

2009 LAHJA Horsemastership Competition Information

The goal of the LAHJA Horsemastership Competition is to encourage junior riders to develop comprehensive knowledge and understanding of hunter/jumper sport, their equine partners, and an awareness of equestrian history. Our aim is to encourage and reward junior riders who seek to become horsemen, with an ongoing desire to continue learning and improving. Contestants must be current junior members of the LAHJA.

The competition will consist of three phases designed to test horsemanship knowledge. All junior members of LAHJA are encouraged to participate.

Part 1: Riding Phase

Riders will submit a video/DVD jumping round performed during the current show year that they feel best demonstrates their riding ability. The round may be in a jumper class, a hunter class, or an equitation class at any level or height.

Current standards for the equitation division will apply.

The videographer and the rider's trainer must sign a declaration stating where and when the round was performed, as well as the official class name and include the class specifications from the horse show. In addition, the rider must submit a statement listing the divisions and/or sections he or she regularly competes in.

Please note, professional quality DVD/Video is recommended as it allows the judges to evaluate the riders to their optimum. ***If there are multiple rounds on a submission, please clearly indicate which round to use. Otherwise the first round on the DVD will be the judged round.***

The DVD and the DVD information sheet must be received by the LAHJA by November 13, 2009. Please send to:

Los Angeles Hunter Jumper Association
Horsemastership Competition
480 W. Riverside Drive, Suite 1
Burbank, CA 91506

Part 2: Hands-on Phase

October 17, 2009

This phase of competition will test each contestant's ability to perform hands-on skills involving horse care, parts of the horse, and equipment.

Times for the hands-on phase will be assigned and the schedule will be e-mailed to each participant by Monday October 12th, additionally the schedule will be posted on the LAHJA website www.lahja.org. Participants should feel free to trade time slots amongst themselves, but all changes must be communicated to the LAHJA office by Friday October 16th at or before 4:00pm. Requests for specific times may be made to the LAHJA office before October 9th, while specific time slots cannot be guaranteed, every attempt will be made to accommodate the participants schedules.

All participants will report to the horse show office of the Gold Coast 7 horse show (Los Angeles Equestrian Center) on October 17th, a notice will be posted in the horse show office with information on location for the hands-on phase (stalls within the horse show facility) and the written exam (LAHJA office at the Los Angeles Equestrian Center).

A horse will be provided for the exam. Each exam should not last longer than 20 minutes. Please arrive on time and in appropriate attire.

Part 3: Written Exam

October 17th, 2009 – approximately 6:30pm

Contestants will take a written exam at the Los Angeles Equestrian Center during the Gold Coast 7 horse show. The material will cover a broad spectrum of knowledge and experience expected of an accomplished junior equestrian. Material will be based on that found in the U.S. Pony Club "B" Manual. The written exam will be held in the LAHJA office at the Los Angeles Equestrian Center.

Once the first test has been turned in, latecomers will not be admitted

Scoring:

The Written and Hands-on phases will be worth a maximum of 100 points each. The Riding phase will be worth a maximum of 80 points. A panel of three judges will score the Riding Phase. At least three judges will score the Hands-on Phase. The panel will consist of individuals with no conflicted relationship with any of the contestants (relative, trainer, etc.). At least two of the panelists (for the Riding Phase) shall be USEF "R" Judges in Hunters, Hunt Seat Equitation, or Jumpers. At least one of the panelists shall be an active professional horseman. A panelist may fill more than one of these requirements.

Any ties that result after the three phases, will be broken by the score from the Hands-on Phase.

Study Materials:

The Written Exam and the Hands-on Phase will be based on material in the U.S. Pony Club "B" Manual. However, contestants are encouraged to utilize a broad range of sources and materials in order to develop comprehensive knowledge. In addition, the LAHJA website (www.lahja.org) will provide study materials.

Organized Study Sessions:

Additionally the LAHJA will be offering two half day Workshops **July 21 and 22 and August 18 and 19, 2009**. During these Workshops all of the material included on both the Written Exam and the Hands-On Phase will be covered. There will be no charge for the Workshops for LAHJA members, though participation will be limited to 25 each day, make sure to sign up early so you don't miss out on this great learning opportunity. To sign up for the Workshops contact **the LAHJA office at 818.840.9337 or info@LAHJA.org**.

Awards:

The results of the competition shall be kept secret until presented at the annual awards banquet on December 13th, 2009. All contestants are strongly encouraged to attend the awards banquet. The \$5,000 scholarship will be awarded as follows: 1st - \$2,500, 2nd - \$1,500, and 3rd - \$1,000. In addition, Outstanding Achievement Awards will be given to the High Score for each of the three phases as well as to the Highest Scored 11 & Under rider.

LAHJA will present a perpetual trophy to the overall winner. Certificates and/or special gifts, and participation ribbons will be given to all competitors.

LAHJA will notify the three contestants who are receiving one of the three overall awards (first, second, and third), however they will not be told what their exact placing is. The overall winner will be expected to make a short acceptance speech.

The scholarship funds will be kept in a separate LAHJA account and will be distributed to the recipient upon proof of enrollment at an accredited college or university. If the recipient does not enroll in an accredited school by the age of 21, the funds will return to LAHJA to be used for future scholarships.

Fees:

The fee for this competition is \$50.00. Please send in a check with the registration form and liability waiver to:

Los Angeles Hunter Jumper Association
Horsemastership Competition
480 W. Riverside Drive, Suite 1
Burbank, CA 91505

The deadline for registration is September 25, 2009. All registrations must be received at the LAHJA Office with payment in full by this date. *Must be postmarked by September 25th.

Disclaimer:

The results of this competition will be final and may not be protested or otherwise challenged. The LAHJA Board of Directors and/or its designee(s) will have the final say over this competition.

Important Dates

Jul 21-22	Horsemastership Workshop with Sandrine Seiffert
Aug 18-19	Horsemastership Workshop with Sandrine Seiffert
September 27	Registration & Fee Due
October 12	Schedule for Hands-on and Written Phases posted on the LAHJA website
October 17	Written & Hands-on Phases
October 24	Hands-on Phase Clinic and Q&A
November 13	Video/ DVD Due
December 13	LAHJA awards banquet – attendance is required

If you have any questions, please contact info@lahja.org or Charlotte Skinner at 818.840.9337.