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ASSOCIATION**

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**Rules and Regulations of Membership
IEA Adult Rider Division**

June 11, 2026

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ADULT RIDER DIVISION - GENERAL

The rules herein apply only to the IEA Adult Rider Division and are supplemental to the general and discipline-specific rules of the IEA.

The IEA Adult Rider Division is a subsidiary of the Interscholastic Equestrian Association.

This addendum shall provide rules and guidelines to accompany the current IEA Rules and Regulations in relation to the IEA Adult Rider Division. Any reference in this addendum relating to a Rule will be referring to the current IEA Rules and Regulations.

Rules Interpretation and Application – Refer to Rule G1700.

RULE A2000: MEMBERSHIP

A2303.2.3.1 Any person 21 years of age or older, and who is considered an amateur under the policies of their discipline's governing body, may participate in the IEA Adult Rider Division. Hunt seat and dressage will follow the amateur rules of USEF; western will follow the amateur rules of AQHA.

A2303.2.3.2 To participate in the IEA Adult Rider Division, individuals must register as Adult Community Members in accordance with Rule G2303.2.

A2303.2.3.3 Participants must be an Adult Member of the IEA in accordance with Rule G2303.2 and be associated with a registered returning IEA team prior to participating in Adult Rider Division competitions.

A2303.2.3.4 Participants may not compete in any IEA / IEA Adult Rider Division show in which they are also the judge, steward, medical personnel, or manager of the show in which they intend to compete.

A2303.2.3.5 Participants may NOT be IEA coach members.

A2303.2.3.6 In consideration of horse welfare and rider safety, the maximum rider weight for participation in the IEA Adult Rider Division is 225 lbs.

RULE A3000: DISCIPLINES, CLASSES AND TESTS: RIDER PLACEMENT AND ELIGIBILITY

A3200 Rider Classification and Class Eligibility

A3201.9 Adult riders may participate in any of the Adult Rider Division classes for which they are eligible. Class selection should be made collaboratively between the rider and their coach, with consideration to the rider's current skill level, experience, and readiness. Coaches are encouraged to place riders in the class that best supports their development and confidence on an unfamiliar horse.

RULE A3000: DISCIPLINES, CLASSES AND TESTS: RIDER PLACEMENT AND ELIGIBILITY

A3201.10 Eligible adult riders may enter any combination of the classes offered, provided they meet the requirements for each class in which they wish to compete.

A3203.3 IEA Adult Rider Division participants are not subject to rider advancement criteria as outlined in sections G3203 and G3204.

A3300 Adult Rider Division Class Descriptions

HUNT SEAT CLASSES

CLASS AH1. Equitation Over Fences

- Open to all eligible adult rider members who have had at least one year of continuous professional instruction over fences.
- Riders and coaches should choose from one of the offered fence heights based on the skills of the rider.
 - Option A: 18" crossrails
 - Option B: 2' verticals
- All riders, regardless of fence height, should be capable of performing Hunt Seat Tests 1 - 10 (see Rule H3304).
- All riders entered in Class A1 will be judged as one class at multiple fence heights, over the same course/track, unless it is split in accordance with Rule A4400.2.

CLASS AH2. Equitation on the Flat Walk/Trot/Canter

- Open to all eligible adult members who have had at least one year of continuous professional instruction and whose coach feels they are capable of cantering on an unfamiliar horse.
- Riders are expected to be capable of performing Hunt Seat Rider Tests 1 - 7 (see Rule H3304).

CLASS AH3x. Equitation on the Flat Walk/Trot Warm-Up

- This is a non-pointed class.
- Open to all eligible adult rider members who have had at least six months of continuous professional instruction, are capable of cantering on a familiar horse, and whose coach feels they are capable of trotting on an unfamiliar horse.
- Riders are expected to be capable of performing Hunt Seat Rider Tests 1 - 6 (see Rule H3304).
- No individual points will be awarded with no advancement to postseason competition.

WESTERN CLASSES

CLASS AW1. Ranch Riding

- Open to all eligible adult rider members who have had at least one year of continuous professional instruction performing ranch patterns.

