropriate or creates a potential hazard to the safety and/or well-being of Pony Club members, officials, mounts, or other individuals may, at the discretion of the officials in charge of the activity, be asked to leave and be barred from the remainder of the activity.

Smoking is strictly forbidden in and around stable areas.

Article 9—Mounts (Policy 0910.A)

Mounts used at a regional or interregional rally should be the participant's regular USPC mount, and be accustomed to being handled by its rider without adult supervision. A participant may use a mount other than the regular mount only with the advance permission of the DC/CA and RS.

Per USPC Policy suitable mounts are defined as follows:

1. Stallions are not considered suitable mounts.
2. Mounts must be serviceably sound, in good overall health and in condition for the activity in question.
3. Mounts must be appropriate for the certification level of the rider and must be at a level of training to participate safely in the activity.
4. Except as noted below, mounts must be at least five (5) years of age in order to participate in USPC competitive, instructional, and recreational programs and activities. In establishing the age of mounts, the first year is considered to be January 1 following the date of foaling.
5. Members holding a riding certification of C-1 and above may participate in all USPC activities on an appropriate mount at least four (4) years of age (See above). A mount must be excused from any activity if in the opinion of the instructor, examiner, or appropriate authority, it is unsafe either to its rider or to other riders or mounts.

Ownership of a mount is not a prerequisite for membership in USPC. The responsibility for obtaining a suitable mount for mounted activities rests with the parents or guardians of the individual member.

Article 10—Substitution of Mounts

For all mounted rallies (except Tetrathlon) mount and rider become eligible for Championships as a team. Therefore, a competitor must enter Championships only on the mount they earned eligibility on. In extraordinary circumstances, after becoming eligible for Championships, a substitute mount may be requested utilizing the appropriate form, by the regional supervisor and must be approved by the applicable discipline chair and the Vice President of Activities.

Any substituted entry must meet the same mount and eligibility requirements as the original entry.

No mount substitution may be made once a competition has commenced. Refer to 'Mount Substitution Form'

Article 11—Sharing of Mounts

In some disciplines and in some competitions, the sharing of mounts may be allowed. At regional rallies, the rally organizer in consultation with the RS may allow for the sharing of mounts by competitors. For Championships, requests for shared mounts must be submitted to the appropriate discipline chair, and VPA utilizing the Mount Substitution Form. Each request will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis, for approval or denial. Determination of shared mounts must take into consideration the discipline, competition schedule, and suitability of mount. Obviously, the welfare of the mount should be the highest priority in this situation and all competitors must agree that if the horse management, judges, technical delegate/steward, organizers or HM onsite feel that the health of the mount is in jeopardy at any time that they may be removed from the rest of the riding portion of the competition.

Article 12—Equine Drugs & Medication (Policy 0910.C)

Per USPC Policy 0910.C. DCs/CAs, RSs, rally organizers, officials and judges must be familiar with and enforce this policy. Parents and competitors must also be familiar with and abide by this policy. Failure to observe this policy will result in disqualification.

1. All mounts in a USPC sponsored activity shall be serviceably sound and healthy. Mounts should be free of medication other than dressings for minor wounds or scrapes, unless under treatment by a veterinarian. Medications and supplements may not be used to provide an unfair advantage over other competitors or to allow an unfit mount to be used.
2. Medication is defined as any substance that is not water, salt, electrolytes, or a supplement and is not considered a

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other competitors, their mounts, spectators, or others will be penalized accordingly.

- Any act or series of actions that in the opinion of the judge, TD, steward, member of the discipline ground jury can be defined as dangerous riding shall be penalized at the discretion of the discipline ground jury.
- If such actions are reported, the discipline ground jury shall decide if there is a case to be answered. If an individual member of the discipline ground jury observes such actions, they may eliminate or penalize the competitor forthwith on their own authority. There is no appeal against a discipline ground jury decision.

Article 15—Safety

USPC is committed to safety while recognizing that equestrian activities are inherently dangerous. **The USPC Safety Handbook is an excellent resource for more making safety a priority at all rallies and Pony Club functions.** This dedication to safety extends to requiring certain equipment be utilized during Pony Club activities and include:

1. **Protective Headgear (Policy 0800.A):** USPC requires members participating in mounted and some unmounted activities to wear a properly fitted equestrian helmet, securely fastened, containing certification that it meets the criteria established by the following international or national safety bodies: ASTM F1163 (North America), AS/NZ 3838 (Australia and NZ), PAS 015 (UK).
2. **Safety Vest/Body Protector (Policy 0800.C):** USPC requires members to wear a properly fitted equestrian body protector when jumping cross-country or solid obstacles during any activity sponsored by the USPC, its regions, registered clubs or riding center programs. USPC recommends wearing a body protector that is ASTM-certified (manufactured in US) or certified to the BETA Level 3 (manufactured in Great Britain).
3. **Medical Armbands and Bracelets (Policy 0800.B):**
 - USPC requires that members participating in any USPC affiliated mounted or unmounted activity, must wear either a Medical Armband or Medical Bracelet while participating in the activity. The member may choose which one to wear.
 - Medical armbands must include a current completed copy of the individual's USPC or USEA Medical Card. It must be worn on the upper arm. If the member has small arms, he/she may safety pin the armband to his/her upper sleeve. (Armbands are available for purchase from Shop Pony Club.)
 - Medical bracelets must visibly list these six items on them: name and date of birth, contact information, known allergies, current medications, and existing medical conditions. More information is acceptable, but these six items are required to be on the bracelet

- All officials on site at the USPC mounted or unmounted activity are encouraged to work with the competitors to remind them of this requirement.
- Any member at a USPC affiliated mounted or unmounted activity* found not wearing either a medical armband or medical bracelet must be removed from the activity until the member conforms to the policy requirements.
- * Tetrathlon competitors will not be required to wear them while actually shooting or swimming but must have them visible and next to them for these activities and must wear them at all other times.

