



**Youth Show Jumping Foundation**  
**de Nemethy Challenge Level 1**

**“An American Jumping Style of Riding Competition”**

The Youth Show Jumping Foundation (YSJF) seeks to identify, highlight, and reward Junior athletes ages 17 and Under as well as Amateurs and emerging Professional athletes ages 18-25 who have interest and desire to expand their equine knowledge as they become serious show jumping athletes at the local, regional, national, and international level.

The YSJF's de Nemethy Challenge invites athletes competing at 0.85 and 0.95 meters to compete in an American Jumping Style of Riding competition. Juniors will be judged at each height as one class. Amateurs and Professionals will be judged together in a separate class from the Juniors at each height.

**Phase I** is the De Nemethy Prep (flatwork and gymnastics), **Phase II** is a show jumping course conducted under Table II, and **Phase III** is a Ride-Off consisting of the top 2 Junior riders from each height and the top 2 Amateur/Professional riders from each height. The Ride-Off, is a modified show jumping course conducted under Table IV.I, Optimum Time.

**Eligibility to Compete:**

- The YSJF de Nemethy Challenge is open to Junior athletes ages 17 and Under as well as Amateurs and emerging Professional athletes ages 18-25 based on the USEF's age definition.
- Athlete/horse combinations may not have competed in an FEI 2\*, 3\*, 4\*, or 5\* competition or USEF recognized competition above 1.10m within the last year.
- There is no qualifying required to participate in the Challenge.
- YSJF waivers must be signed and submitted before participation.
- Additional information can be found on the **Youth Show Jumping Foundation** website at [www.YouthShowJumpingFoundation.org](http://www.YouthShowJumpingFoundation.org)
- **Refer to the competition's prize list for additional requirements to enter and compete.**

**Competition Format:**

- The competition will be held in one day.
- Height sections:
  - 0.85m
  - 0.95m



- Each height section will have a Phase One (I) and Phase Two (II) with the top two riders from each height section invited to participate in the Phase Three (III) Ride Off.
- Any height section with fewer than six (6) riders will be combined with the next lower height and run at the lower of the two heights.

#### **Phase I – de Nemethy Prep:**

- Athletes will be asked to demonstrate basic dressage movements within the gymnastics course to showcase rideability in order to prepare both horse and rider for the Table II 2.(d) competition in Phase II.
- The gymnastics course may include a trot fence, a short bounce, as well as long and short lines.
- Dressage movements will include, but are not limited to, lengthening and shortening, collection, sitting trot, halt, backing, and lead changes (flying or simple).

#### **Phase II – Show Jumping:**

- Phase II is conducted under Table II, time set at 350m/m.
- **Horse/rider combinations that are eliminated in Phase I are still invited to compete in Phase II.**
- A Liverpool with or without water is encouraged to be presented as an option.
- Judges will award up to three (3) points for successfully jumping the Liverpool option or deduct up to three (3) points for difficulties riding to and over the Liverpool option.
- The course must include a small wall if available, one double combination, and at least two unrelated distances between fences.
- Rideability, strategy, and handiness will be judged.
- Time Faults will be penalized with one (1) penalty for each commenced second by which the time allowed is exceeded.
- Rails will be penalized with one (1) to four (4) penalties at the judges' discretion and subtracted or added to/from the score.

#### **Phase III - Ride Off Challenge:**

- The top two scoring athlete/horse combinations from each height section will move forward to the Ride Off Challenge.
- Ties for a height section high score will be determined by the highest score in Phase II.
- Should ties still exist after comparing scores from Phase II, the highest score in Phase I will be used.
- Should ties still exist, after comparing scores from Phase II and Phase I, riders will remain tied and both will advance to the Ride Off.
- No eliminated rider from Phase I or II is eligible for the Ride Off.

**Phase III Format:**

- Athletes will jump a modified Table IV.1 Optimum Time course set at 0.85m – 0.90m with no jump off.
- Order of Go: The lowest scoring athlete from the three will compete first to the highest scoring athlete competing last.
- Scores from Phase I and Phase II will be added to the scores from Phase III with total scores for each athlete announced before the next athlete enters the ring.

**Awards:**

- For Phase I and Phase II, ribbons will be given to the overall placings 1<sup>st</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> in each height section.
- For Phase III, ribbons, and sashes will be awarded to the top 3 athlete/horse combinations.

**Attire:**

- Proper attire required for all phases. If there are any questions about what constitutes proper attire, please ask a YSJF representative.

**Tack:**

- USEF approved Jumper tack is allowed (see JP111 for details) except:
  - No German Martingales
  - No Draw Reins

**Rider Meeting:**

- A rider meeting will be held before Phase I. If the athlete cannot attend the meeting, a designated representative may check in on behalf of the athlete.
- The location, date, and time of the rider meeting will be provided by show management.
- Athletes, parents, and trainers will be provided with information regarding the class and the YSJF.
- The YSJF reserves the right to hold additional meetings at any point during the competition.

**Horse Substitution:**

- If during the de Nemethy Challenge a horse is declared ill, unsound, or not fit to continue, the rider may petition to substitute a horse. The YSJF Representative and the TD will meet and confer regarding the substitution request.



### **Judging:**

- The de Nemethy Challenge is judged on effective American Jumping Style of Riding.
- One or two judges will officiate and provide one numerical score for each phase of the competition.
- Phase I is judged based on the execution of dressage movements along with athlete's ability to optimize the gymnastic exercises.
- Phase II is judged on effective riding, time, handiness, and strategy over a Table II 2 course within the time allowed.
- Phase III is judged on effective riding, time, handiness, and strategy over the course within the Optimum Time.
- Judges must walk all courses in Phases I, Phase II, and Phase III.
- Please see scoring details for rails and time penalties in Phase II above.

### **Technical Delegate:**

- The Technical Delegate must be approved by the YSJF.
- The TD is responsible for the overall conduct of the de Nemethy Challenge and serves as an interface and facilitator for everyone involved in the de Nemethy Challenge.
- In case of a dispute, a rule or specification interpretation, or a violation, a committee made up of a senior person representing competition management, the TD, and a YSJF Board Member will convene to address the issue(s). Decisions from this group will be final and unappealable.
- The guiding principles for any dispute will be fair competition, sportsmanship, horse and athlete welfare, and a level playing field.
- The appointed TD must attend the rider meeting and be familiar with all rules and scoring methods.
- The TD is responsible for obtaining copies of results from all phases, copies of judging cards, and copies of all courses. These materials need to be provided to the YSJF representative at the event or sent to the YSJF office within ten days of the conclusion of the competition.
- The TD must remain at the ring throughout all phases of the competition, and is responsible for participating in all course walks.

***The YSJF de Nemethy Challenge and the related format and specifications are the sole properties of the YSJF and may only be held, conducted, or used upon the terms and conditions specified by the YSJF. The YSJF reserves the right to change language in documents related to the conduct of the de Nemethy Challenge as necessary for the purposes of consistency and clarity. Any deviations from the class specifications for the YSJF de Nemethy Challenge are not permitted without the express written permission from YSJF prior to the printing of the prize list.***