

## **CHAPTER 9 COMPETITION PRIZE LISTS AND ENTRIES**

### **SUBCHAPTER 9-A PRIZE LISTS**

GR901 Requirements

GR902 Class Specifications

GR903 Changes in Prize List

GR904 Entry fees

### **SUBCHAPTER 9-B ENTRY BLANKS**

GR905 Requirements

### **SUBCHAPTER 9-C SUBMISSION, ACCEPTANCE, AND REFUSAL OF ENTRIES**

GR906 Requirements

GR907 Agreement

GR908 General

GR909 Post Entries

GR910 Substitutions

GR911 Cancellation and Withdrawal of Entries

GR912 Unpaid Entries

GR913 Refusal of Entries

GR914 Limiting Entries

GR915 General Conditions

GR916 League, Series and Finals

## CHAPTER 9 COMPETITION PRIZE LISTS AND ENTRIES

### SUBCHAPTER 9-A PRIZE LISTS

#### GR901 Requirements

See GR1212 for procedures regarding submitting prize lists to the Federation office. The prize list of every Licensed Competition must contain the following:

1. Federation Page. This must be printed in its entirety and placed in a conspicuous position in the prize list of each Licensed Competition in typeface large enough to be easily legible. If a Licensed Competition prints a catalogue, the Federation page must be included and the competition is urged to instruct its announcer to invite the attention of spectators to this page at each session.
2. Classification of competition and level or ratings of divisions or sections on the Federation Page.
3. Entry blank, which must contain the rule to be signed by each exhibitor, rider, driver, handler, coach and trainer(s), or their agent(s). (See GR908).
4. Names of the officiating judges with the division(s) in which they will adjudicate and the names of the Federation stewards or technical delegates, provided they have accepted to serve. (See GR706.1j) Both division and sections to be adjudicated must be listed for breed division judges, provided they have accepted to serve. (See GR 706.1j)
5. List of competition officials. (See GR113).
6. The name of the Licensee (see GR133 and GR302.1h) and the name of the Chief Executive Officer or the person with the largest ownership interest.
7. The name of the Hunter and Jumper and/or Trail course designer or responsible person. Exception: Arabian, American Saddlebred, Morgan and Andalusian/Lusitano divisions.
8. The name of the veterinarian **or veterinary clinic** and, if on call, the phone number where the veterinarian can be reached during the competition. If not known, the prize list must state where the information will be posted during the competition. **Competition management must submit to the Federation, through the Federation's Competition Dashboard, the designated competition veterinarian or veterinary clinic contact information no less than seven (7) days prior to the start of competition. If changes are made to the designated veterinarian or veterinary clinic within seven days prior to the start of the competition, competition management will not be penalized so long as it timely provides updated contact information to the Federation.**
9. The following statement must be published in BOLD TYPE for all Regular Competitions; Eventing Competitions at the Modified Level or above, Combined Driving Competitions, Dressage Competitions, Endurance Rides and Vaulting Competitions:  
(See GR828.4 of the Federation rules).  
Life, senior active and junior active members shall be eligible to participate in all classes at Regular Competitions, Eventing Competitions at the Modified Level or above and Combined Driving Competitions, Dressage, Reining and Vaulting Competitions and Endurance Rides. A non-member may participate as a handler, rider, driver, owner, lessee or agent at Regular Competitions, Eventing Competitions, Dressage Competitions, Reining Competitions and Combined Driving Competitions upon payment of a Show Pass fee. Participants in the following classes are exempted from the Requirements of this rule: 1) leadline; 2) exhibitions; 3) games and races; 4) classes for 4-H members; 5) walk trot and academy classes (academy classes are classes limited to horses used regularly in a lesson program); 6) USDF introductory level tests, pas de deux and quadrille classes; and 7) assistant handlers in Dressage Sport Horse Breeding classes.
10. Complete class description and judging specifications for all classes offered that are not included in this Rule Book must either be included in the Prize List or referred in the Prize List to a conspicuous place on the competition's web site.
11. Statement as to entry fees, prizes offered in each class and Show Pass fees pursuant to GR206 which the Federation is assessing certain participants who are not current members of the Federation. If a licensed competition's prize list does not state whether or not the competition will refund entry fees in the event of cancellation of classes due to severe weather or other emergency, refunds of entry fees must be made upon written request by the exhibitor within 30 days of the cancellation. See GR832.
12. Statement as to Federation fee (see GR208.1).
13. Statement as to when and how prize money will be paid.
14. Statement concerning post entries.
15. A tentative schedule of classes, by sessions.