4. **Unmounted Footwear:** When working in the barn or near mounts unmounted footwear must meet all the following criteria:

- Thick-soled , shoes/boots (short or tall)
- Cover the ankle
- In good condition
- Made of leather or synthetic materials
- Entirely closed
- Securely fastened
- Well-fitted to foot
- Sturdy construction (e.g., Ugg-type boots do not meet this requirement)

Examples: paddock/jodphur boots, rubber riding boots, rain boots/wellies, western boots.

Article 16—Heat Related Information

Heat Illness (Policy 0900): USPC requires all Pony Club volunteers in a leadership position within Pony Club and especially anyone involved directly with mounted or unmounted lessons or activities to complete the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) heat illness training module.

At all USPC activities, rally officials must consider the:

- Temperature and humidity using the "Heat Index Chart" (Appendix II).
- Time of day and season of activity.
- Level of exertion necessary for participation in the activity.

The Heat Index (HI) or "Apparent Temperature" is the temperature the body feels when heat and humidity are combined. This reduces the amount of evaporation of sweat from the body and outdoor exercise becomes dangerous even for those in good shape. Please refer to Appendix II.

Steps to prevent heat related illness include:

- Providing unlimited cool water for consumption in ALL areas, especially riding areas.
- Make water breaks mandatory.
- Do not depend on thirst as an indicator of the need for water.

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- Avoid the hottest part of the day if this is an option.
- Consider shortening the length/level or exertion of the activity.

During rallies, the discipline ground jury (overall ground jury at Championships) is responsible for monitoring the Heat Index and taking appropriate action as necessary. Those actions could include, but are not limited to:

- Waiving of coats/jackets
- Banning of coats/jackets
- Altering of schedule

Any official can and should bring a potentially dangerous heat situation to the attention of the president of the ground jury. If coats/jackets are waived or banned the following processes should be followed.

Waived Coats/Jackets

When the temperature and humidity are recorded in the danger zone, removal of coats during warm up is MANDATORY.

If the rider wants to put their coat/jacket on for their competition round, then they may leave their neckwear and helmet cover on during warm up.

If the rider does not want to put their coat/jacket on for their competition round, then they must remove all neckwear and their helmet cover during warm up.

Additional Information

- When coats are waived, the competitors must be turned out per Competition Attire (including coats/jackets) unless they choose to compete wearing Basic Riding Attire.
- Riders must wear a collared shirt with long or short sleeves if they are not wearing a jacket.
- T-Shirts are not permitted.

Competitors must also remove neckwear and helmet covers on vented helmets if they do not wish to wear their jackets for their competitive ride.

Banned Coats/Jackets

When temperature and humidity are recorded in the danger zone and based on the decision of the discipline ground jury (overall ground jury at Championships) coats/jackets may be banned for the safety of competitors. If coats/jackets are banned then competitors must remove coats/jackets, neckwear and helmet covers for turnout inspections, warm up and for competition rounds.

Heat Illness Return To Play

A member believed by a leader, coach, parent or official of a USPC unmounted or mounted activity or competition to be suffering from heat illness shall be removed from play at that time and given appropriate treatment before being allowed to return to play.

Article 17—Concussion and Return to Play

Concussion (Policy 0900): USPC requires all Pony Club volunteers in a leadership position within Pony Club and especially anyone involved directly with mounted or unmounted lessons or activities to complete the concussion training module.

A member believed by a leader, coach, parent or official to have sustained a concussion during a USPC unmounted or mounted activity must be referred to medical personnel. Medical personnel in conjunction with rally officials and organizers will determine if a written release is required for the member to return to the competition.

Article 18—Unauthorized Assistance and Permitted Assistance in all Phases

1. Unauthorized Assistance: Unauthorized assistance is help and/or assistance during the competition from anyone other than other competitors, HMJs, and rally officials. Unauthorized assistance can occur in person or through the use of electronic communication, unless allowed by the specific discipline rulebook (e.g., coaches in certain situations)
2. If, in the opinion of the president of the ground jury, unauthorized assistance has been received by a competitor, that competitor may be eliminated from that phase of the rally, or in extreme cases, disqualified from the entire competition. If there is any question, the discipline ground jury makes the final decision. There is no appeal.
3. Permitted Assistance:
 - Adults may aid in the unloading of mounts and carrying of heavy gear into the stable area upon arrival, after which non-competitors must immediately leave the area.
 - After a fall of a competitor or competitor dismounts, they may be assisted to catch their mount*, to adjust their saddlery, to remount, or to be handed any part of their saddlery or equipment, including whip, while they are dismounted or after they have remounted. Helmets must be replaced, and retention harnesses refastened before riders may remount.
 - * Exception for loose mounts in Games only: In Games, a loose mount may be caught by any competitor or Official already in the arena when the loose mount is behind Lines A and C. However, only the mount's rider may enter the playing area to catch it.
 - A competitor may receive clarification of jumping penalties from an obstacle judge, e.g., after jumping a flag at a corner, the judge may clarify whether it was a run-out or not.
 - If bodily harm to mount and/or rider is imminent, assistance from anyone (Official or otherwise), without concern for penalties, is expected. Time permitting, the

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situation should be brought to the attention of an Official. If immediate intervention is necessary, then an Official will be notified as soon as possible concerning the situation.

- If a mount is ill or injured, the owner/agent of the mount will be called in to discuss care.

