

## GHJA Covid-19 Protocols

The GHJA has decided to follow the guidance of the USEF and implement the [USEF Covid-19 action plan](#) as our official rules and regulations for hosting a GHJA show. The action plan is a living document that is updated every Tuesday as the situation develops. The GHJA has taken this course of action in order to help protect show organizers liability and to provide consistent guidelines within our sport. We ask that you review all aspects of the action plan and utilize it as a tool to help create the safest show experience possible as we resume licensed competitions. GHJA show stewards will be evaluating the adherence to the rules and failure to comply can result in a removal of show sanctioning for future events.

A few key notes from the action plan:

Organizers must

- Ensure that all participants, including licensed officials and volunteers, provide emergency contact information and execute an updated Waiver and Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Indemnity Agreement required by USEF (and GHJA), as a condition of participation. Please ensure use of the updated form for competitions starting on May 6, 2020, or after.
  - The new waiver forms are attached to the bottom of this document.
- Require a facemask or face covering for all staff, officials, volunteers, service providers and participants in any setting where there is a possibility of being within six feet of any other individual, and when not mounted on a horse. Competition Organizers must provide facemasks or face coverings to competition staff, volunteers and officials. You can find recommendations for proper use of face masks and face coverings via the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention website. \*\*A participant cannot be disqualified or penalized for wearing a facemask or face covering while competing.
- Post signage that displays all applicable federal, state and local regulations, requirements and orders as well as WHO recommendations and CDC guidelines as they relate to mass gatherings and sporting events in effect at the competition.
- Enforce social distancing requirements throughout the competition grounds at all times.

Please review and familiarize yourself with the action plan and its policies. Understand that our membership travels from show organizer to show organizer and the only way we can best protect our membership is to hold all competitions to the same standard. Thank you for working with us as we continue working towards reopening shows.

The GHJA is here as a resource to help you as you restart competitions. Please feel free to reach out with any questions you have regarding the new policies. We look forward to working with you as we safely resume competition.

Thank you,

GHJA Show Standards

## WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT

For and in consideration of Georgia Hunter Jumper Association (“GHJA”)/(Horse Show Ventures) allowing me, the undersigned, to participate in any capacity (including as a rider, driver, handler, vaulter, longeur, lessee, owner, agent, coach, official, trainer or volunteer) in a GHJA sanctioned, licensed or approved event or activity, including but not limited to equestrian clinics, practices, shows, competitions and related or incidental activities and Horse Show Ventures, I, for myself, and on behalf of my spouse, children, heirs and next of kin, and any legal and personal representatives, executors, administrators, successors,, and assigns, hereby agree to and make the following contractual representations pursuant to this Agreement (the “Agreement”):

A. RULES AND REGULATIONS: I hereby agree to be bound and abide by the rules, regulations, and policies of GHJA as published in the GHJA Rule Book and on the website at [www.ghja.org](http://www.ghja.org), as amended from time to time.

B. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RISK: I knowingly, willingly, and voluntarily acknowledge the inherent risks associated with the sport of equestrian and know that horseback riding and related equestrian activities are inherently dangerous, and that participation in any GHJA Event involves risks and dangers including, without limitation, the potential for serious bodily injury (including broken bones, head or neck injuries), sickness and disease (including communicable diseases), trauma, pain & suffering, permanent disability, paralysis and death; loss of or damage to personal property (including my mount & equipment) arising out of the unpredictable behavior of horses; exposure to extreme conditions and circumstances; accidents involving other participants, event staff, volunteers or spectators; contact or collision with other participants and horses, natural or manmade objects; adverse weather conditions; facilities issues and premises conditions; failure of protective equipment (including helmets); inadequate safety measures; participants of varying skill levels; situations beyond the immediate control of the GHJA Sanctioned Event organizers and competition management; and other undefined, not readily foreseeable and presently unknown risks and dangers (“Risks”).

EQUINE ACTIVITY LIABILITY ACT WARNING: CAUTION: HORSEBACK RIDING AND EQUINE ACTIVITIES CAN BE DANGEROUS. RIDE AT YOUR OWN RISK.

WARNING: UNDER GEORGIA LAW, AN EQUINE ACTIVITY SPONSOR OR EQUINE PROFESSIONAL IS NOT LIABLE FOR AN INJURY TO OR THE DEATH OF A PARTICIPANT IN EQUINE ACTIVITIES RESULTING FROM THE INHERENT RISKS OF EQUINE ACTIVITIES, PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 12 OF TITLE 4 OF THE OFFICIAL CODE OF GEORGIA ANNOTATED.

C. ASSUMPTION OF RISK: I understand that the aforementioned Risks may be caused in whole or in part or result directly or indirectly from the negligence of my own actions or inactions, the actions or inactions of others participating in the GHJA Events, or the negligent acts or omissions of the Released Parties defined below, and I hereby voluntarily and knowingly assume all such Risks and responsibility for any damages, liabilities, losses, or expenses that I incur as a result of my participation in any GHJA and Horse Show Ventures Events. I also agree to be responsible for any injury or damage caused by me, my horse, my employees or contractors under my direction and control at any GHJA and Horse Show Ventures Event.

D. WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY, HOLD HARMLESS AND INDEMNITY: In conjunction with my participation in any GHJA and Horse Show Ventures Event, I hereby release, waive and

covenant not to sue, and further agree to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the following parties: USEF, USEF Recognized Affiliate Associations, Georgia Hunter Jumper Association, Horse Show Ventures , members, Event participants (including athletes/riders, coaches, trainers, judges/officials, and other personnel), the Event owner, licensee, and competition managers; the promoters, sponsors, or advertisers of any GHJA, Horse Show Ventures Event; any charity or other beneficiary which may benefit from the GHJA, Horse Show Ventures Event; the owners, managers, or lessors of any facilities or premises where a GHJA(Horse Show Ventures ) Event may be held; and all directors, officers, employees, agents, contractors, and volunteers of any of the aforementioned parties (Individually and Collectively, the “Released Parties” or “Event Organizers”), with respect to any liability, claim(s), demand(s), cause(s) of action, damage(s), loss, or expense (including court costs and reasonable attorney fees) of any kind or nature (“Liability”) which may arise out of, result from, or relate in any way to my participation in the GHJA, Horse Show Ventures Events, including claims for Liability caused in whole or in part by the negligent acts or omissions of the Released Parties.

E. COMPLETE AGREEMENT AND SEVERABILITY CLAUSE: This Agreement represents the complete understanding between the parties regarding these issues and no oral representations, statements or inducements have been made apart from this Agreement. If any provision of this Agreement is held to be unlawful, void, or for any reason unenforceable, then that provision shall be deemed severable from this Agreement and shall not affect the validity and enforceability of any remaining provisions.

I HAVE CAREFULLY READ THIS DOCUMENT IN ITS ENTIRETY, UNDERSTAND ALL OF ITS TERMS AND CONDITIONS, AND KNOW IT CONTAINS AN ASSUMPTION OF RISK, RELEASE AND WAIVER FROM LIABILITY, AS WELL AS A HOLD HARMLESS AND INDEMNIFICATION OBLIGATIONS.

By signing below, I (as the participant or as the Parent/Legal Guardian of the minor identified below) hereby accept and agree to the terms and conditions of this Agreement in connection with my (or the minor’s) participation in any GHJA, Horse Show Ventures Event. If, despite this Agreement, I, or anyone on my behalf or the minor’s behalf, makes a claim for Liability against any of the Released Parties, I will indemnify, defend and hold harmless each of the Released Parties from any such Liabilities as the result of such claim.

The parties agree that this agreement may be electronically signed. The parties agree that the electronic signatures appearing on this agreement are the same as handwritten signatures for the purposes of validity, enforceability, and admissibility.

**PARTICIPANT:**

RIDER/ HANDLER/OFFICIAL/STAFF/VOLUNTEER (mandatory)	OWNER/AGENT (mandatory)
Signature: _____	Signature: _____
Print Name: _____	Print Name: _____
TRAINER (mandatory)	COACH (if applicable)
Signature: _____	Signature: _____
Print Name: _____	Print Name: _____
Parent/Guardian Signature: (Required if Rider/Driver/Handler/Vaulter/Longeur is a minor)	
_____ Print Parent/Guardian Name: _____	
Emergency Contact Phone No. _____	

**ENTRY AGREEMENT**

By entering a GHJA-licensed Competition and signing this entry blank as the Owner, Lessee, Trainer, Manager, Agent, Coach, Driver, Rider, Handler, Vaulteur or Longeur and on behalf of myself and my principals, representatives, employees and agents, I agree that I am subject to the Bylaws and Rules of The United States Equestrian Federation, Inc. (the "Federation") and the local rules of Georgia Hunter Jumper Association and Horse Show Ventures. I agree to be bound by the Bylaws and Rules of GHJA and of the competition. I will accept as final the decision of the Hearing Committee on any question arising under the Rules, and agree to release and hold harmless the competition, the GHJA and

Horse Show Ventures, their officials, directors and employees for any action taken under the Rules. I represent that I am eligible to enter and/or participate under the Rules, and every horse I am entering is eligible as entered. I also agree that as a condition of and in consideration of acceptance of entry, GHJA and/or Horse Show Ventures may use or assign photographs, videos, audios, cable - casts, broadcasts, internet, film, new media or other likenesses of me and my horse taken during the course of the competition for the promotion, coverage or benefit of the competition, sport, or GHJA and/or Horse Show Ventures Those likenesses shall not be used to advertise a product and they may not be used in such a way as to jeopardize amateur status. I hereby expressly and irrevocably waive and release any rights in connection with such use, including any claim to compensation, invasion of privacy, right of publicity, or to misappropriation .

BY SIGNING BELOW, I AGREE to be bound by all applicable GHJA/Horse Show Ventures Rules and all terms and provisions of this entry blank and all terms and provisions of this Prize List. If I am signing and submitting this Agreement electronically, I acknowledge that my electronic signature shall have the same validity, force and effect as if I affixed my signature by my own hand.

WARNING: UNDER GEORGIA LAW, AN EQUINE ACTIVITY SPONSOR OR EQUINE PROFESSIONAL IS NOT LIABLE FOR AN INJURY TO OR THE DEATH OF A PARTICIPANT IN EQUINE ACTIVITIES RESULTING FROM THE INHERENT RISKS OF EQUINE ACTIVITIES, PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 12 OF TITLE 4 OF THE OFFICIAL CODE OF GEORGIA ANNOTATED.

RIDER/DRIVER/HANDLER/VAULTER/LONGEUR (mandatory) OWNER/AGENT (mandatory)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

TRAINER (mandatory) COACH (if applicable)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: (Required if Rider/Driver/Handler/Vaulteur/Longeur is a minor)

\_\_\_\_\_ Print Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_