16. Statement as to which of the Federation Medal Classes, Federation Equitation Classes and USEF/USDF Qualifying Classes are to be offered.
17. Statement concerning a particular system of judging to be used. In the American Saddlebred Horse Division, the particular three-judge system to be used must be specified.
18. The exact date and location of competition.
19. A map and/or directions to the competition grounds.
20. For Local Competitions, the designation Local Competition must be on the cover.
21. Stabling.
  - a. Statement as to type of stabling and whether stall doors will be provided.
  - b. The prize list for competitions offering National or Premier rated Hunter sections must state that stabling will be offered and the cost must be included on the entry blank.
22. Statement as to method for establishing a jumping order for jumper classes.
23. Statement as to method for breaking ties for other than first place in jumper classes.
24. The prize list for competitions offering A rated sections, National or Premier rated hunter sections, and/or Jumper sections of \$10,000 or more, must be printed and available to exhibitors at least 21 days prior to the closing date of entries. For competitions offering a Jumper Class of \$25,000 or more, the prize list must be printed and available to exhibitors at least 30 days prior to the closing date of entries. Upon request, a copy of the competition's prize list must be provided by mail at no cost to the exhibitor.
25. All competitions must state the type of footing available in warm-up areas and competition arenas. The dimensions of the competition arenas must also be stated.
26. Competitions offering Dressage or Western Dressage classes must state the type of footing available in Dressage or Western Dressage warm-up arenas and Dressage or Western Dressage competition arenas.
27. If Jumper sections are offered which are not covered within the definitions contained in Chapter JP, full specifications (including eligibility requirements) must be contained in the prize list.
28. If Championships are offered in the Jumper Division, the prize list must state the method of determining those Championships (see JP110). If the Jumper Division offers Stake Classes, or other classes for which horses must qualify during the competition, the means of determining qualification must be stated in the prize list.
29. GR1301.7 and GR1301.8 must be published in the prize list in its entirety.
30. If local laws are more restrictive than the requirements of GR801 relating to protective headgear, the Licensee is required to publish the more restrictive local law (which shall control) in the prize list.
31. At competitions where the official veterinarian is on call, the prize list must include the time period when the veterinarian will be available to conduct measurements. If the veterinarian is required to measure at any time other than as stated in the prize list, the owner is responsible for paying veterinarian fees. See DR135.4-5 for more information on measurements at Dressage Competitions.
32. The Federation Prize List must direct competitors to the FEI Definite Schedule for information on FEI classes or include the FEI Definite Schedule in the Prize List. The Federation Prize List may identify the FEI Event Category (ies), Level (i.e. CSI2\*, CDI-W, etc.), and include the FEI classes in the tentative time schedule but for all other FEI technical information, competitors must be directed to the FEI Definite Schedule. Individual discipline omnibus' are exempt from this rule provided they direct competitors to the FEI Definite Schedule.

*BOD 11/13/23 Effective 12/1/23*

## **GR902 Class Specifications**

1. All classes offered at Licensed Competitions for which specifications appear in the Rule Book must be governed by current specifications, to the end that uniformity will prevail in the competition and in the adjudication. To cover any omission it is recommended that the prize list contain the following statement in a prominent position: "EVERY CLASS OFFERED HEREIN WHICH IS COVERED BY THE RULES AND SPECIFICATIONS OF THE CURRENT FEDERATION RULE BOOK WILL BE CONDUCTED AND JUDGED IN ACCORDANCE THEREWITH."
2. A Licensed Competition is not limited to classes listed in the Rule Book. If a special class is offered which is not included in the Rule Book, the prize list or competition web site must furnish detailed specifications.
3. All classes (rated or unrated) to be held on a Federation licensed date are governed by all applicable Federation rules. No unrecognized classes can be held on any Federation licensed date, except
  - a. Horse Trials at Eventing Competitions below the Modified Level,
  - b. Eventing Tests at all levels
  - c. Classes at Regular or Local Competitions restricted to breeds or disciplines whose rules are not included in the USEF rulebook