Article 19—Excused

1. Jumping disciplines may call this a “Technical Elimination”
2. To grant permission to, or request that a competitor leave the phase/round/game due to circumstances outside of the competitor’s control (e.g., illness of rider, illness or lameness of mount)
3. Decided by
 - Inspection panel at horse inspection
 - Judge
 - Discipline ground jury
4. May not ride; therefore, will not receive any riding score during the Excuse, but
 - May request a lameness recheck
 - Rider may request to compete in following phases/rounds/games after if illness passes.
 - Both the mount and rider shall stay on rally grounds (unless the mount is transported for medical reasons) and continue to participate with the team and continue to be scored in horse management.
 - If ill, mount will be moved to another area, if possible.

Article 20—Elimination

- Elimination means to exclude a competitor or mount, for cause, from judging consideration in a class/phase. Competitor not scored in a class due to a mistake (e.g., use of illegal equipment, violation of the rules of phase/rounds/ games.)
- After elimination, the discipline ground jury in consultation with the organizer, may allow participation in subsequent phases/rounds/games.
- Determined by judge or discipline ground jury.
- Refer to scoring of penalties for additional discipline specific reasons for elimination.

Article 21—Disqualification

1. Disqualification means that a competitor and his/her mount(s) may not take further part in the competition including in horse management.
2. It is applied at the discretion of the discipline ground jury.
3. Disqualification is a punishment for misconduct arising from a deliberate attempt to contravene the rules and regulations of USPC.

4. Includes but not limited to:

- Cruelty (Article 13);
 - abusive or unsportsmanlike conduct;
 - **obscene or inappropriate language;**
 - the use of drugs (other than those prescribed by a physician), alcohol, or tobacco (Article 8);
 - rude and disruptive behavior;
 - cheating;
 - rough or dangerous riding;
 - knowingly riding a lame, sick, or exhausted mount;
 - misuse of equine medications (USPC Policy 0910.C);
5. If such actions are reported, the discipline ground jury shall decide if there is a case to be answered. If an individual member of the discipline ground jury observes such actions, they may eliminate or penalize the competitor forthwith on their own authority. There is no appeal against a discipline ground jury decision
 6. Refer to scoring of penalties for additional discipline specific reasons for disqualification.

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D. The chaperone should serve as a volunteer for the competition in addition to their chaperone duties but shall not assume coaching duties.

E. Any additional contact while on the rally grounds must be authorized by the chief horse management judge.

For complete information, see “Chaperone Form” (which must be signed by official team chaperones, and all persons acting as chaperones) in Appendix III.

F. At Championships each team will have one assigned chaperone. Championships team chaperones are responsible for their team while on the competition grounds. Chaperones play a very important role in the competition. Chaperones are allowed to be volunteers and may be asked to fill volunteer roles in any phase of the competition. Chaperones shall not bring work from home or unattended younger children with them. Team chaperones may coordinate with the other parents of the team for lunch or drink arrangements.

2. Emergency Contacts:

Any team or competitor above the age of majority must submit a completed Emergency Contact Form with their entry. See Appendix III.

Article 28—Coaches and Coaching

Show Jumping coaches are required for all rallies. There must be at least one and a maximum of four coaches per team (may not also serve as chaperone). Competitors participating as individuals must also have a coach. The presence of a coach at a Show Jumping rally is to promote safety, good sportsmanship and good horsemanship in the warm-up area and the competition ring. Coaches are expected to help any Pony Club competitor who asks for assistance or whose coach is not present in the warm up area.

Competitors in a rally may also coach other competitors, providing they meet the following criteria:

- Must be 18 years of age as of January 1st of the competition year.
- No scheduling changes will be made to accommodate the coaches/competitors ride times.
- Competitor’s responsibilities and mount’s care always takes precedence over coaching duties.

Please Note: No competitor may jump in the warm-up area without a coach present and watching the ride. Jumping a fence without the attention of a coach shall result in elimination.

Show Jumping coaches:

- Must read, understand, sign and return a Coaches Form with the team entry. (Appendix V)
- Must know the USPC Show Jumping rules, especially regarding Unauthorized Assistance, Article 18. Access to the team is limited and they may not enter the stable area except during authorized visiting times.

- Must wear their badge and/or identification provided by rally officials at all times while coaching.
- Must have a copy of the current USPC Show Jumping Rulebook
- At Championships competitions, coaches must attend the opening competitor briefing, and the coaches briefing.

The role of a coach is to assist the rider in learning:

- warm-up area techniques
- assessment of the course
- how to deal with mistakes made on course
- competition rules before the competition

Chapter 2—Competition Levels and Divisions

Article 29—Competition Levels

At regional rallies a rider may compete in any level their mount is eligible for and in which they feel their mount would be able to perform. Below are the most commonly offered levels at Show Jumping rally:

Introductory

- May include horses and ponies of all sizes

Developing Horse/Rider

- May include horses, medium and large ponies; distances in combinations will be adjusted accordingly.

Advanced

- Large Pony—May include medium and large ponies. All ponies entered in this division must be prepared to jump the heights and spreads listed in the specifications listed in Appendix VI. Distances and combinations will be adjusted appropriately.

- Horse I
- Horse II
- Horse III
- Horse IV

(See Appendix VI for height specification per level)

Article 30—Competition Divisions

Competition divisions differ from competition levels in that competitors may be separated into divisions based on age and/or other parameters. A competitor’s age is determined by their age as of January 1 on the year of competition. See Article 5 for more details on age minimums.

Junior Divisions—Up to 17 years of age

Senior Divisions—18 years of age and above

Note: Rally divisions can be combined based on entry numbers and approval of the organizer and regional supervisor. Junior competitors can always compete up a division as a

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Senior to fill out a team. Senior competitors can never compete down in a Junior division. Before combining Junior and Senior aged competitors on the same team rally organizers must get the approval of the Junior competitor and their parent/legal guardian (Appendix IV).

