

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT – IMMEDIATE YEAR END AWARDS RULE CHANGE – EXPANDING ELIGIBILITY

In July 2026, the CHJA Board of Directors approved an extraordinary rule change to the 2026 CHJA Rule Book regarding eligibility for year end awards. This will take effect immediately, so it will apply to year end awards earned during the 2026 show year and awarded at the banquet in February 2027.

- The rule as changed and how it will appear in the 2027 Rule Book is shown below. This will be Rule 3, Parts 1 & 3. (Part 2 is not changing because it is charts for points given for placings and multipliers for numbers of exhibitors.)
- For reference, the current rule is on pages 35 and 36 in the 2026 CHJA Rule Book. Please refer to that to see the specific changes.

Why is this change being made?

We recognize that the horse show world is changing and members have many opportunities to choose from. We want to encourage participation in CHJA recognized shows and fully recognize the achievements of our members at all experience levels.

Here's the summary of the changes:

Overall, our goal was to modify or remove requirements that may be discouraging members who try but can't fulfill the current minimum points/show attendance through no fault of their own. Specifically, we:

- Removed the requirement that a CHJA member has to attend a minimum number of CHJA shows to qualify for a year end award.
- Removed the requirement that a division must be offered at a minimum of CHJA recognized shows during the show year.
- Removed the requirement that a member must earn a minimum number of points to qualify for a year end award in a division. Instead, wherever participation makes it possible, awards will be offered to ten places. Ties will receive the same ribbon placement. In addition, the CHJA Awards Committee reserves the right to award up to 12 places if, in their judgment, it is warranted.
- Removed the Five Levels of Awards for Year End Champions which were based on points accumulated. Instead, every divisional Champion will receive the same award along with the championship ribbon. (Any existing sponsored trophies for the divisions will remain as is.) Similarly, all divisional Reserve Champions will receive the same award along with their ribbon. In both cases, the Awards Committee will select the specific award.
- Lastly, for clarity, we separated performance and equitation eligibility sections, so Part 1 now deals only with performance divisions and Part 3 only with equitation (they are currently combined in Part 1 of the Rule, and as a result the eq divisions may not be clear). We also added Green and Regular Pony Hunters as divisions which would be combined in one year end award.

APPROVED EXTRAORDINARY RULE CHANGE FOR YEAR END AWARD ELIGIBILITY:

RULE 3. POINT TABULATIONS FOR YEAR END AWARDS

Part 1. Eligibility for Performance Divisions

- A. Unless otherwise noted in the C.H.J.A. INC. Rulebook, all CHJA Recognized Hunter/Jumper Divisions are eligible for year end high score awards. However, in order for a horse to be eligible for a year end award, the following requirements must be met:
1. In order to accumulate points, horses must be registered with the CHJA and their owners or lessors must be members in good standing.
 2. The division(s) in which a horse is accruing points toward a year end award must be held at CHJA Recognized shows during the show year (December 1 – November 30) and the division itself must be listed in the show's prize list as CHJA recognized, with at least three eligible entries competing in each class at each show; but,
 - a. When tabulating points to be awarded, each class will stand on its own with a minimum of three entries needed to compete and complete (show and place) the class in order for the member to receive points for that particular class.
 3. Based on points accrued, the top ten horses in a division are eligible to receive a Year End Award Ribbon in that division. Any point ties will remain tied with each competitor receiving the same place ribbon. At their discretion, the CHJA Awards Committee may decide to award up to 12 places in a division.
 4. After confirmation of eligibility and accrued points, all division Champions will be awarded the same championship award (e.g., a halter or coolerette) along with their championship ribbon. Each year, the CHJA Awards Committee will determine the specific championship award.
 5. After confirmation of eligibility and accrued points, all division Reserve Champions will be awarded the same reserve championship award along with their reserve championship ribbon. Each year, the CHJA Awards Committee will determine the specific reserve championship award.
 6. The CHJA will recognize points accrued in performance Opportunity classes as long as they are run according to CHJA requirements and specifications.
 7. There will be one combined year end award for the following divisions:
 - Adult Amateur and Junior Jumpers (heights from 1.0m-1.15m)
 - Amateur Owner and Junior Hunters (all ages, fence heights, horse heights)
 - Low Children's Hunter Horse and Low Adult Hunters
 - Green and Regular Pony Hunters (all divisions, all S/M/L heights)

Part 2. Performance Divisions-Hunters and Jumpers NO CHANGES

Part 3. Eligibility for Equitation Divisions

- A. Equitation year end awards will be made in the following divisions: Short Stirrup, Walk Trot, Children's, Pre Children's, Junior Equitation, Modified Adult, Adult Amateur Equitation. However, in order for a rider to be eligible for a year end award, the following minimum requirements/levels of participation must be met:
1. In order to accumulate points, riders must be members of the CHJA and must be in good standing.
 2. The division(s) in which a rider is accruing points toward a year end award must be held at CHJA Recognized shows during the show year (December 1 – November 30) and the division itself must be listed in the show's prize list as CHJA recognized, with at least three eligible entries competing in each class at each show; but,
 - a. When tabulating points, each class will stand on its own with a minimum of three entries needed to compete and complete (show and place) the class in order to receive points for that particular class.
 3. Based on points accrued, the top ten riders in a division are eligible to receive a Year End Award Ribbon in that division. Any point ties will remain tied with each competitor receiving the same place ribbon. At their discretion, the CHJA Awards Committee may decide to award up to 12 places in a division.
 4. After confirmation of eligibility and accrued points, all division Champions will be awarded the same championship award (e.g., a halter or coolerette) along with their championship ribbon. Each year, the CHJA Awards Committee will determine the specific championship award.
 5. After confirmation of eligibility and accrued points, all division Reserve Champions will be awarded the same reserve championship award along with their reserve championship ribbon. Each year, the CHJA Awards Committee will determine the specific reserve championship award.
 6. The CHJA will recognize Opportunity classes as long as they are run according to CHJA requirements and specifications