- d. Non-affiliated National Breed or discipline association classes
- e. Vaulting levels/classes below A-Teams, B Teams, C Teams, Senior Teams, Junior Teams, Gold, Silver, Bronze, Senior and Junior Individuals, and Pas de Deux and Junior Pas de Deux.
- f. Academy classes
- g. Qualifying classes for Youth Reining classes or Reining classes at USA Reining and NRHA approved competitions.
- h. Exhibitions for which there are no breed or division rules
- i. Hunter/Jumper competitions designated "Outreach" competitions by USHJA are limited to either one competition day or multiple competition days with a maximum of two competition rings (one hunter ring and one jumper ring) per day.
- j. These above named classes/levels can be held as unrecognized only provided a separate entry blank is used and the prize list and/or Omnibus clearly states that the classes are not recognized by the Federation. See GR301.
- k. Exception: FEI rules take precedence as to international classes and events over Federation rules at all FEI Sanctioned Competitions. Federation rules take precedence as to national classes and events which are not FEI Sanctioned at FEI Sanctioned Competitions. In connection with Endurance Riding Events, the Federation shall nationally enforce the prohibition of the gastric ulcer medications ranitidine and meprazole, in accordance with GR410. See GR301.

### **GR903 Changes in Prize List**

If the prize list must be changed after it has been distributed to potential exhibitors the following procedures must be followed. Notification of specific changes to a prize list must be made to the Federation and exhibitors via email or mail as well as being posted on a competition's website. This will serve as notification for the requirements of this rule. In the cases where electronic communication is not available, then notification must be made as specified under this rule.

1. If errors are discovered or changes made up to 10 days prior to the closing of entries, notify potential exhibitors in writing of the specific changes.
2. If errors are discovered or changes made after that date, notify exhibitors on receipt of entries, and in writing when they arrive at the competition of the specific changes.
3. If classes are omitted or premiums decreased, notify only affected exhibitors 5 days prior to the competition in writing, by e-mail or by wire, thereafter these classes cannot be reinstated. In this instance, entry fee refunds must be given in all cases. (For Jumper Division, see JP108.2)
4. If classes are added or premiums increased, unless required under division rules, notify potential exhibitors in writing, by e-mail or by wire at least 5 days prior to the competition. Post entries must be accepted in such classes without a post entry penalty fee.
5. If the change in (3) or (4) adds a new division or section or alters a division's or section's rating, permission therefore must be obtained from the Federation at least 30 days prior to adoption.
6. Competitions are allowed to add additional classes from the following divisions as competition management deems necessary: Andalusian/Lusitano, Arabian, Connemara, Friesian, Hackney, Morgan, National Show Horse, Roadster, Paso Fino, Saddle Seat Equitation, American Saddlebred and Shetland. Unrated Hunter classes may be added as competition management deems necessary. If classes are added less than 5 days prior to the competition (See GR904.4), competition management must advise exhibitors of the additions upon check in, post notices in the competition office, and make the appropriate announcements during the competition.

### **GR904 Entry fees**

An established entry fee figure must be clearly stated in the prize list for all Hunter classes. Once that figure has been printed it may not be changed regardless of the number of entries shown.

## **SUBCHAPTER 9-B ENTRY BLANKS**

### **GR905 Requirements**

1. The entry blank of each Licensed Competition must contain the name, age (if nine years or over, the term aged may be used), sex, color and in case of all horses four years old or over, the height of each horse entered in any class. This information is not required for Four-in-Hand, Team, Collection, Championship and other classes in which the conditions state that the entry need not be named.
2. For disciplines recognized by the FEI at non-breed-restricted events, the entry blank of each Recognized competition must contain the citizenship of the riders, drivers and vaulters.
3. The entry blank must contain a space for an emergency contact phone number.
4. The entry blank or prize list of each licensed competition must contain the following statement ("Federation Entry Agreement"), printed as below; failure of a Licensed competition to print this rule on every entry blank or prize list and to require that the entry blank be signed constitutes a violation of the rules and the competition is liable to penalty under GR707. If the Federation Entry Agreement is printed only in the prize list, the entry blank must contain the following abbreviated statement in lieu of the entire rule:

### **Federation Entry Agreement**

I have read the United States Equestrian Federation, Inc. (the "Federation") Entry Agreement (GR906.4) as printed in the Prize List for [insert name here] ("Competition") and agree to all of its provisions. I understand and agree that by entering this Competition, I am subject to Federation Rules, the Prize List, and local rules of the competition. I agree **that the Competition and/or the Federation may use all photos and other likeness of me and my horse taken from the Competition for non-commercial use and I waive any rights in connection with that use.** I agree that any actions against the Federation must be brought in New York State.

