

**UNITED STATES
HOBBY HORSE
CHAMPIONSHIPS
2024**



ushhchampionships.com

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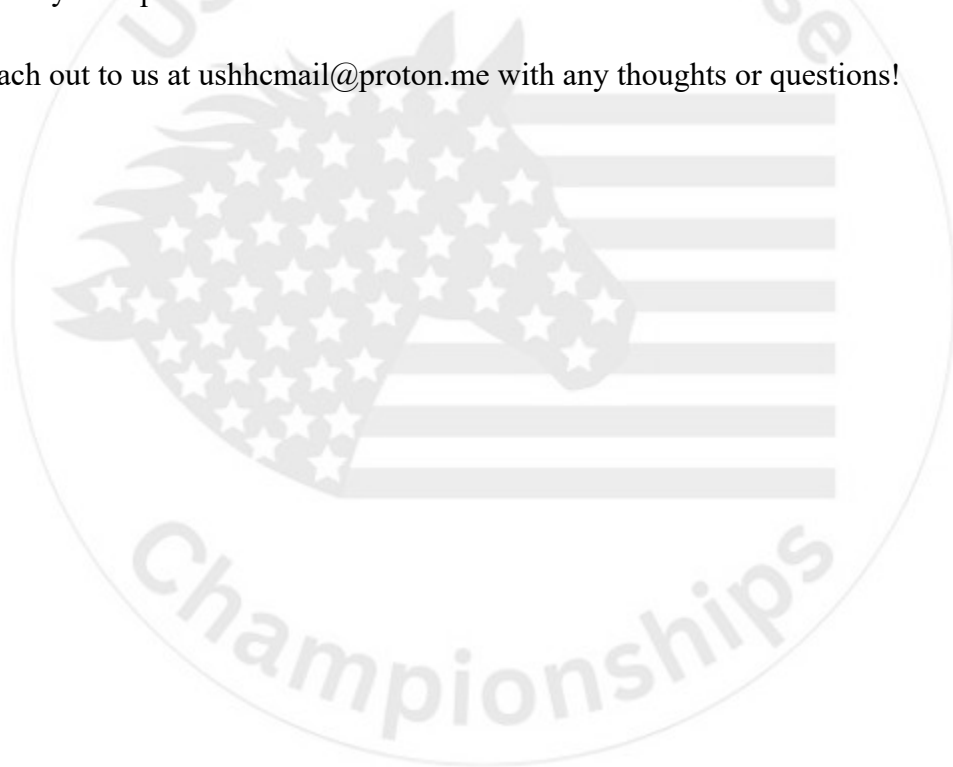
WELCOME

Greetings fellow Hobby Horser! You're about to make history!

We're so excited to share the first ever United States Hobby Horse Championships with you! You are a huge part of making this happen and we are so grateful that you've chosen to share your skills and passion with us!

Within this packet you'll find information on where and when the event is being held, details on becoming a vendor or volunteer, as well as specific information on each of the classes and what's involved in competing in them. We recommend you read over the entire packet and then head to ushhchampionships.com to fill in the official registration form and pay for your classes. Once you've officially registered, we'll keep you posted on the event and any new information that comes up. We can't wait to meet you in person!

Feel free to reach out to us at ushhcmal@proton.me with any thoughts or questions!



REGISTRATION & TRAVEL INFORMATION

Registering online is recommended! If you are unable to register online, please contact us directly at ushhcmail@proton.me and we can assist you.

Each class entered is \$5 USD. If you enter 3 or more classes, the cost is \$15. Payment can be made online when you register.

Also note: Every competitor who registers is allowed two "guests" free. Any other attendees will need to pay a fee of \$5 USD at the check-in table. Registration for the USHHC will close on July 1, 2024. (This means the final day of registration is June 30, 2024.)

****PLEASE NOTE: If you are intending to fly in, U.S. airlines require you to check your hobby horse in your luggage. Otherwise, the stick must be removed from your hh in order to be considered carry-on. Please check with your specific airline for the most up-to-date details.****

A few international airports under 2 hrs away:

Bishop International Airport, Flint, MI 45 min.

Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport, Detroit, MI 1 hr. 15 min.

Capital Region International Airport, Lansing, MI 1 hr. 30 min.

