

KHJA Show Rules

All rules have been adapted from those listed in the Equine Canada Rule Book. Some rules may vary to allow for a schooling show atmosphere. Enforcement of rules will be handled by the judge and show managers.

Basic Show Rules

Rider Equipment

All competitors must wear ASTM or BSI approved head gear with proper safety harness. Head gear should be of a conservative colour and **MUST BE WORN AT ALL TIMES WHILE MOUNTED**, anywhere on the show grounds.

Any competitor that is asked to jog a horse “in hand” must have appropriate footwear.

Failure to comply with the above safety rules will result in 1 warning and then disqualification on the second offence.

All violations should be reported to the judge who will enact the penalty.

Dress

In the show arena, appropriate dress must be worn.

Appearance must be clean and neat with all riders in show jackets, breeches and riding boots. Half chaps of a conservative colour are permissible. Judge may deny entry to the ring for improper dress.

Show jacket is not required in jumper classes. Neatly fitted show shirts or polo shirts are permissible. Breeches or jodhpurs must be worn, along with proper riding boots or half chaps.

In the event of inclement weather, weather allowances will be determined by the show committee

Falls

A fall is defined as “a competitor becoming detached from their mount at any time”. Falls in the hunter ring do not include a fall of the horse which is defined at “the horse’s shoulders and haunches in contact with the ground at the same time”.

In the case of a rider’s fall, the competitor is eliminated from the current class and is not allowed to remount in the ring.

Ring Entry and Exit

All competitors must enter and exit the ring at a walk. Trotting or cantering through the in or out gate is strictly forbidden and will result in a penalty or elimination from the current competition (at the discretion of the judge).

Stallions

Stallions are permitted to enter competition but no junior may ride or handle a stallion at any point while on the show grounds. Failure to comply will result in immediate removal of the horse from the show grounds.

KHJA Divisions

Cross Rail:

Cross Rail Division will be ridden at walk and trot only. Riders must be able to ride independently and walk and trot.

Minimal canter strides between jumps is permitted in the over fences classes but is not required.

Riders are not to enter any other division when entering the cross rail division. Once a rider has entered in a different division, during any show in the KHJA series, they will no longer be permitted to enter the cross rail division. **In the event of a tie, the champion would be determined by whomever received the highest points in the two (2) equitation classes of this division.**

Green Horse Division – 1' 9":

The Green Horse division is open to all riders. This division will be shown at walk, trot and canter. Over fences classes consist of obstacles with a maximum height of 1'9 ft. This division is for horses in their 1st or 2nd year of showing that have not won a Division Champion or Reserve Champion award at any KHJA show in the previous season. Green horses may not enter any other Division. **In the event of a tie, the champion would be determined by whomever received the highest points in the two (2) equitation classes of this division.**

2' OPEN Novice Rider Division:

The Novice Rider division is open to all horses. There is no stipulation on how long rider has been showing, however riders may not enter any other higher division in the same show. The divisions will be shown at walk, trot and canter. Over fences classes will consist of obstacles with a maximum height of 2 ft.

All questions or concerns regarding division eligibility, should be addressed to the show committee. The judge will make the final decision. **In the event of a tie, the champion would be determined by whomever received the highest points in the two (2) equitation classes of this division.**

2' 3 ft Hunter Division:

Open to all horse/rider combinations. Flat classes will be shown at walk, trot and canter. Over fences classes will consist of obstacles with a maximum height of 2'3 ft. **In the event of a tie, the champion would be determined by whomever received the highest points in the two (2) equitation classes of this division.**

2'6 ft Hunter Division:

Open to all horse/rider combinations. Flat classes will be shown at walk/trot and canter. Over fences classes will consist of obstacles with a maximum height of 2'6ft. **In the event of a tie, the champion would be determined by whomever received the highest points in the two (2) equitation classes of this division.**

Jumper Division:

Open to all horse/rider combinations. Jumps according to heights and class type listed in the KJHA Show Series program. **In the event of a tie in Jumper Division we would flip a coin to determine the champion and reserve.**

Safe Practices

Any form of equine abuse is strictly prohibited at all KHJA series shows. Abuse is defined as “excessive use of spur, abuse of whip, brutal use of reins during halt or rein back (repeated tugs on the horse’s mouth).

Use of the whip is restricted to no more than 3 hits per incident, no over handed hits (ie. right hand to left flank) and the whip may not be used after a competitor is eliminated or after the last jump of a course has been completed and the competitor is still in the showing arena.

Disqualification is at the discretion of the show committee.

Hunter Classes Equipment

Standing Martingales and Draw Reins are permitted at any time in the “schooling areas”. Standing Martingales are permitted for use in over fences classes but draw reins are not permitted in competition.

Whips carried in the showing arena may not exceed 75 cm in length. Dressage whips (no longer than 110 cm) are permitted in the schooling areas.

Restrictive devices such as German Martingales, De Gogue, Chambon and Running Reins are permitted to school on the flat but may not be used while schooling over fences or at any point in competition.

Bridle: Acceptable bridles include double, Pelham, single (snaffle) or kimberwick. Bridle must be all leather and must fasten by studs or buckles not snaps.

Bits: Must be humane in nature. All forms of snaffle bits may be used, with or without cheeks.

Reins: Must be leather with the exception of rubber (which is allowed only at the discretion of the judge).

Gimmicks: Any gimmicks (eg. Nerve lines, tongue ties, gag bits, nose bands below the bit, nose nets) are illegal. Any “gimmick” required for medical reasons must be cleared by the judge prior to entry into the ring.