The complete statement is as follows:

FEDERATION ENTRY AGREEMENT By entering a Federation-licensed Competition and signing this entry blank as the Owner, Lessee, Trainer, Manager, Agent, Coach, Driver, Rider, Handler, Vaulters or Longeur and on behalf of myself and my principals, representatives, employees and agents, I agree that I am subject to the Bylaws and Rules of the United States Equestrian Federation, Inc. (the "Federation") and the local rules of the competition.

I agree to be bound by the Bylaws and Rules of the Federation and of the competition. I will accept as final the decision of the Hearing Committee on any question arising under the Rules, and agree to release and hold harmless the competition, the Federation, their officials, directors and employees for any action taken under the Rules.

I represent that I am eligible to enter and/or participate under the Rules, and every horse I am entering is eligible as entered.

I also agree that as a condition of and in consideration of acceptance of entry, the Federation and/or the Competition may use or assign photographs, videos, audios, cable-casts, broadcasts, internet, film, new media or other likenesses of me and my horse taken during the course of the competition for the promotion, coverage or benefit of the competition, sport, or the Federation. Those likenesses shall not be used to advertise a product and they may not be used in such a way as to jeopardize amateur status. I hereby expressly and irrevocably waive and release any rights in connection with such use, including any claim to compensation, invasion of privacy, right of publicity, or to misappropriation.

**If not currently a USEF Active Competing member or Subscriber and competing only in classes that are exempt from membership requirements, I acknowledge and agree that I will be enrolled at no cost as a USEF Fan and my USEF Fan Account will continue to annually automatically renew unless and until USEF determines in its sole discretion to terminate my Fan account. Additionally, I acknowledge that the benefits of a USEF Fan are subject to change without notice.**

The construction and application of Federation rules are governed by the laws of the State of New York, and any action instituted against the Federation must be filed in New York State. See GR908.4.

***BOD 11/13/23 Effective 12/1/23***

## **SUBCHAPTER 9-C SUBMISSION, ACCEPTANCE, AND REFUSAL OF ENTRIES**

### **GR906 Requirements**

1. When Entries are based strictly on a first-come, first-served basis: if the prize list restricts entries to mailed entries it must specify that entries may only be received by mail postmarked on or after a specified date which must be at least two weeks subsequent to the issuance of the prize list; if entries are to be made by other means (e.g. by hand, by fax, email or other electronic submission) that must be clearly specified in the prize list together with the earliest date for receipt which must be at least two weeks subsequent to the issuance of the prize list; competition management must maintain and make available for examination accurate records regarding proof of receipt of entries (e.g. postmarks, fax, email and other electronic transmittal records, hand delivery receipts); the prize list must further specify that entries will be accepted based solely on the priority of receipt of entries, and that ties regarding entries received at any time on the same day will be broken by lot on a date, time and location specified in the prize list with the right of any potential entrant to be present in person or by representative at the drawing of lots.
2. In Breeding classes (except Dressage/Sport Horse Breeding), provided a stud book exists for the horse in question, each horse must be registered in the recognized stud book of the breed and its registered number, sire and dam must be given on the entry blank. Horses competing in Dressage Sport Horse Breeding (DSHB) classes are not required to be registered with any stud book, but if a horse is registered with any breed, the name of the breed, sire, dam, dam sire and breeder must be given on the entry blank. For unregistered horses competing in DSHB classes, the above information is strongly recommended, if available.
3. Horses over two years of age must be named and the same name must be listed in all classes except those that permit nominations after the close of entries. If a horse has been recorded it must be entered under its original recorded name unless the name has been officially changed under the provisions of GR1101. It must also be entered under the name of the owner or lessee of record, or of the registered exhibitor name, which must appear in the catalogue. When entered by an agent, the owner's name or lessee's name must also be given.
4. Misrepresentation of a horse's identity, name, height, age, eligibility for the class, registered or recorded number or other information on an entry blank for the class in question results in the exhibitor's forfeiture of any ribbon, trophy, cash prize or other award won by such misrepresented or substituted animal. For Dressage Competitions, any documentation such as negative EIA certification that is required for entry to a competition must list the same horse name and description as is listed on the entry blank and on the USEF horse identification or recording documents. The exhibitor is liable for further penalty as described in GR703.
5. Misrepresentation of the identity of the trainer responsible for the training, custody or performance of a horse by any person shall constitute a violation of the rules (see also GR148).

