



2024 LAHJA Horsemastership Competition Information

The goal of the LAHJA Horsemastership Competition is to encourage young riders to develop comprehensive knowledge and understanding of hunter/jumper sport, their equine partners, and general horsemanship. As such, we award \$5,000 worth of college scholarships to encourage and reward young riders who seek to develop horsemanship knowledge, with an ongoing desire to continue learning and improving. Participants must be 21 or under and current members of the LAHJA. The competition will consist of three phases designed to test horsemanship knowledge. All eligible members of LAHJA are encouraged to participate.

Two levels of competition

We offer two levels of competition. Level 1 is designed to introduce competitors to the program with an emphasis on a more introductory level and acquiring the skills required for Level 2. Scholarships will not be awarded to level 1 participants but there will be awards to the top three as well as recognition at the annual year end celebration. Level 2 competitors will be expected to have more in depth knowledge and the top three overall will receive college scholarships, with first receive \$2,500, second will receive \$1,500, and third will receive \$1,000.

Part 1: Riding Phase

We will offer three different options for the Riding Phase:

1. Submit a video from a horse show round from the 2024 show season. Videos that were submitted for the 2023 Horsemastership Competition may not be used again for 2024.
2. Submit a video from a round performed at home (not a horse show round). To use option 2, the specific requirements listed here must be followed:
 - An adult, other than the trainer (or any staff of the trainer) or parent must certify that the rider completed the course properly.
 - Show attire for riders and correct show tack and equipment for the horse.
 - The course may not be ridden/practiced the day the video is taken.
 - The course must consist of at least eight fences and the height must be listed when submitted.
 - LAHJA encourages groups of riders at the same barn (or nearby) to create a "Horsemastership Riding Phase" day for multiple riders. All participating riders may submit video using the same course.

Current standards for the equitation division will apply.

The videographer and the rider must sign a declaration stating where and when the round was performed. If using option 1 the official class name and class specifications from the horse show must also be submitted. In addition, the rider must submit a statement listing the divisions and/or sections he or she regularly competes in. **This information should also be included in the body of the email when submitting the video.**

Instructions for Video Submission

The submission must be submitted no later than November 15, 2024.

The video submission must be posted on You Tube on or before November 15, 2024. Once the video has been posted participants **must** send a link to the posted video to info@lahja.org. The subject line of the email containing the link should read: **2024 LAHJA Horsemastership.**

Part 2: Hands-on Phase

Date TBD

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 preceding the test date. 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 no later than Friday preceding the test date. Requests for specific times may be made to the LAHJA office before October 1. While specific time slots cannot be guaranteed, every attempt will be made to accommodate the participants' schedules. A horse will be provided for the exam. Each exam should not last longer than 30 minutes. Please arrive on time and in appropriate attire.

Part 3: Written Exam

Deadline for completing the written portion is September 1, 2024.

We utilize the USHJA's Horsemanship Quiz Challenge (HQC) as the Written Test for our competition. All participants will take the Level 1 test, after passing Level 1 with a score of 80 or better the competitors who are participating in the Level 2 of the LAHJA Horsemastership program will take the Level 2 test. The Level 2 score will be used for the LAHJA Horsemastership Scholarship Program. Level 1 competitors in the LAHJA Horsemastership competition only have to take the USHJA Level 1 HQC for their section of the competition. For more information on the HQC and to take the Written Test, click on the link: https://www.ushja.org/programs/youth/hqc_home.aspx

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 percent. At least two 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 judges (for the Riding phase) shall be USEF "R" Judges in Hunters, Hunter 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 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 USHJA Horsemanship Quiz Challenge Study Guide. However, contestants are encouraged to utilize a broad range of sources and materials in order to develop comprehensive knowledge. Click on the link below:

https://www.ushja.org/application/files/4216/1159/6128/HQC_Study_Guide_2020_4_single_pages.pdf

Organized Study Sessions:

Additionally, LAHJA will be offering a webinar during July or August 2024. The date will be announced and posted on the LAHJA website. The webinar will provide a comprehensive overview and focus on the Hands-On phase. Participants will be able to ask questions during the webinar. There is no charge for the webinar and it will be available online after the conclusion of the webinar. Make sure to sign up early so you don't miss out on this great learning opportunity. To sign up for the webinar contact **the LAHJA office at 818.840.9337** or info@LAHJA.org

Awards:

The results of the competition shall be kept secret until presented. The \$5,000 scholarship will be awarded to the participants in the Level 2 program 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 top three from the Level 1 program.

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

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

Los Angeles Hunter Jumper Association
Horsemastership Competition
11127 Orcas Ave.

Lake View Terrace, CA 91342

The deadline for registration is August 31, 2024. All registrations must be received at the LAHJA Office with payment in full by this date.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact info@lahja.org or Danielle Skaar at 818.840.9337.