Article 31—Championships Divisions— Minimum Age and Certifications

Competitors seeking eligibility for Championships must meet the age parameters and minimum certifications for the offered Championships divisions. There are no age and no certification exceptions to the below requirements. See Article 5 for more details on age and certification minimums.

Modified Junior Introductory	D-2 EV/HSE	10-17
Junior Introductory	C-1 EV/HSE	12-17
Modified Senior Introductory	D-2 EV/HSE	18 +
Senior Introductory	C-1 EV/HSE	18 +
Modified Junior Developing Horse/Rider	D-2 EV/HSE	0-17
Junior Developing Horse/Rider	C-1 EV/HSE	12-17
Modified Senior Developing Horse/Rider	D-2 EV/HSE	18 +
Senior Developing Horse/Rider	C-1 EV/HSE	18 +
Junior Advanced	C-1 EV/HSE	12-17
Senior Advanced	C-1 EV/HSE	18 +

Stable Managers must meet the minimum age criteria of their division, and be a D-2 HM for modified divisions and a D-3 HM for all other divisions.

Note: Championship divisions may be combined based on entry numbers and approval from Vice President of Activities and the Overall Organizer.

Article 32—Championships Eligibility Process

Each individual Pony Club member who desires to compete at Championships must compete in a regional rally and be judged at the minimum HM level and same competition level in which they intend to compete at Championships. This constitutes the “individual eligibility” of the competitor.

Members wanting to become eligible for Championships must meet the below division criteria.

Modified Introductory—Participate in a standard or modified Show Jumping rally at the competition level, and complete a minimum of 2 rounds at the level with 24 or fewer jumping faults and not be eliminated in either round.

Introductory—Complete a standard Show Jumping rally at the competition level, and complete 3 rounds at the level with 12 or fewer jumping faults and no eliminations in the designated qualifying rounds.

Modified Developing Horse/Rider—Participate in a standard or modified Show Jumping rally at the competition level, and complete a minimum of 2 rounds at the level with 24 or fewer jumping faults and not be eliminated in either round.

Developing Horse/Rider—Complete a standard Show Jumping rally at the competition level, and complete 3 rounds at the level with 12 or fewer jumping faults and no eliminations in the designated qualifying rounds.

Advanced—Complete a standard Show Jumping rally at the competition level, and complete 3 rounds at the level with 12 or fewer jumping faults and no eliminations in the designated qualifying rounds.

Article 33—Eligibility Requirements for C-3/B/A Members

Certified C-3, B and A members wishing to compete at Championships do not have to participate at a regional show jumping rally but must have permission of their RS.

Article 34—Exceptions to Eligibility Requirements for Championships

Exceptions to the eligibility process are occasionally granted. There are no exceptions to minimum age and certification requirements. The process for requesting an exception is outlined on the Championships Competition Information page of the USPC website. All requests for exceptions must come from the RS to the appropriate discipline chair [using the online application found on the Championships Information Page of the USPC website.](#)

Chapter 3—Presentation of Competitor and Mount

Article 35—Competitor Identification

Identification numbers (pinnies, bridle numbers, etc.) must be worn in a prominent manner on competitors/mounts, as designated by rally officials. Pinnies must be worn at all times in the barn area. Competitor nametags must be worn at all times, except when mounted.

Article 36—Competitor Attire

Each participant is responsible for organizing their own attire and equipment which must meet all safety requirements outlined in Article 15. Competitors should be neat and clean with inappropriate jewelry not permitted; see Horse Management Handbook for specifications. Participants must wear a medical armband or bracelet as specified in Article 15.3. A Pony Club pin must be worn at all times unless otherwise stated by rally officials. Felt can be placed behind pins using the below designations:

Certification	Felt Color
A	Royal Blue
H-A	Orange
B	Red
H-HM/H	Purple

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H-B	Brown
C-3	White
C+	Pink
C-1 and C-2	Green
D-1 through D-3	Yellow

Depending on the activity, different attire expectations exist, the different situations and attire expectations are listed below.

1. General Barn Attire—Long pants, mid-length or longer shorts or modest length skirts made of khaki, chino or denim materials of any color, with no rips or tears, a shirt with sleeves, and appropriate unmounted footwear (Article 15.4), are examples of appropriate attire for unmounted work in the barn.
2. Horse Inspection (Jog Outs)—Attire must be safe, appropriate, neat and clean. It must include a helmet (meeting USPC Helmet Policy, Article 15.1), and appropriate unmounted footwear (Article 15.4). Workmanlike and discipline appropriate attire including a tucked in collared shirt with pants/skirt/mid-length shorts/riding pants. If the pants/skirt has belt loops a belt is required. Blue jeans are not acceptable for english discipline horse inspection attire.
3. Turnout Inspection and first round of competition—All competitors must turnout and compete in appropriate competition attire. Any competitors not seeking Championships eligibility may turnout and compete in appropriate competition attire or in basic riding attire as detailed below. In inclement weather, competitors will be allowed to wear a helmet cover and a transparent or conservative colored raincoat. **For all subsequent rounds, competitors may wear competition attire or basic attire.**
4. Competition Attire for Show Jumping

Required

Helmet—Black or conservative color that meets the USPC Helmet Policy.

Hair—Hair should be neatly secured and away from the eyes.

Coat/Jacket—Conservative color coats.

Shirt—Shirt of any conservative color with a collar and sleeves, tucked into pants. When permitted by rally organizers, after the first round of competition riders may wear a riding shirt with choker, or polo shirt.

Neckwear—Ties (stock ties) or chokers (unless the shirt, by design, has the choker built in for its intended use) or integrated stand-up collar. **Traditional stock ties require a stock pin; pre-tied stock ties may be worn with or without stock pin.**

Breeches—Buff, canary, tan, rust, or white.