### **GR907 Agreement**

1. Every entry at a Licensed Competition constitutes an agreement that the person making it, owner, lessee, trainer, manager, agent, coach, driver, rider, handler, vaulter, lungeur, and the horse are subject to the Bylaws and the rules of the Federation and the local rules of the competition. Exhibitors are cautioned to abide by restrictions concerning exhibiting horses before judges as provided for in GR1304. Participants utilizing an online entry system for a Licensed Competition do so with the agreement that they have read the Official Prize List and agree to follow all the class specifications, requirements and conditions in the Official Prize List.
2. Every exhibitor, rider, driver, handler, vaulter, lungeur, coach and trainer or their agent(s) must sign an entry blank. In the case of a rider, driver, handler, vaulter or lungeur under the age of 18, their parent or guardian, or if not available, the trainer, must sign an entry blank on the minor's behalf. Unless specifically provided otherwise by law, any of the above persons may alternatively sign an entry blank in electronic form which shall have the same validity, force and effect as a signature affixed by hand. If any of the above persons fails to do so, their first entrance into the ring as an exhibitor, rider, driver, handler, vaulter or lungeur shall be construed as their acceptance of the rules of the competition involved and of the Federation and shall ipso facto render them subject to said rules. Upon the failure of an owner, trainer, rider, driver, handler, vaulter, lungeur, coach or agent(s), or parent or guardian or trainer of a minor rider, driver, handler, vaulter or lungeur, to sign an entry blank as required, and upon confirmation of any such violation(s) by the steward or secretary of the competition, such person(s) shall be subject to an automatic fine of \$250 imposed for each such violation.

3. Violation of the rules in connection with entries may be cause for disqualification of the exhibitor, rider, driver, handler, vaulter, lungeur, coach and trainer by the Directors of the Licensed Competition (see GR1218.4) and for report to the Federation.
4. The Federation, incorporated in 2003, is a New York Not-For-Profit corporation. Pursuant to Bylaw 701.2, the construction and application of Federation rules are subject to the laws of the State of New York. It is expressly agreed by and between the Federation and its members and any other persons in any way participating or in any way seeking to participate in a Licensed Competition or otherwise utilizing or seeking to utilize the privileges or services of the Federation, that any lawsuit (except for an arbitration pursuant to Bylaw 705 of the Federation) brought against the Federation by or on behalf of any such member (whether or not still a member at the time such suit is brought), or by or on behalf of any such person, shall be commenced and adjudicated only in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York or in the Supreme Court of the State of New York, County of New York, to the exclusion of the courts of any other jurisdiction or venue.
5. Competition Organizers must obtain from every exhibitor, coach, trainer, owner, rider, driver, vaulter, lungeur, and handler an executed Federation Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver, and Indemnification Agreement as a condition for the participant's entry to participate in a USEF Licensed Competition. State specific form agreements can be found on the Federation's website.
6. All USEF fees appearing on the entry blank must be grouped together in one section of the page, preferably in a box separating them from other fees.