RULE A3000: DISCIPLINES, CLASSES AND TESTS: RIDER PLACEMENT AND ELIGIBILITY

- The pattern for this class must be chosen from the Ranch Riding patterns offered in the IEA Western Addendum.
- The class will be judged together on one card unless it is split in accordance with Rule A4400.2
- Riders are expected to be capable of performing Western Tests and Patterns 1 - 11 (see Rule W3304).

CLASS AW2. Horsemanship Walk/Jog/Lope

- Open to all eligible adult rider members who have had at least one year of continuous professional instruction and whose coach feels they are capable of loping on an unfamiliar horse.
- Riders are expected to be capable of performing Western Tests and Patterns 1 - 7 (see Rule W3304).

CLASS AW3x. Horsemanship Walk/Jog Warm-Up

- This is a non-pointed class.
- Open to all eligible adult rider members who have had at least six months of continuous professional instruction, are capable of loping on a familiar horse, and whose coach feels they are capable of jogging on an unfamiliar horse.
- Riders are expected to be capable of performing Western Tests and Patterns 1 - 6 (see Rule W3304).
- No individual points will be awarded with no advancement to postseason competition.

DRESSAGE CLASSES

CLASS AD1. Dressage Test

- Open to all eligible adult rider members who have had at least one year of continuous professional instruction performing dressage tests.
- Coaches shall choose one of two test options based on the rider's skills.
 - Option A: IEA Intermediate Dressage Test
 - Option B: IEA Novice Dressage Test
- All adult riders, regardless of test choice, are expected to be capable of performing Dressage Rider Tests for DSE classes 1 - 7 (see Rule D3304).
- All riders entered in Class A1 will be scored and judged as one class, regardless of test choice, unless it is split in accordance with Rule A4400.2.

CLASS AD2. Dressage Seat Equitation Walk/Trot/Canter

- Open to all eligible adult members who have had at least one year of continuous professional instruction and whose coach feels they are capable of cantering on an unfamiliar horse.
- Riders are expected to be capable of performing Dressage Rider Tests for DSE classes 1 - 6 (see Rule D3304).

RULE A3000: DISCIPLINES, CLASSES AND TESTS: RIDER PLACEMENT AND ELIGIBILITY

CLASS AD3x. Dressage Seat Equitation Walk/Trot Warm-Up

- This is a non-pointed class.
- Open to eligible adult rider members who have had at least six months of continuous professional instruction, are capable of cantering on a familiar horse, and whose coach feels they are capable of trotting on an unfamiliar horse.
- Riders are expected to be capable of performing Dressage Rider Tests for DSE classes 1 - 5 (see Rule D3304).
- No individual points will be awarded with no advancement to postseason competition.

RULE A4000: REGULAR SEASON COMPETITIONS - REQUIREMENTS, PROCEDURES AND RESPONSIBILITIES - Refer to G4000 regarding regular season competitions: requirements, procedures, and responsibilities

A4100 Competitions and Shows - Applicability of IEA Rules

A4111 Event hosts may choose to offer IEA Adult Rider Division classes concurrent with already scheduled youth shows, or offer an IEA Adult Rider Division ONLY show.

A4112 IEA Adult Rider Division classes offered during youth shows:

A4112.1 Can be offered as additional classes at any regular season IEA competition;

A4112.2 No additional insurance is required;

A4112.3 Show hosts must follow the hosting obligations of Rule G4105 for youth members, in addition to offering the IEA Adult Rider Division classes;

A4112.4 IEA Adult Rider Division classes will be considered in the total ride count allowed for the show host and for horse usage. Show hosts must be following Rule G4105 prior to offering IEA Adult Rider Division classes.

A4113 IEA Adult Rider Division classes offered as stand-alone shows:

A4113.1 IEA Adult Rider Division classes may be offered as a stand-alone competition following IEA Rules and Regulations, including this Adult Rider Division Addendum.

A4113.2 Show hosts for IEA Adult Rider Division shows must submit a show application and Equisure event insurance application to the IEA Membership Office through the AccessIEA platform.

A4113.3 Show hosts may apply to run two IEA Adult Rider Division stand-alone shows in one day.

A4113.3.1 Show hosts may use the same officials for two IEA Adult Rider Division stand-alone shows held on one day.

RULE A4000: REGULAR SEASON COMPETITIONS - REQUIREMENTS, PROCEDURES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

A4113.3.2 Requests for double shows (AM & PM shows) must be submitted in advance for approval by the adult rider division program director. Upon approval, two separate horse show applications must be submitted.