Standing and Running Martingales are permitted but may not be used in any Hunter Hack or Hunter Under Saddle classes. Breast plates are permitted.

Saddle Pads or Numnahs are permitted to be covered with sheep skin but must properly fitted and may not be a bright colour.

Girths must be made of a suitable material (leather, string, cloth etc) and must be in good repair.

Equine Bandages and Boots: no bandages or boots are allowed in any hunter class. Bandages and boots are permitted for schooling and jumper classes only. In the event of bad weather and questionable footing, **the judge may allow** tendon or ankle boots for competition but all boots must be removed during a soundness jog.

Jump Heights and Course Design

Obstacles will be set at the heights stated in the show program. At least 75% of the jumps in each course must be set at the maximum height and may not be set any lower than 3 inches below the stated maximum.

Jumps will simulate obstacles found in hunting fields (post and rail, stone wall, chicken coops, hedges etc). All jumps should be a suitable width to simulate obstacles in the field (ie. No skinny jumps in hunter classes). Jumps must be set so that the top element of the obstacle can fall.

Jumping Courses will be posted prior to the start of the class with distances of lines and combinations indicated on the course plan. Any combinations must be specified on the course plan.

Plastic cups and pins must be used.

Judging of Working Hunters

Horses must be serviceably sound of eye, wind and limb. Horses are judged on manners and way of going. Conformation will not be considered.

Horses competing in Hunter Over Fences classes must also be serviceably sound of eye, wind and limb. They will be judged on manners, way of going and jumping style.

Disobedience and Penalties in Hunter Division Over Fences Classes

A knock down has occurred any time the height of an obstacle is lowered by horse or rider.

Competitors are eliminated after the second cumulative refusal, run out or bolt on course and will immediately be eliminated in the event of a fall of the rider. They will also be eliminated if the horse leaves the ring or if an obstacle is jumped before it is reset.

Circling once prior to the start of the course and once after is permitted but any other circle on course is counted as a disobedience.

Equitation Classes

Tack:

Saddles of the English type in good repair

Bridles: Bridles and Reins must be made of leather and have a regular cavesson (snaffle, Pelham, double bridle or kimberwick).

Spurs (unrowelled) may be worn and whips not exceeding 75 cm may be used in the showing arena.

Martingales are not permitted in Equitation flat classes

Equine boots and conservative leg bandages may be worn in equitation classes.

Riders will be asked to show their horses at least once around the ring at walk and trot (posting and rising) and canter (w/t only in cross rail division) and questions relating to safety, horsemanship and equipment may be asked.

Hack Classes

Whips, Martingales, Boots/Bandages and flash or drop nose bands are not permitted in any hack class. Spurs are optional.

Jumper

Tack: Restrictive devices such as German Martingales, De Gogue, Chambon, Running Reins, may be used for schooling on the flat but not over fences or in competition.

Reins must be attached to a bit of directly to the bridle (ie. Hackamores are permitted)

Whips must be no longer than 75 cm when used in the showing arena and no more than 110 cm when in the schooling area.

Saddles must be of the English style and in good repair.

Course Design:

Courses will be posted prior to the start of the class and riders will be allowed to walk. Jump off courses must be posted in advance of the start of the first round.

Course designer must state a Time Allowed (based on a speed of 300 meters per second) on the course plan.

Start and finish lines must be clearly indicated and the time keeper must align themselves with the start and finish.

Upon entry to the ring, the competitor will be given 45 seconds from the sound of the bell to cross the start line. Any disobediences or falls that occur prior to crossing the start line will not be penalized.

All competitors must leave the ring immediately after completing their round. Failure to do so will result in elimination.

Definitions of Disobediences:

Refusal: defined as a halt in front of a jump where a step backward is taken or a crash through a jump (judge will determine if the horse has refused or knocked the jump down). In the event of a crash that is deemed as a refusal, the bell will be rung and the time stopped while the jump is rebuilt (if just a knock down, time will keep running and round will continue without stop). Competitor may move around the ring while the time is stopped but the time will begin once the jump has been fixed and the rider passes the place where the time was stopped.

Run Out: occurs when the horse avoids an obstacle or compulsory turning point which it must pass. A run out has occurred as soon as any part of the horse goes past the extended line of an obstacle to be jumped.

Resistance: occurs when a horse refuses to go forward, rears, halts or does more than two repeated half turns. Resistance is penalized the same as a refusal or run out.

Knock Down: occurs when any obstacle is hit by a horse or rider (while jumping that obstacle). Late rails that fall after the competitor has crossed the finish line but has not left the ring will be counted as a knock down.

TABLE A Jumping Classes
(Penalized by faults added to score)

First Disobedience	4 Faults
Knock Down	4 Faults
Foot in Water or on the water line	4 Faults
Fall	ELIMINATION
Second Disobedience	ELIMINATION
Exceeding the Time Allowed	1 fault per 4 seconds over the time allowed
Exceeding the Time Limit (twice the time allowed)	ELIMINATION

TABLE C Jumping Classes
(penalized by adding seconds to the running time)

First Disobedience	None
Knock Down	4 Faults
First Disobedience with a knock down	6 seconds
Second Disobedience	ELIMINATION
Exceeding the Time Limit	ELIMINATION

(while there is not time allowed in Table C classes, the time limit will be
3 minutes for courses more than 600 m
2 minutes for courses less than 600 m)

** In all jumper classes, if a competitor has been eliminated, they may jump one courtesy jump before leaving the ring (except if the cause of elimination is a fall) **

Jump Offs will be held in the event that two or more riders are tied for first place after the initial jumping round.