## **GR908 General**

1. Entries must be made in writing and signed by the (1) exhibitor (2) the rider, driver, handler, vaulter or lungeur, (3) the trainer, and (4) the coach, if applicable, or by the agent(s) of such person(s) and must be accompanied by funds to cover entry fees, stall fees and Federation fee (see GR208.1). In the case of a rider, driver, handler, vaulter or lungeur under 18, his/her parent or guardian, or if not available, the trainer, must sign an entry blank on the minor's behalf. Or: by transmitting the required entry data to a designated collection agent via the internet, accompanied by a valid credit card payment to cover entry fees, stall fees, Federation fee (see GR208.1) and applicable processing fees, and including the name(s) of the (1) exhibitor, (2) rider, driver, handler, vaulter or lungeur, (3) the trainer, and (4) the coach, if applicable. The secretary of the competition will accept such an entry as complete (see a.1 below).
  - a. In the case of on-line entries, no competition number will be issued until the Competition Secretary has received an entry form, the signatures of the (1) exhibitor, (2) the rider, driver, handler, vaulter or lungeur, (3) the trainer, and (4) the coach, if applicable, or of the agent(s) of such person(s). In the case of a rider, driver, handler, vaulter or lungeur under 18, their parent or guardian, or if not available, the trainer must sign an entry blank on the minor's behalf.
  - b. Submission of on-line entry accompanied by a valid credit card or other type of electronic payment shall be construed to be acceptance by the person(s) named in the entry of the provisions of GR906-GR908 and GR911-GR914.
  - c. Electronic signatures on an entry form and in online entry systems must be submitted and accepted in compliance with applicable laws in the location where the competition is held.
2. In the event that a catalogue contains a statement as to an entry not in accordance with the exhibitor's original entry blank, it is the duty of the Show Committee or Competition Management to take all steps necessary, including public announcement, to correct the error, giving precedence to the exhibitor's entry blank and not the catalogue in error, as authority.
3. In the Dressage or Western Dressage Division and for open dressage or western dressage classes at Regular and Local Competitions, all entries received by the closing date of entries shall be acknowledged by the competition secretary. (Note: This would include DSHB, but not breed-restricted dressage classes.)

## **GR909 Post Entries**

1. Post entries are any entries made after the advertised closing date.
2. Post entries should not be encouraged in classes listed in the prize list since this practice often results in unfair competition, confusion during the competition, inability to collect the proper fees, extreme difficulty in recording winnings of horses not listed in the catalogue and disruption of the time schedule. Furthermore, the exhibitor and his horses are worthy of having their names in the program. In the interest of good sport, a Show Committee or Competition Management is strongly urged to require that entries be made in advance and printed in the catalogue.

This does not apply, however, to classes in which the prize list states that post entries will be accepted, such as pairs of saddle horses, hunt teams, etc.

3. When a Licensed Competition does not accept post entries it must be stated in the prize list and no exceptions can be made.
4. When a Licensed Competition does accept post entries it must be stated in the prize list and post entries can only be accepted prior to the starting of the class and upon signature of exhibitor or his agent and trainer.

## **GR910 Substitutions**

1. Substitution of a horse may not be made after the announced date of the closing of entries, except in classes where more than one horse represents an entry (i.e., Pairs, Teams, Tandems). In such cases substitution of one horse may be made provided a veterinarian's certificate of disability is submitted. (Exception: Friesian) (Local Competitions exempt).
2. If a horse is sold or injured after the closing of entries, Competition Management may allow an exhibitor to post enter another horse in the same class but the new entry must be given another number.
3. Substitution of a rider or driver or longeur may be made during a class only under the following conditions:
  - a. in case of injury to or illness of the original rider or driver or longeur;
  - b. in a Combination class unless the prize list states that the same rider or driver is required for the entire class;
  - c. in a Reining division when one rider may show several horses in the individual workout. See RN101.5.
4. Substitution of rider is not allowed in Equitation classes.

## **GR911 Cancellation and Withdrawal of Entries**

1. A Licensed Competition may adopt its own policy covering the refunding of fees to an exhibitor who cancels his entries after the official closing date and prior to the competition's beginning. If a Licensed Competition does not specify its refund policy in the prize list, refunds are required to be made for entries cancelled before the competition begins, upon written request by the exhibitor within 30 days of the competition.
2. A Licensed Competition can set the penalty governing an exhibitor who is permitted to cancel his entries or withdraw from the competition. Such penalty applies only at the competition in question. See GR1305.
3. Competition management must refund any entry fees, (stabling and processing fees exempted) paid in advance by an exhibitor for any horse(s) which is subsequently named to an official US team, participation on which will prevent them from competing in that competition.
4. After the competition starts, if a rider is unable to compete due to illness or injury, class fees will be refunded upon presentation of a doctor's certificate unless otherwise stated in prize list. Stall fees and office fees need not be refunded.

