

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2018	1/12/2018	

Proposed Change

**GR309 Special Competitions** [CHAPTER Sub-Chapter 3-B, Competition Classification]

GR309 Special Competitions

A Special Competition is **a competition that the Federation deems to be in the best interest of the sport and is therefore issued a competition license** an event, which may not fully meet the requirements for obtaining Federation licensing; however, it has been deemed in the best interest of the breed and/or discipline and/or sport, and the Federation that the event be sanctioned by the Federation. After **submitting** a written application to the Federation at least six months prior to **the start of competition, and in accordance with the applicable Board-approved Special Competition Guidelines**, an event, a competition may be approved for Special Competition classification **and licensure by the Federation** upon approval of the Board of Directors. The Federation must provide the applicable Recognized Affiliate, Council, and discipline or breed committee with all information pertaining to the request, including mileage and any other conflicts, for the purpose of making a recommendation as to approving or disapproving the request. A non-refundable processing fee must be submitted with the application. Special Competition classification may include, but is not limited to, the following: Olympic Games or Trials; Pan Am Games or Trials; World Equestrian Games or Trials; World Cup Finals or Qualifiers; FEI CSI-5\* events held as a standalone event and not in conjunction with any other competition; Nations Cup Finals; Nations Cup CSIO's; Federation National Finals; Federation National Championships; Recognized Affiliate championships; and any other events deemed by the Board of Directors as fitting in this classification. Competitions classified as Special Competitions are exempt from the mileage rules for the classes and divisions approved by the Board of Directors.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
USEF Officers	Matt Fine mfine@usef.org

Rule Change Intent

As currently written, the Special Competition rule leads to confusion as to what constitutes a Special Competition and what competitions may apply for the classification. The intent is to clarify those competitions that qualify for classification as a special competition based on the type of competition (e.g. Olympic Games) and those competitions that must apply for the classification.

Linked Rules	Comments
	<b>Web:</b> Definition of Special Competition

Committee Actions

Competition Management	
<b>Draft 1:</b> Recommends Disapproval 12/04/2017 <b>Draft 2:</b> No Action	<b>Draft 1:</b> Not comfortable with the wording of "determined by the Federation" and that the affiliate review wording is removed <b>Draft 2:</b> No Comments
Council - Admin & Finance	
<b>Draft 1:</b> Tabled 01/08/2018 <b>Draft 2:</b> No Action	<b>Draft 1:</b> The Committee wants to see the procedures before approving this rule. <b>Draft 2:</b> No Comments
Council - Intl Discipline	
<b>Draft 1:</b> Tabled 01/10/2018 <b>Draft 2:</b> No Action	<b>Draft 1:</b> The Council would like to review the Procedures document that coincides with this rule before making an action on the rule itself. <b>Draft 2:</b> No Comments
Council - Natl Breed & Discipline	
<b>Draft 1:</b> Recommends Disapproval 01/10/2018 <b>Draft 2:</b> No Action	<b>Draft 1:</b> The Council agreed with comments from USHJA. The rule change needs more work to define specifics for how a special comp would be defined, evaluated and assessed. <b>Draft 2:</b> No Comments

### Eventing

**Draft 1:** Recommends Disapproval 11/07/2017  
**Draft 2:** No Action

**Draft 1:** The Eventing Sport Committee would be amendable to approving the proposed change to GR309 if amended to require approval of Special Competitions other than Olympic Games or Trials; Pan Am Games or Trials; World Equestrian Games or Trials; World Cup Finals or Qualifiers; Nations Cup Finals; Nations Cup CSIO's; Federation National Finals; Federation National Championships and Recognized Affiliate championships, by the specific Breed/Discipline Committee.  
**Draft 2:** No Comments

### Jumper

**Draft 1:** Recommends Approval 11/28/2017  
**Draft 2:** No Action

**Draft 1:** No Comments  
**Draft 2:** No Comments

### National Hunter Committee

**Draft 1:** Recommends Disapproval 12/18/2017  
**Draft 2:** No Action

**Draft 1:** The committee is waiting for a second draft of this rule change in favor of the current draft.  
**Draft 2:** No Comments

### USHJA

**Draft 1:** Recommends Disapproval 01/08/2018  
**Draft 2:** No Action

**Draft 1:** USHJA feels this current draft is too vague and the RCP does not provide adequate specifics for how Special Competitions are defined, evaluated or assessed. Additionally, USHJA would like to see the evaluation process for Special Competitions provide for the ability for existing competitions within reasonable proximity to a) be notified that a Special Competition application has been submitted, and b) have the ability to provide comment about the potential impact. Currently, the Special Competition application and evaluation process provides absolutely no transparency. Finally, USHJA would like assurance that the existence of standalone Hunter Derby competitions will not be jeopardized by not establishing (either through modification of this RCP, or creation of an alternate licensing process) the mechanism for such exceptional hunter events to exist.  
**Draft 2:** No Comments