2020–2021 Intro Pilot Program
Phase 2

Addendum to the
Rules and Regulations of Membership
As of April 23, 2020

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For the 2020-21 season, the IEA will offer Phase 2 of a Pilot Program to allow 4th and 5th grade riders to participate in IEA competitions. Specific rules related to the Pilot Program are incorporated in this “Intro Rider Addendum” as a supplement to the applicable rules published within the IEA Rules and Regulations.

Membership application timelines as stated in Rule 2304.5 will apply. **Standard rider membership fees apply. Intro riders will earn individual points only and are not eligible to be designated as team point riders.**

The following criteria must be met to register an 4th-5th grade (Intro) rider:

1.) 4th-5th grade (Intro) riders will be accepted as a part of an active 2020-21 Futures (Middle School) Team (i.e. minimum of three (3) riders in grades 4-8) in the disciplines of hunt seat, western and/or dressage for the current season.

2.) 4th-5th grade (Intro) riders must be **at least nine (9) years of age** prior to submitting an IEA Intro Rider membership.

**Membership Includes:**
- Participation in the IEA Horsemanship Program
- Participation in competitions that are hosted by active Future and/or Upper School Teams.

Riders will be eligible for all Future level classes (WT, WTC, Novice, or Intermediate) as long as they meet qualifications and placement criteria defined in the rulebook (Hunt Seat 3302, Western 3402, and Dressage Addendum 3000-J Future Class Descriptions).

Riders may enroll and compete in only one level for the competition season. Any changes to placement must be made in accordance with **Rule 3201.3 and 3201.6 and 3203.**

**Show Structure:**
Entry fees for regular season shows will be no more than $40/class. Entry fees for Regional Finals will be no more than $50 per rider per class. Entry fees for Zones and National Finals will be no more than $60 per rider per class.

Intro riders will be allowed to compete as Individual participants in Future classes at regular season shows, Region Finals, Zone Finals, and National Finals. Separate Intro classes will no longer be offered.

In addition to standardly-applicable suitability rules, small ponies may be used in Future classes according to the horse providers’ allowances for height and weight.

**Points and Awards:**
Intro riders will earn individual points only. No team points will be accrued. **Intro riders in grades 4 and 5 are not eligible to be designated as team point riders.** If an Intro rider is used as a team point rider, the team will lose that score and one more score which will be dropped per Rule 8107.8.

For the 2020-21 pilot season Intro riders will compete in regular and post season competitions. **Hunt Seat and Dressage Intro riders are limited to competing in five regular season shows per competition year. Western Intro riders are limited to competing in six regular season shows per competition year. See rule section 8100 for scoring and rule section 8200 for post season qualification.**
INTRO RIDER ADDENDUM

Placement

4th and 5th grade riders will be expected to follow classification, eligibility, and advancement criteria as outlined in rule section 3200.

Riders participating in Walk/Trot or Walk/Jog must have a minimum of six months of continuous professional instruction in the discipline in which they will compete. Riders participating in Walk/Trot/Canter or Walk/Jog/Lope must have a minimum of one year of continuous professional instruction in the discipline in which they will compete, and must be able to canter competently on an unfamiliar horse.

Riders will be eligible for all Future level classes (WT, WTC, Novice, or Intermediate) as long as they meet qualifications and placement criteria defined in the rulebook (Hunt Seat 3302, Western 3402, and Dressage Addendum 3000-J Future Class Descriptions).

Safety Helmets

4508.3 At all times while mounted, riders in all Hunt Seat and Dressage classes must wear a harnessed and fully fastened protective ASTM/SEI approved safety helmet for equestrian use. The IEA will follow the guidelines of USEF in the matter of what constitutes a safety helmet. Riders whose headgear becomes lost or unfastened while in the show ring will be disqualified and immediately excused from the ring. Helmets and chinstraps must be fitted properly according to manufacturer’s instructions.

In accordance with Rule 4508.7 Western Hats/Helmets - At all times while mounted, Western riders in grades 4 and 5, as well as middle and upper school riders competing in the Beginner division, (classes 4, 4x, 7, 7x) must wear a harnessed and fully fastened protective ASTM/SEI approved safety helmet for equestrian use. The IEA will follow the guidelines of USEF in the matter of what constitutes a safety helmet. Riders whose headgear becomes lost or unfastened while in the show ring will be disqualified and immediately excused from the ring. Helmets and chinstraps must be fitted properly according to manufacturer’s instructions.