The *United States Hobby Horse Championships 2024* takes place on **August 10, 2024** in **Almont, Michigan** at the following address: Almont Middle School, 4624 Kidder Rd, Almont, MI 48003

The doors will open at 10:00 a.m, no earlier (except for vendors and volunteers). Please plan to arrive on time to confirm your registration and familiarize yourself with the venue. Event closes at 6 p.m.

Map of the school and where to enter the gym:

The map shows where to park/entrance doors—once inside, the gym is to your right.



A few hotels near the USHHC gym:

- Days Inn 6692 Newark Rd Imlay City, MI 48444
- Holiday Inn Express Lapeer 927 Demille Road, Lapeer, Michigan 48446
- Hampton Inn Detroit-Shelby Township 51620 Shelby, Parkway, Shelby, MI
- Cambria Hotel Detroit-Shelby Township 50741 Corporate Drive, Shelby MI

Restaurants:

- Roza's Pizza 131 S Main St, Almont, MI
- Big Joes 1935 S Cedar St Imlay City, MI 48444
- Luckys Steakhouse 2000 S Cedar St Imlay City, MI 48444
- Pine House 5800 Dryden Rd, Dryden, MI 48428

Breakfast/brunch:

- Good Grounds 126 N main St., Almont, Michigan
- Brunch @ Joes 208 N Main St in Almont Michigan
- Bomb Burgers and Breakfast 1829 S. Cedar, Imlay City, Michigan 48444

Fun things to do near the USHHC gym:

Indoor Activities

Bowling: There are many bowling alleys nearby, but here are a few:

- Hideaway Lanes 4550 Howland Rd Almont, MI 48003
- Summit Entertainment Center 66600 Van Dyke Rd Washington, MI 48095
- IC Strikes 270 S. Cedar St, Imlay City, MI, United States, Michigan

Movies: Again, there are many movie theaters nearby, but here are a few:

- Romeo Theatre 66120 Van Dyke Rd Washington, MI 48095
- Emagine Theatre 15251 23 Mile Rd Macomb, MI 48042-4056

Outdoor Activities

Farms:

- Crooked Creek Farm Dairy 75960 Brown Rd Romeo, MI 48065
- Blake's Cider Mill (Almont: 5600 Van Dyke Rd Almont, MI 48003
- Armada: 17985 Armada Center Rd, Armada, MI 48005)

Water Parks and Beaches:

- Zehnder's Splash Village (also has a hotel!) 1365 S Main St, Frankenmuth, MI 48734
- Lake Saint Clair (30 minutes away, has beaches)
- If you are willing to drive a bit, the Great Lakes have great beaches!
- General Squier Memorial Water Park 4725 South Mill Road, Dryden, Michigan.

Also, if you are more of a city person, Detroit has much to offer! If you are looking to shop, there are many stores in Macomb/Shelby Township area!

USHHC TIMELINE

Please note: Senior Showjumping and Junior Dressage Freestyle competition times overlap. If you are entered in both, we will do our best to schedule your show times so that you can participate in each.

10:00 a.m. Doors Open/Registration

10:45 a.m. Opening Ceremony

11:00 a.m. Hunter/Jumper

12:15 p.m. Junior Showjumping

1:00 p.m. Senior Showjumping

1:15 p.m. Junior Dressage Freestyle

2:00 p.m. Break

2:30 p.m. Barrel Racing

3:15 p.m. Puissance

4:15 p.m. Grand Prix Dressage Freestyle

6:00 p.m. Doors close



GENERAL INFORMATION

What to bring:

- Your hobby horse(s), tack for them, cool-out blankets if you'd like.
- Cash-- there will be vendors!
- Make sure to bring water! Water is allowed in the gym, but any other drinks must be enjoyed outside the gym.
- Plan to bring your own snacks and a lunch. Food is not allowed inside the gym, however right outside the gymnasium door are some tables/benches to eat on. There will be a break from all classes between 2:00-2:30 p.m. for eating, resting, shopping, and visiting.

There will be bleachers to sit on for both guests and participants alike.

Clothing and shoe recommendations:

There are no official clothing restrictions or requirements for attire.

- Running or sports shoes
- T-shirt or tank top
- Shorts or exercise pants

VENDOR INFORMATION

Due to space constraints, we will be hand-selecting a limited amount of vendors. If you're interested in becoming a vendor at the USHHC, please fill out the application on our website on the vendors page. Vendor applications will close on June 1, 2024.

A vendor spot costs \$20 USD. Please bring your own table.