## **GR912 Unpaid Entries**

1. Any Competition Licensed or endorsed by the Federation which accepts entries without the payment of the required fees, does so at its own risk and the Federation will not be responsible for the collection of fees (See also GR1213.10). However, if a person makes payment for fees which is not negotiable, the Licensed Competition, after first contacting the individual at least once in writing (with delivery confirmation), may report the name and address of the person in writing to the Federation within 150 days of notification of denied payment, ( See GR1213.1) giving the names of the horses and the names and complete addresses of the owners for which the non-negotiable funds were to cover, a copy of the entry blank, a copy of the front and back of the check or receipt with credit card information and signature, and a copy of the delivery confirmation showing the competition's attempt to notify the individual of the non-negotiable payment. The amount of all fees for each horse must be itemized. On receipt of such notice, the Federation will notify said person, of their indebtedness to the competition as well as the imposition of a processing fee payable to the Federation. If the person fails to make settlement with the competition and/or the Federation within 30 days from the date of the notice from the Federation, they will be fined the additional sum of \$250 payable to the Federation and the person and any horses owned by them and any horses and/or persons for which the non-negotiable sums have been paid will automatically be barred from taking any part whatsoever in any competition Licensed or endorsed by the Federation until settlement is made both of indebtedness to the competition and to the Federation. If the indebtedness to the competition is paid within thirty days of the notice from the Federation and only the \$50 processing fee is not paid to the Federation within that timeframe, the Federation will assess a \$250 fine and



the suspensions as referenced above will remain until the debt to the Federation is paid in full. Publication of the suspension will be published on the Federation's website. Exception: Persons who are engaged to compete on horses owned by individuals with whom they have no current business relationship regarding the ongoing training, care, custody, or control of the horse are not responsible for indebtedness under this rule provided that said persons have not tendered the non-negotiable payment.

2. If the person disputes that the amounts in question are owing or unpaid, they may request a review of these issues before the Co-Chairs of the Hearing Committee or their designees provided a written statement specifying the grounds for a procedural review, accompanied by a fee (which will be refunded if the dispute is settled in favor of said person) is received at the Federation's office within said 30 day period. The Co-Chairs of the Hearing Committee or their designees are the only body that can waive the fines assessed as the result of this rule.
3. In the event a person is reported three or more times for making unnegotiable payment for entry fees, etc., to any competition Licensed or endorsed by the Federation, they will be, after a hearing, subject to further disciplinary action.

## **GR913 Refusal of Entries**

1. In addition to entries of persons suspended or expelled from the Federation, a Licensed Competition may refuse any entry of an exhibitor or the participation of any agent, trainer, rider, driver or handler who has shown an objectionable attitude or behavior at a Licensed Competition or towards its management, which management is able to substantiate, or previous unsportsmanlike behavior at a Licensed Competition which management is able to substantiate.
2. A competition licensed by the Federation and an affiliate association may refuse the entries of horses and riders in Maiden, Novice, Limit and Green classes if they are ineligible under the rules of the Affiliate Association, except for:
  - a. A class open to horses in a specified area (Examples: State Championship, New England Championship, and Kentucky-bred horses).
  - b. A class where the winnings form part of a total score in a competition for a trophy,
  - c. Classes in which the identical award may also be competed for at another Licensed Competition.
  - d. Classes counting for USEF Horse of the Year Awards.
3. If a horse is withdrawn or eliminated from competition during a horse inspection at any FEI licensed competition, it is prohibited from competing at any concurrently held Federation licensed competitions within 48 hours following the FEI Horse Inspection.

## **GR914 Limiting Entries**

For Hunter and Jumper competitions see HJ125 - 126.