A4113.3.3 Entry limits for both shows combined must meet the ride count and horse usage allowed for a single day show for that discipline.

A4300 Minimum Entry Requirements for Regular Season Shows and Classes; Split Classes

A4303.1 Only individual points are counted in the Adult Rider Division. There is no minimum number of teams required to offer Adult Rider Division classes or to run a stand-alone adult competition.

A4304.5 There must be a minimum of three (3) riders in a class at a regular season show for that class to count for points.

A4304.5.1 If there are fewer than three (3) competitors in a class, the class can still be run for show awards, but it will not count for individual points and will not count toward the riders' maximum number of shows.

A4304.5.2 **Adult riders may not compete against youth rider members at IEA shows.** Adult classes may not combine with future or upper school classes to meet the minimum class requirement of three (3) riders.

A4305.6 Classes may only be split when there are twelve (12) or more competitors in a class. Class splits must be random and scored together regardless of fence height, pattern, or test (See class split rules G4305.1 & G4305.2).

A4400 Show Routine

A4403 Adult Members and Non-Members Schooling Horses at Regular Season and Post-Season Shows

A4403.4 IEA Adult Rider Division competitors may only serve as schooling riders on horses at or below their assigned ability level (IEA class level and/or non-IEA experience level) under the following guidelines:

1. Regular Season Shows: may serve as schooling riders on the same day as the Adult classes in which they intend to compete. This includes IEA Adult Division stand-alone shows.
2. Post Season Shows: may only serve as schooling riders if they have completely finished showing or are not entered to show.

A4411 Tack and Aids

A4411.11 Spurs are not permitted in the warm-up classes in the hunt seat and dressage disciplines: hunt seat Class AH3x and dressage Class AD3X.

RULE A5000: PRIZE LIST, ENTRY BLANK, ENTRY FEES AND PROGRAM

A5100 Prize List

IEA Adult Rider Division classes must be included in the time schedule for any regular competition that intends to offer the classes.

A5400 Show Entry and Ride Fees

A5402 \$10.00 from each IEA Adult Division rider's entry fee for each class will be collected by the show host and paid to IEA within seven (7) calendar days of the competition.

A5403 Entry fees for regular and post-season must align with the shows offering them according to G5403.

RULE A8000: POINTS, SCORING, AND POST SEASON QUALIFICATION

A8100 General Point Requirements and Scoring

A8100.1 IEA Adult Rider Division points are tracked by class number, regardless of sections or class splits that may be offered.

A8100.2 Participants in IEA Adult Rider Division classes will accrue points each season in Class A1 and Class A2. No points will be awarded in class 3X (Walk/Trot or Walk/Jog).

A8100.3 IEA Adult Division participants are limited to the same number of shows as youth members in their respective disciplines. (Hunt Seat & Dressage: 5 / Western: 6.) Refer to rule G4110.

A8100.4 Results and standings for IEA Adult Rider Division classes will be posted online.

A8200 Post-Season Qualification

No individuals may compete in an IEA regular season show during the fifteen (15) business days preceding their first post-season competition.

A8300 Region Finals (Hunt Seat and Western) and Zone Finals (Dressage)

A8302 The eight (8) riders with the highest number of points in Class A1 and the eight (8) riders with the highest number of points in Class A2 will be invited to compete at their respective region finals for hunt seat and western, and zone finals for dressage.

A8303 Riders will be ranked based on total points earned in each class separately during the regular season.

Ties will be broken in the following order:

1. First, by the total number of first (1st) place finishes, then by total number of second (2nd) place finishes, then by total number of third (3rd) place finishes, then by total number of fourth (4th) place finishes, then total number of fifth (5th) place finishes, then total number of sixth (6th) place finishes.

RULE A8000: POINTS, SCORING, AND POST SEASON QUALIFICATION

2. If a tie still exists then the rider with the highest point average will advance. Calculation:
Number of points divided by number of shows completed = point average
3. If a tie still exists, both riders will advance.

A8304 Adult classes at region and zone finals must be judged together regardless of fence height, pattern, or test.