Belt—If breeches have belt loops, belts are required.

Footwear—Conventional type of riding footwear with a heel that covers the ankles are required. Tall black or brown dress

or field boots, or jodhpur/paddock boots with matching full grain smooth leather leg piece (also called smooth leather half-chaps), with no added decoration or accent.

Permitted

Spurs—Conservative color straps.

Gloves—Conservative color.

Safety/Protective Vests—Any color.

Not Permitted

Full-chaps and/or suede half-chaps.

5. Basic Riding Attire for Show Jumping:

Unrated and D-1

Required

Helmet—Any color meeting USPC Helmet Policy (Article 15.1).

Hair—Hair should be neatly secured and away from the eyes.

Shirt—Collared shirt with sleeves and tucked in.

Pants—Long pants.

Footwear—Conventional type of riding footwear, short or tall, with a heel that covers the ankles are required.

Permitted

Belt—Any type/color.

Gloves—Any type/color.

Half-chaps—Any type/color.

D-2 and up

Rider must be in safe, neat, and clean attire.

Required

Helmet—Any color meeting USPC Helmet Policy (Article 15.1).

Hair—Hair should be neatly secured and away from the eyes.

Shirt—Collared shirt with sleeves and tucked in.

Pants—Breeches, jodhpurs (with garters and/or pant clips) or riding pants.

Belt—If pants have belt loops, belts are required.

Footwear—Conventional type of riding footwear, short or tall, with a heel that covers the ankles are required.

Permitted

Gloves—Any type/color.

Half-Chaps—Any type/color.

Article 37—Bits, Saddlery and Equipment

The following begin upon arrival on the competition grounds and continue throughout the duration of the rally.

1. There is no restriction on saddles, girths and bridles. Any bit used in Pony Club should enable the Pony Club member to ride safely and to effect control without causing pain or injury to the horse. The misuse of any bit may be severe-

SECTION II: General Regulations

ly penalized by elimination, up to and including disqualification. **All bits must be properly fitted and consistent with its intended use.**

2. Breastplates, running martingales with rein stops, Irish martingales, bit guards, boots, bandages, fly shields, ear plugs, nose covers, and seat covers are permitted. Other martingales, any form of gadget (such as a bearing, running or balancing reins, etc.) and any form of blinkers, are forbidden, under penalty of disqualification.
3. For Introductory, DHR, Large Pony and Horse I divisions, standing or running martingales used in the conventional manner are permitted. For Horse II, III and IV, only running martingales used in the conventional manner are permitted.
4. If a dropped, crossed or flash noseband (a combination of a cavesson noseband with a drop noseband attached) is used, it must be properly adjusted and made entirely of leather.
5. Under penalty of elimination, no competitor may carry or use a whip over 30 inches in length while riding or schooling over fences, nor may a competitor use a whip which is weighted or has a pointed end, at any time while on the rally grounds. Longe whips may be used for longeing only. Dressage whips may be used for schooling on the flat only. No substitute for a whip may be used or carried.
6. All tack must be clean and in serviceable condition upon arrival at the competition. No equipment shall be misused.
7. No exceptions to the above are permitted during schooling or exercising.
8. Any questions of suitability or use of equipment will be referred to the steward/TD of the competition.

Article 38—Competitor and Horse Inspections

Horses must be well groomed. Braiding is optional, as long as it does not interfere with the competitor's responsibilities to his/her mount. Braids must be removed prior to Turnback. Horses need not be shod, but their feet are expected to be in good condition and not in need of any attention upon arrival at the rally. The discipline ground jury may exclude unsafe, inappropriate, lame, otherwise unsound or exhausted horses from the competition at any time during the rally.

Examinations of Horse and Rider Required at Show Jumping Rally:

1. Horse Inspections (Jog Outs):

Horse Inspections are required at standard rallies and Championships and recommended for all rallies. Before the beginning of competition, the horses must be examined for soundness in hand, by an inspection panel. All horses shall be serviceably sound. Should the soundness of a horse be questioned, the matter shall be reported immediately to the TD, who shall request an inspection of the horse by the veterinarian. In the absence of the veterinarian, the judges or TD shall determine the ability of

the horse to compete. All decisions by the veterinarian, TD or judges regarding the soundness of a horse and its ability to compete are final.

- It is recommended that the president of the ground jury be present at the initial inspection.
- The discipline ground jury may, at its discretion, at any time, have any horse jog for soundness before the inspection panel.

2. Turnout Inspection:

Approximately 45-60 minutes prior to the first ride of the competition, all competitors will report to their turnout inspection. The rally organizer will designate turnout inspection times. At turnout inspection competitors must wear the appropriate attire for their discipline and present their mount with all the equipment they will wear/use in the first ride of the competition. More details about turnout inspection requirements are listed in the HMM.

If multiple riders are sharing one horse:

- All riders using the same mount will present at the first scheduled turnout inspection time for the mount. If tack is removed or changed between riders, the mount must be returned to Horse Management for a safety check.
- Faults against a horse are received by all sharing that mount. Members will be judged individually based on their certification level.

3. Safety Check:

Failure to present for a safety check prior to a ride is cause for elimination. Safety checks occur before warm-up for each subsequent ride. More details about safety check expectations are listed in the HMM.