1. Management can limit the number of horses entered by an owner and the number of horses ridden by a rider.
2. Any competition that sets restrictive criteria for accepting entries and/or offers classes or events which are part of a league, series or other ranking or award system must do so by meeting the applicable requirements described below:
  - a. Based strictly on a First-Come, First-Served basis (See GR907.1) under this method the prize list must be distributed at least two weeks prior to close of entries to any person requesting a prize list as well as at least three times the number of potential entrants as there will be entries accepted.
  - b. Qualification based only on winnings or participation: (i.e., ribbons and/or prize money or dressage scores during a specified time period, of at least eight (8) consecutive weeks' duration, established by Competition Management and published in the prize list or otherwise prior to the end of the specified period. (See applicable breed/discipline rules for further requirements under this rule).
  - c. By CEO Approval: Any other competition wishing to set restrictive criteria for accepting entries other than as specified above must make written application to the Federation CEO, accompanied by a nonrefundable fee, at least 120 days prior to the event detailing the criteria being requested. The Federation office may refer the application to the appropriate discipline or other committee for its recommendation regarding the application prior to the application and any recommendation being considered by the CEO. The CEO will consider such recommendations and may approve any such applications in their discretion and may condition any such approval in their discretion, and must require, if approved, that there be publication in the prize list or otherwise of such restrictive criteria sufficiently in advance of the closing date of entries, where appropriate, for all interested to have a fair opportunity to enter.

*BOD 6/20/23 Effective 12/1/23*

## GR915 General Conditions

Except as permitted by the FEI for FEI recognized classes, all entries at a Licensed Competition must be on the same basis. A competition cannot give free or reduced entries, free or reduced transportation or other expenses to one exhibitor unless the same privileges are extended to all exhibitors in the same section or subset of competitors. The requirements to obtain these privileges must be advertised to all potential exhibitors. No fees may be imposed that are not listed in the prize list.

Competition Organizers must obtain from every exhibitor, coach, trainer, owner, rider, driver, vaulter, lungeur, and handler an executed Federation Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver, and Indemnification Agreement as a condition for the participant's entry to participate in a USEF Licensed Competition. State specific form agreements can be found on the Federation's website.

## United States Equestrian Federation, Inc. Entry Agreement

I have read the United States Equestrian Federation, Inc. (the "Federation") Entry Agreement (GR906.4) as printed in the Prize List for this Competition and agree to all of its provisions. I understand and agree that by entering this Competition, I am subject to Federation Rules, the Prize List, and local rules of the competition. I agree to waive the right to the use of my photos at the competition, and agree that any actions against the Federation must be brought in New York State.

## GR916 League, Series and Finals

### 1. Leagues, Series, and Finals:

#### a. Definitions:

- i. "Finals" means any championship, trophy or other award final, league or series final or other final class or final event with entries based upon the outcomes of earlier contests.
- ii. "System" means classes or events which are part of a league, series, ranking/tracking lists or championship, final trophy, or other award system, whether generated or tracked by a computer program or otherwise.
- iii. "League" means a group of competitions held over a period of time leading up to a League Finals.
- iv. "Series" means two or more competitions held in succession leading up to a Series Finals.
- v. "Circuit" means two or more competitions held in succession leading up to end of circuit awards which are based only on the outcomes of the "circuit" of competitions.

#### b. All of the following requirements must also be met:

- i. The League or Series which offers more than \$10,000 in total prize money in each Federation division, including cash and/or in-kind prizes, must be registered with and approved by the Federation and pay the applicable fee. Circuits as defined above do not have to register with the Federation unless the end of circuit awards offer more than \$10,000 in total prize money in each Federation division, including cash and/or in-kind prizes.
- ii. All the qualifying classes must be held at Federation licensed competitions, unless otherwise approved by the Federation's Chief Executive Officer. If qualifying classes are held at competitions not licensed by the Federation, the organizer must enter an agreement with the Federation to comply with all Federation requirements.
- iii. The League or Series must award the qualifying classes to licensed competitions on an equal basis. If a licensed competition meets the requirements to hold a qualifying class and wishes to do so, it must be given the opportunity.
- iv. The principal of the organization or individuals financially responsible for the League or Series must be Federation Senior Active Members, and must agree to be bound by and comply with all applicable Federation

rules in the conduct of the System and its application in the League or Series.

- v. If there is an award category for classes in the League or Series and the above requirements are met, HOTY points will be awarded for the qualifying classes and for the Finals held at licensed competitions.
- vi. If the Finals of a League, Series, or other ranking System are not held at a licensed competition, HOTY points for the finals will not be awarded.

*BOD 6/20/23 Effective 12/1/23, 04/01/24*