



SNHSA participates in the USHJA National Championships as a USHJA Affiliate - Affiliate riders may not cross-enter into any rated sections, even on another horse.

IMPORTANT - USHJA rules reminder:

- **All Competitors** (rider, trainer/coach, owner/leasee) at the Affiliate National Championships **MUST be USHJA and USEF Active Competing members** – be sure your membership is up to date before entering!
- Competitors over 18 years of age and all individuals signing the entry form as trainer or coach **MUST be current on SafeSport training**
- **All Horses competing at the Affiliate National Championships MUST be registered with USHJA and USEF and be microchipped** – be sure these are up to date before arriving!

The SNHSA Affiliate organization's nomination process:

- **The SNHSA deadline to submit the 2026 Declaration of Intent form and \$50 payment is NOON MAY 30.**
- A Late Declaration will be accepted in hand by July 26 with a \$100 fee and requires recent videos of horse & rider competing.
- In July, the SNHSA BoD will meet to determine the list of Nominees, which is due to USHJA by Aug. 1.
- When nominees have been decided, Susan Howe will notify USHJA of the top three nominees in each section/division, and will then email all of the nominees, listing the 1st-3rd placings with instructions for the next steps.
- **After the USHJA nominee submission deadline, USHJA will determine the accepted nominees** (to reach the limit of 30 per section). They will email acceptance letters and post the accepted lists online.
- *The process will be done in a couple of "waves."* Be on the lookout for emails from Susan as she will be forwarding the notification emails as she receives them. USHJA will notify SNHSA on each of the next steps that riders need to take for entry into their section/divisions.
- Once accepted, you will be instructed to proceed to the Horse Show Entry portal to make your entries, pay the \$100 registration fee (this will be used to pay the final show bill) and reserve your stalls – an entry deposit and full stall payment (\$650 based on 2025 pricing) will be due at this time.
- All Trailers will be required to schedule a move-in time – an online portal will open closer to the event.
- Warm-ups: Due to the tight schedule, there are no "warm-up" classes. Those wishing to get into the competition rings must enter the open classes on Monday and Tuesday. Trainers may compete on Affiliate horses in open classes.
- Schooling: This is a very large horse show. The Schooling ring is very busy. Be prepared for crowded traffic and use your best schooling ring etiquette. Practice at home!
- When in doubt – opt for a lower height. If you normally compete at 2'3", opt to be nominated for the 2' section. The indoor format and heavy horse traffic can be intimidating for even the most seasoned horses.
- *If you submit a Declaration of Intent form and learn that you cannot attend Nationals, it is imperative that you notify us as soon as you know, so that we can adjust the nominees list. (The Declaration of Intent payment is non-refundable.)*
- Hotel group codes will be provided to accepted nominees who have completed their entries and stabling. Don't panic – there will be enough rooms for all at the group discounted rate!

What to expect at Nationals

- The Prize List and schedule and all venue information will be found online here closer to the date:

[National Championship :: USHJA](#)

[What To Expect & Schedule :: USHJA](#)

<https://www.ushja.org/competition/national-championship>

- There are some special events, as well as additional educational and VIP opportunities. Look for this information upon arrival or on the USHJA Nationals website. For full details please visit the links provided above.
- You won't want to miss getting your goodie bag from the USHJA booth/table upstairs in the vendor area. It is full of goodies!
- Since the show is held at the South Point Arena & Equestrian Center in Las Vegas, stalls, arenas, hotel rooms, and the resort/casino are all under the same roof. No RV, camping, dogs (service animals are allowed) or golf carts on grounds. Be prepared to walk...a lot.
- If you are sitting in the arena stands, be prepared for the cold. Blankets will be your friend! Dress warm!
- Schooling opportunities are limited and will vary based on the show schedule. Take the time to enter (or have your trainer enter) the arenas on Monday. Many horses do not like the indoor venue. Be prepared for a few spooks and/or looky-loos.
- The USHJA Nationals is an expensive endeavor. In 2025, stalls were \$650 each, division fees are \$350-400 each division, schooling fees are \$75 each (expect at least 2 classes), and other fees include video, security, association, credit card, and office fees. There is also a trainer's split fee with the total show bill averaging \$2200. Lodging is \$150-250/night. Be prepared to also cover typical show fees such as hauling, trainer, groom, braider, food and, of course, entertainment! If Nationals is on your bucket list, start saving NOW. It's worth it! Be prepared to have an epic experience!