SECTION III: Competition

- C. Courses set with few related distances
8. Should circumstances make it necessary to alter the plan of the course after it has been posted, it may be done after warning the judges, the TD/steward, the coaches and personally informing all competitors.
 9. Under no circumstances, once the competition has commenced, may any alterations be made to a course or may the conditions of the competition be changed. If it is necessary to interrupt the competition because of a storm, bad light or other emergency, it must be resumed using the same course, obstacles and conditions at the exact point where it was interrupted. Exception: Should a jump become so damaged it can no longer be used in that round, it shall be replaced with one as similar as possible which has the same knockdown factor.
 10. The start line must be at least 12 feet from the first obstacle. The finish line must be at least 24 feet from the last obstacle. Flags or properly flagged start and finish markers must mark these two lines. When electric timing equipment is used, it shall be placed with these markers or flags or on a line with such markers or flags.

Article 43—Access to the Arena

1. Competitors on foot may be admitted to inspect a course before competition, including any jump-off. When the course is not open for inspection, a notice stating "Arena Closed" must be placed at the in-gate or conspicuously in the middle of the arena. Permission to enter the arena and inspect the course will be given by the course designer or the officiating judges by sounding the audible signal and/or by an announcement over the public address system. A notice stating "Arena Open" should also be displayed.
2. No competitor may enter the arena on foot once the competition has started except for designated course walks.
3. Competitors may not exercise or school their horses in the arena, except as indicated below, nor jump any obstacles of a competition in which they are to take part, under penalty of disqualification.
4. The organizer of an indoor show, where facilities are severely limited, may, with agreement of the steward, give special authorization for the arena to be used for schooling at specified times.
5. The following are not considered to be practicing over the obstacles in the arena:
 - A. Participation in a previous competition
 - B. Participation in the parade of teams, provided none of the obstacles are jumped or shown to horses
 - C. Participation for the benefit of the official photographer provided none of the obstacles are jumped or shown to horses

Article 44—Schooling Area/Warm-Up

1. A **schooling area/warm-up** must be provided. The schooling area should be near, but not necessarily next to, the competition arena. It does not have to be enclosed. The area should be large enough to accommodate competitors who are jumping and warming up on the flat at the same time. In cases where there is limited space for schooling/warm-up. The number of mounted allowed to warm-up at one time may be restricted by rally organizers.
2. If the safety check is not being done in the barn area, an area near, but not in the schooling area, should be provided for the safety checks to be done if needed.
3. The schooling area must be equipped with at least one "trot-over," one vertical and one spread obstacle. The obstacles must be flagged and can only be jumped in the correct direction. The paddock master and/or the coaches may raise or lower, make wider or narrower, the warm up jumps as long as the jumps remain within the limits set for the schooling area.
4. Every rider must have the attention of a coach while jumping.
5. Rallies, which have more than one competition area, must have a separate schooling area for each competition area. If only one area is available, it should be large enough so it can be divided into two schooling areas.

Exception: If the rounds are scheduled to immediately follow from one ring to the next, so no further warm-up is necessary and one schooling area is adequate.
6. Every schooling area shall be under the jurisdiction of a paddock master, who shall have complete authority to:
 - A. See that competitors and coaches comply with all schooling area rules
 - B. Limit number of competitors in warm up area, (a safety consideration)
 - C. Verify that jumps in the schooling area may not exceed competition width or 3" over competition height of the division in the rings for which the riders are preparing.
 - D. The paddock master is authorized to do safety checks as needed if a HM judge is not available
7. Schooling Area Rules
 - A. All rails must be either in cups or totally on the ground (exception: one end of a cross rail may rest on the ground). Rails must be able to fall easily when hit.
 - B. No one may hold a rail or touch a standard while it is being jumped.
 - C. If an item (blanket, cooler, etc) is laid over the rail of an oxer, it may be laid over the front rail only. If there is more than one rail on the front of the oxer, the item may be laid over any of those rails.

SECTION IV: Scoring

Frivolous Protest

- During a rally, each team is allowed one “free” inquiry to the steward/TD. After the first, the steward/TD may present to the ground jury any inquiry presented in which the decision of the judge was upheld and which the steward/ TD deems frivolous and not in the spirit of good sportsmanship. Any inquiry deemed frivolous, may be assessed 5 points by the discipline ground jury.
- If any score change results, the chief scorekeeper must be notified by the official making the decision and changes recorded scores.

The discipline ground jury will meet, review the written inquiry/protest form, make a decision, document the decision on the original Written Inquiry/Protest form, and report its decision.

THE DECISION OF THE DISCIPLINE GROUND JURY IS FINAL AT REGIONAL RALLIES.

Written Appeal to the Overall Ground Jury/Appeal Committee

(AT CHAMPIONSHIPS ONLY)

If a team does not agree with the discipline ground jury’s decision on a written protest, they may advance an appeal (utilizing the existing written inquiry form) to the overall ground jury/appeal committee.

The team’s decision to appeal must be made while the team is sequestered and within 10 minutes after the announcement of the discipline ground jury’s decision to the team.

Appeals must be initiated by:

- The team captain, if competitor is on a team. The competitor involved may go with the team captain.
- The competitor involved (if competing as an individual).

THE DECISION OF THE OVERALL GROUND JURY/APPEAL COMMITTEE IS FINAL AT Championships.

Article 73—Scoring of Excused

Horses excused after the beginning of competition will receive elimination scores for all of the following rounds, unless they are later judged to be sound and allowed to compete again.

Article 74—Scoring of Elimination

To calculate total faults for all riders who have been eliminated (over all levels in the division in that round), the Scorekeeper must add 20 faults to the worst score gained in that round and use that total for the eliminated riders in that round. In regards to elimination scoring, “division” indicates the competitors competing for the same set of ribbons and does NOT equate to the competition level division designation. The elimination score for each round, will be determined by the scores for that round only.

Article 75—Scoring of Disqualification

Competitors (or teams) who are disqualified from competition shall have all their scores from the competition stricken. If the disqualification of a competitor causes an already short team, to become a shortened team, then shortened team ghost scoring will apply. If a stable manager is disqualified, all the team’s HM points accumulated will be split evenly among the remaining team members. Disqualified competitors and their horses may not take further part in the rally, and may be asked to leave the grounds. A disqualified competitor/team may not receive an award.

