

2022 OHJA Membership Fee

As we draw an end to the 2021 Gold Horse Show Season we look towards planning and getting ready for 2022. This year the OHJA Board of Directors made the decision to introduce a \$4 levy fee to be charged to each entry at 2021 gold horse shows. The introduction of the levy fee was necessitated by a decision made by Equestrian Canada's Jumping Committee which removed the financial support of the JC Levy funds.

In the past, forty percent of JC Levy funds collected at Ontario Gold Horse Shows have traditionally gone to the OHJA. For the last thirty years, we've leveraged this money and our membership fees against hundreds of volunteer hours to run meaningful horse show programs that are dedicated to the growth and preservation of our sport.

The OHJA reached out to EC, on behalf of our members, with a formal request for inclusion in future discussions around the collection and disbursement of these funds, as well as a request for information regarding Jumping Committee operations that impact the OHJA membership. We also asked that the Jumping Committee reinstate the allocation of funds that existed before the pandemic.

Unfortunately, based on their communication to the OHJA on October 15th it does not appear that EC's Jumping Committee will support provincial associations, like the OHJA, in the foreseeable future while they undergo a review of how funds will be distributed going forward. This decision puts an incredible financial strain on the OHJA which now relies exclusively on membership fees for funding program initiatives that our members know and love including hunter stake classes and classics, the Junior/ Amateur Derbies, the Pony Power series, the Super Jumper Weekends, Young Hunter Development Series, Jr/Am Jumper Stake Classes, the OHJA Medal and OHJA CET Mini Medal and Webinar series. The OHJA also provides year-end awards, trophies, and prizes for top ten competitors in select divisions.

The Board has decided that the best way to ensure the protection and continuation of OHJA programs is to increase the annual membership fee to \$75 for 2022 Memberships. OHJA member fees have not increased in the last 15 years while programs have continued to expand to reach the wide breadth of our members. This fee increase will allow for the removal of the \$4 levy charged at each show and will secure the continuation of OHJA programs for the future and create new opportunities for rider development. It will also enable us to make necessary investments into Points Management to improve our ability to deliver accurate and timely standings as we know this is a very important element of our programming that has had challenges in recent years.

The Board invites its members to reach out to EC's Jumping Committee directly with any concerns pertaining to their decision to remove any distribution of funds to provincial associations, while continuing to collect the \$20.00 JC Levy fee from EC members at each horse show. They can be reached here [Equestrian Canada](#).

We look forward to the 2022 show season and being able to offer our members unique opportunities for horse and rider development. If you would like to renew your 2022 OHJA Membership now we invite you to do so at this link: [HorseReg](#)

Sincerely,

The OHJA Board of Directors