

## **2024 UNITED STATES EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION, INC. RULEBOOK**

The National Equestrian Federation of the United States a member of the Federation Equestre Internationale and of the United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee.

THIS RULEBOOK SUPERSEDES ALL PREVIOUS EDITIONS

THE RULES PUBLISHED HEREIN ARE EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 1, 2022 UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED AT THE TIME OF THEIR ENACTMENT AND REMAIN IN EFFECT EXCEPT AS SUPERSEDED BY RULE CHANGES ENACTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AS PUBLISHED ON THE FEDERATION'S WEB SITE AT [www.usef.org](http://www.usef.org) OR BY SUBSEQUENT EDITIONS OR SUPPLEMENTS TO THE RULE BOOK

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## **THE SPORTSMAN'S CHARTER**

That sport is something done for the fun of doing it and that it ceases to be sport when it becomes a business only, something done for what there is in it;

That amateurism is something of the heart and spirit - not a matter of exact technical qualifications;

That good manners of sport are fundamentally important;

That the code must be strictly upheld;

That the whole structure of sport is not only preserved from the absurdity of undue importance, but is justified by a kind of romance which animates it, and by the positive virtues of courage, patience, good temper, and unselfishness which are demanded by the code;

That the exploitation of sport for profit alone kills the spirit and retains only the husk and semblance of the thing;

That the qualities of frankness, courage, and sincerity which mark the good sportsman in private life shall mark the discussions of his interests at a competition.

## **UNITED STATES EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION, INC.**

(the Federation)

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NOTICE: Verbiage in red text indicates new or revised rules approved to become effective December 1, 2023, unless another date is specified. EFFECTIVE dates for new rules are listed and these dates do vary.

The Rules published in this Rulebook are subject to additions or revisions pursuant to Chapter 1, Sub-chapter 1-B of the Rules. Please see the Federation's web site at [www.usef.org](http://www.usef.org) for any changes subsequent to the publication date of this Rulebook.

While every effort has been made to avoid mistakes in this publication, the Federation does not assume any liability to anyone for errors or omissions. Corrections and additions are published on the Federation's web site at [www.usef.org](http://www.usef.org)

## GENERAL RULES

### CHAPTERS 1-13

#### BREED/DISCIPLINE CHAPTERS

Which pertain to the classification, conduct and operation of competitions and to general matters affecting Exhibitors, Judges, Stewards and Competition Officials.

A knowledge of the rules of any sport is required of each participant and the exhibitor at a Licensed Competition is in no way exempt from this responsibility. A complete knowledge of and compliance with the rules are essential and the exhibitor must be fully cognizant of all the rules as well as class specifications in the Divisions in which he or she shows.

It is obvious that however complete rules may be, they can never cover all possible situations which may arise. If a matter cannot be solved by interpreting the rules to the letter, the solution to be adopted by those responsible should lie in a principle which follows as nearly as possible the spirit of the rules.

PLEASE READ ALL CROSS REFERENCES CAREFULLY, AND REFER TO THE FEDERATION'S WEBSITE AT [www.usef.org](http://www.usef.org) FOR OFFICIAL CHANGES AND THE MOST UP-TO-DATE VERSION OF THIS RULEBOOK.

#### UNITED STATES EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION RULES

The term THE FEDERATION when used herein refers to and denotes only the United States Equestrian Federation, Inc.