A8500 National Finals - IEA Adult Rider Division National Championship

A8504 Invitations to compete in the IEA Adult Rider Division National Championship will be issued to the eight (8) riders in each discipline with the highest combined points from Class A1 and Class A2 earned during regular season competitions.

A8505 To be eligible for The IEA Adult Rider Division National Championship, the rider must have competed in Class A1 for each respective discipline at least two times during the regular competition season.

A8506 Ties for national finals qualification will be broken in the following order:

1. Total performance class points during the regular season (Class A1)
2. Total points earned at region/zone finals (both Class A1 and Class A2)
3. If a tie still exists then the invitation will go to the rider with the highest total of first (1st) place finishes, then by number of second (2nd) place finishes, then by total of third (3rd) place finishes, then by total number of fourth (4th) place finishes, then total number of fifth (5th) place finishes, then total number of sixth (6th) place finishes. All placings from regular season and any region or zone finals will be counted.
4. If a tie still exists, the advancing rider may be determined via random draw performed by the National Steward and Executive Director

A8507 If any of the top eight (8) riders are unable to attend, the next rider in line will be invited.

A8508 The IEA Adult Rider Division National Championship may be run in conjunction with any of the youth National Finals or as a stand-alone competition.

A8509 The classes may be run using the same mount for all phases or a separate draw may be used for each phase.

A8510 IEA Adult Rider Division National Championship: Class Specifications

A8510.1 IEA Adult Rider Division Hunt Seat National Championship

- General: Riders must declare fence height upon accepting their invitation:
 - Option A: 18" crossrails
 - Option B: 2' verticals
- Phase 1 Equitation over Fences: Riders will be judged over the same course of fences at the declared height. Two warm-up fences must be allowed.

RULE A8000: POINTS, SCORING, AND POST SEASON QUALIFICATION

- Phase 2 Equitation on the Flat: Riders will be judged on the flat at the Walk/Trot/Canter.
- Additional testing at the judges' discretion using Hunt Seat tests 1-10 may be asked in all phases (see Rule H3304).
- Final placings will be determined by the highest combined score from both phases. If riders are tied, the judge may call back the tied riders for additional testing.

A8510.2 IEA Adult Rider Division Western National Championship

- Phase 1 Ranch Riding: Riders will be judged and scored over a Ranch Pattern from the IEA Western Addendum.
- Phase 2 Horsemanship: Riders will be judged at the walk/jog/lope.
- General: Additional testing at the judges' discretion using Western tests 1-11 may be asked in all phases (see Rule W3304).
- Final placings will be determined by the highest combined score from both phases. If riders are tied, the judge may call back the tied riders for additional testing.

A8510.3 IEA Adult Rider Division Dressage National Championship

- General: Riders must declare test level upon accepting their invitation:
 - Option A: IEA Intermediate Dressage Test
 - Option B: IEA Novice Dressage Test
- Phase 1 Dressage Test: Riders will ride either IEA Novice or IEA Intermediate Rider Test. A minimum 2-minute warm-up must be offered.
- Phase 2 Dressage Seat Equitation: Riders will be judged at the walk/trot/canter.
- Additional testing at the judges' discretion using Dressage tests 1-7 may be asked in all phases (see Rule D3304).
- Final placings will be determined by the highest combined score from both phases. If riders are tied, the judge may call back the tied riders for additional testing.

RULE A9000: SHOW STANDARDS, ETHICS ENFORCEMENT, VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES

A9400 Judicial Procedure - Petitions, Protests, and Appeals

A9401 Formal petitions, protests, and appeals **must be written and submitted by a coach member, region president, zone administrator, show official, IEA staff, or IEA board member** and submitted through the membership office or national steward on the appropriate form.

A9402 Only coach members can submit petitions, protests, and appeals on behalf of their individual adult rider members.

A9403 Contributing members and adult rider members may not submit petitions, protests, or appeals.

RULE A9000: SHOW STANDARDS, ETHICS ENFORCEMENT, VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES

A9404 The National Steward will address or forward the petition, protest, or appeal through the appropriate channels.

A9405 Issues, petitions, and protests relating to Adult Program shows and participants will be reviewed by the National Steward, Executive Director, and Director of the IEA Adult Division. Appeals will be reviewed by the Executive Committee. (See G9402, G9403, and G9407.)