The discipline ground jury may disqualify a competitor and/or a team from a competition, for the reasons stated in Article 21, in addition to any of the reasons listed below. The decision of the discipline ground jury is final.

Causes for disqualification in Show Jumping are:

1. Exercising horses in the competition arena at any time, except as allowed by the Organizer
2. Willfully jumping any obstacle of a competition in which the rider is going to compete
3. Rapping a horse
4. Poor sportsmanship
5. Cruelty or abuse of the horse
6. Unlawful use of drugs, medications and/or alcohol
7. Refusing to leave the arena at the end of a round or following elimination
8. Schooling over obstacles other than those provided by the organizer
9. Misuse of equine medication
10. Cheating
11. Dangerous riding
12. Riding a sick, injured or exhausted horse.

Article 76—Team Scoring

1. For each team the three best scores of each round are counted towards the final score. The three best Equitation scores are included from the Equitation round. (Four rider teams will have a drop score for each round, three rider teams will use all three scores for each round). Bonus scoring (Take Your Own Line, Jump Off) for all competitors is included.

The final score is calculated using the below formula.

Overall Score = Riding Score + HM Score

HM Score = # HM Penalties x # Rounds x 0.2.

- Additional information for calculating the Horse Management Score
- The number of rounds only include the rounds utilized for overall team scoring.

SECTION IV: Scoring

- If you offer a separate TYOL class for qualifying riders and those DO NOT count for team scores, that round will not count in the number of “rounds” for the Horse Management scoring formula.
2. In extraordinary circumstances when a short team (three rider team) becomes a shortened team (two rider and one stable manager), prior to the start of competition, the following team scoring will take effect.
 - A. In the event of the competitor being removed completely from the team. Ghost Horse Management scores will be determined per the Horse Management Handbook. Ghost riding scores per round will be determined by averaging the riding scores of the two remaining competitors. Ghost bonus riding scores will be determined by averaging the bonus scores of the two remaining competitors.
 - B. In the event of the competitor no longer being able to participate in the riding portion of the competition. They shall continue to earn Horse Management scores, and ghost riding scores per round will be determined by averaging the riding scores of the two remaining competitors. Ghost bonus riding scores will be determined by averaging the bonus scores of the two remaining competitors.

Please note: The above scoring is not to be used in a 4 man team’s loss of a rider or mount. Only to be used with a 3 man team rather than losing a team completely from the rally.

Article 77—Individual Scoring

While rallies are normally scored only as teams. There are some instances when the tabulation of individual scores is necessary. To determine an individual’s score:

1. The penalties earned from each competitor’s rides will be added together.
2. The individual factored horse management penalty points earned by the competitor, will be added to the competitor’s positive riding score.
3. The winning individual is that individual who has the lowest total score after all scores have been added.

Article 78—Alternative Methods of Scoring

1. For competitions not decided on time, but with the time of each round recorded, the place standings are decided either by:
 - A. Totaling the jumping and time faults; competitors with equality of faults remain tied; or,
 - B. As in item A above, but with only those competitors tied for first place required to take part in one or two jump-offs, the last of which will be against the clock.
2. For competitions decided on time, the time taken to complete the course will decide between any competitors with

clear rounds or equal faults, with the fastest time being the best.

Article 79—Posting of Scores

Depending on the length of the rally, scores may be posted multiple times during the rally or just once. Any time scores are posted there is a 30-minute inquiry period where competitors can inquiry regarding the scores (Article 72). After the final inquiry period, the only changes that can occur are if a transcription error has occurred. Following the final inquiry period, final scores for all competitors must be posted for review by competitors, parents, coaches, etc.

Anytime scores are posted during the competition, there will be an announcement of official score posting and time.

Article 80—Placing of Teams

The winning team is that with the best (lowest) final score after riding scores and the factored Horse Management penalties are added together.

Ties:

1. In a team competition, ties will be decided on the following conditions:
 - A. Number of clear rounds for each team in the overall competition; if still tied then,
 - B. The total number of bonus points earned by each team; if still tied then,
 - C. The total team riding score (including the throw-out scores and “Ghost scores” for a short team so every team has the same number of scores); if still tied then,
 - D. Turnout Inspection scores (four) for each team.

Awards:

Overall team and horse management awards are usually presented at mounted rallies. Other awards may be also be given and all awards must be published in the prize list.

Equitation Awards:

Ties in the equitation round are broken at the discretion of the equitation judge.

Please Note: A disqualified horse/rider combination may not be placed or receive an award.

SECTION V: Officiation

Article 92—Inspection Panel

An inspection panel made up of the president of the discipline ground jury, the CHMJ, and a veterinarian or other qualified horse person, will officiate over the horse inspections (jogging). The veterinarian's decision shall be final when a judge or the steward requests an inspection or examination as to the serviceable soundness of a horse. In the absence of a veterinarian, the judges or the steward shall have the right to excuse a horse from further participation on the grounds of unsoundness.

Article 93—Veterinarian

1. The veterinarian should be a part of the inspection panel for all horse inspections.
2. Regional competitions should have a qualified veterinarian present or on call for all games of the competition.
3. The veterinarian shall assist the organizer in all matters pertaining to the health and welfare of the horses at the competition.
4. The veterinarian, when required to be present at a competition, shall have the right to inspect and examine any horse at the competition. The judges or the steward may request an inspection or an examination of any horse.
5. The veterinarian's decision shall be final when a judge or the steward requests an inspection or examination as to the serviceable soundness of a horse. In the absence of a veterinarian, the judges or the steward shall have the right to excuse a horse from further participation on the grounds of unsoundness.

Article 94—Chief Scorekeeper

1. The chief scorekeeper is responsible for prompt and accurate scorekeeping. The judges and timekeepers provide factual data for the chief scorekeeper to use in the calculation of scores and place standings.
2. Accurate, up-to-the-minute scorekeeping is very important to keep the competitors, officials and spectators informed. Therefore, the judges and the chief scorekeeper shall work in close cooperation with the announcer.
3. The chief scorekeeper shall appoint such assistants as he/she may require for the work. All scoring shall be conducted with complete impartiality.

Article 95—Required Medical Personnel

1. For mounted rallies—An EMT-Basic (paid or volunteer) is required onsite one hour prior to the first ride of the rally and stay until riding concludes for the day. The EMT or rally organizer must be aware of the closest ambulance and hospital locations.
 - A. The EMT must:
 - Have CPR certification and licensed to perform basic assessment and non-invasive treatment.
 - Not have any other duties at the Mounted Rally.
 - Have a reliable means of communicating with the local EMS service and knowledge of the nearest hospital.
 - Have direct communication with all riding areas, especially those out of view.
 - Coordinate with the Rally Organizer on how to handle injured parties.
 2. Additional Information:
 - A. An EMT who is Intermediate or Paramedic level, both meets and exceeds the minimum requirement.
 - B. Facility requirements may exceed the minimum USPC EMT requirement.
 - C. Rallies run as recognized events may exceed the minimum USPC EMT requirement.
 - D. An on-site ambulance is highly recommended, but not required.

SECTION VI: Appendices

Appendix V USPC Show Jumping Rally Technical Delegate's Evaluation and Report

(This form is also available electronically on the USPC website.)

*=information required; circle yes or no when you see **(yes/no)**.

TD/Steward's Name * _____ Phone * _____

TD/Steward's Email Address * _____

TD/Steward's License number and affiliation _____

Organizer's Name * _____ Phone * _____

Organizer's Email Address * _____

CHMJ Name* _____ Phone * _____

CHMJ Email Address * _____ Number of AHMJ's* _____

Rally Information

Region * _____ Rally Start Date * _____ Rally End Date * _____

Rally locations (please include all if multiple) _____

Is this a standard rally? * _____

Did you have a CURRENT copy of the Discipline's Rulebook? *(yes/no)

Did you read the rulebook prior to attending the rally? * (yes/no)

Was the entire rally conducted according to these rules? * (yes/no)

Did Horse Management function according to the rules? * (yes/no)

Did you have any problem with a stated rule? * (yes/no) If yes, please tell us why. _____

Did you have a situation for which there was not a stated rule? * (yes/no) If yes, please describe the situation. _____

Did any competitors receive Yellow Cards given during the rally? (yes/no) If yes, how many and why? _____

Were any competitors disqualified during the rally? * (yes/no) If so, please tell us who and why _____

SECTION VI: Appendices

Was the rally well-organized? **(yes/no)** Please describe _____

Were the facilities suitable for all phases of the rally? **(yes/no)** If no, please describe areas of concern. _____

Were the organizers and other officials friendly and supportive to competitors and each other? * **(yes/no)**

Was sufficient personnel provided to manage all phases? * **(yes/no)**

Were medical personnel & equipment (EMT, ambulance) on the grounds during mounted activities and on call at all times? * **(yes/no)**

Were any accident reports filed * **(yes/no)**

For the duration of the rally, was safety placed as a priority? **(yes/no)** Please describe _____

Were the communications suitable for all phases of the rally? (yes/no) If no, please describe areas of concern. _____

Were briefings held? (yes/no) Please describe. _____

Was the rally a learning experience for all competitors? * **(yes/no)** Please describe _____

Do you feel you were given all the materials to do your job effectively? * **(yes/no)** If no, please describe why not. _____

Horse Management Review

As the Technical Delegate/Steward, you are charged with the first level of reviewing the decisions in Horse Management. Under the rules of competition, the initial protest from the decision of the Chief Horse Management Judge is to the Technical Delegate/Steward. A protest can only be made by the team or individual competitor against whom an adverse decision is made. Therefore if a protest comes to you to reconsider the decision of the Chief Horse Management Judge and you do NOT sustain the decision of the judge, the protest is concluded. If you do sustain the Chief Horse Management Judge, then a protest can be placed before the Discipline Ground Jury.

Were all inquiries/protests that were brought to you as TD/Steward in written form on the official form?* **(yes/no)**

Do you have any comments on the Horse Management competition at this rally? _____

Do you have any additional comments or thought you would like to share? _____

SECTION VI: Appendices

Rally Competitor Numbers

Please utilize the lines below to indicate what competition divisions were offered and the number of teams and competitors in each.

	Level/ Division*	Number of Teams*	Number of Competitors*	Number of Competitors with D-2 Certification above 10 years of age*	Number of Competitors with C-1 Certification above 12 years of age*
Junior Introductory	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Senior Introductory	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Junior Developing Horse/Rider	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Senior Developing Horse/Rider	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Junior Advanced					
Large Pony	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Horse I	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Horse II	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Horse III	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Horse IV	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Horse V	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Senior Advanced					
Large Pony	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Horse I	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Horse II	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Horse III	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Horse IV	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Horse V	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Other (please specify)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

President of the Ground Jury's Name * _____ Phone * _____

President of the Ground Jury's Email Address * _____

President of the Ground Jury's License number and affiliation _____

Judge's Name * _____ Phone * _____

Judge's Email Address * _____

Judge's License number and affiliation _____

Were there three rounds of competition?* **(yes/no)**

Were the courses appropriate for all levels of competition?* **(yes/no)** If not, please describe: _____