Vendors are expected to arrive at 9:30 EST at the gym to set up.

VOLUNTEERING

We have lots of jobs for you to do at USHHC if you want to lend a helping hand! You must be an adult to volunteer, however you're welcome to bring your child along and they could either just hang out or help too. If you end up volunteering, we will waive the \$5 entrance fee as thanks for your help.

There are different volunteering options, some more detailed, some less. If you're interested in getting involved, please fill out our Volunteer Form on the website (ushhchampionships.com) or contact us directly (ushhemail@proton.me)!

Descriptions of Volunteer Options:

--Set-up help: This is helping set up in the beginning before people arrive. Each volunteer will coordinate with an Organizer to assist in specific tasks. Need to arrive at 9 a.m.

--Registration Intake: Help competitors and attendees check in. As some registrants or guests may need to pay at the door, you may need to make change if necessary (which we will provide). Need to arrive at 9:45 a.m.

--First Aid Station and Tack Repair: Ideally, we'd love for anyone with medical experience/background to help with this station. We'll have a first aid kit available as well as (hopefully) a cooler with ice packs. This stand will also have tack repair items in case entrants have issues.

--Junior Show Jumping Height Change: Need to be ready to go at 12:00 to help switch the heights during the JR. Showjumping class.

--Junior Dressage Music: Be ready to go at 1:00 p.m. We need a reliable person who's good with sound systems and can be available for the entire Jr. Dressage performances to run music. We will need to be in communication with you consistently prior to the event. =)

Please note: Junior Dressage will overlap with Senior Showjumping.

--GP Dressage Music: Be ready to help at 4:00 p.m. We need a reliable person who's good with sound systems and can be available for the entire Grand Prix Dressage performances to run music. We will need to be in communication with you consistently prior to the event. =)

--Setup Senior showjumping/re-set jumps: Be ready to go at 12:45 p.m. to help with setting up jumps and resetting poles that get knocked down during the class.

--Assistant: This volunteering job is an important one! You will be checking in with each Organizer once in a while during the event, taking messages to people if needed, and helping with any in-the-moment problems/jobs that the Organizers need help with. =) Please contact us directly at ushhemail@proton.me if interested.

--Cleanup Help: Help break down jumps and clean up at the end after people leave. You'll need to commit to staying until 7:00 p.m.

GENERAL RULES

First of all, it is required to have fun!! Don't forget to be encouraging to other amazing hobby horsers, and just make sure to remember this is all for fun! =)

TACK REQUIREMENTS

**Please note: If a tack malfunction happens during your class, do not worry, a rerun is allowed after you've had proper help with your tack. The tack repair stand has tack repair materials. =) **

Your hh is required to wear at least a halter and reins, so please make sure to use tack of some sort.

DISQUALIFICATIONS

The only disqualifications within the USHHC occur if you do not follow the correct jump course or barrel racing pattern, or you completely forget your dressage freestyle. If you miss a jump, take a jump in the wrong order, run out of the arena/go off the cloverleaf pattern, or totally blank out on your dressage freestyle, you will be disqualified from that class. Thanks for your understanding!

Penalties & Scoring

Show Jumping

Timed Class

Knocking down a fence ~ 4 penalties

Refusal ~ 4 penalties

Off course ~ disqualification

Hunter Jumper

Style Class

Scored according to pace, movement, style and elasticity

Penalties ~ knockdowns, refusals, run-out

Barrel Racing

Timed Class

Knocking down a barrel ~ +5 seconds to final time

Off cloverleaf pattern ~ Disqualification

Dressage

Style Class

Scored according to movement, style, elasticity, correctness

Stopping during freestyle ~ 2 penalties

Forgetting required movement ~ 2 penalties

Forgetting freestyle completely ~ disqualification

Puissance

High Jump Class

Scoring is based on how high you can jump (ie. whoever jumps the highest wins)

Second knockdown ~ end of turn



CLASSES

Awards will happen after each class is completed. A victory lap is allowed!

HUNTER/JUMPER

There is only one Hunter/Jumper course. This is different from the two Showjumping classes.

Lead changes over jumps are encouraged, but not required. Please note however, doing the former will earn you a higher score.

Recommended Tack:

Usually, a simple English snaffle with a standing martingale is traditional for Hunter/Jumper, but you're welcome to use a halter if need be. Running martingales are not allowed, and crops are permitted but not encouraged.

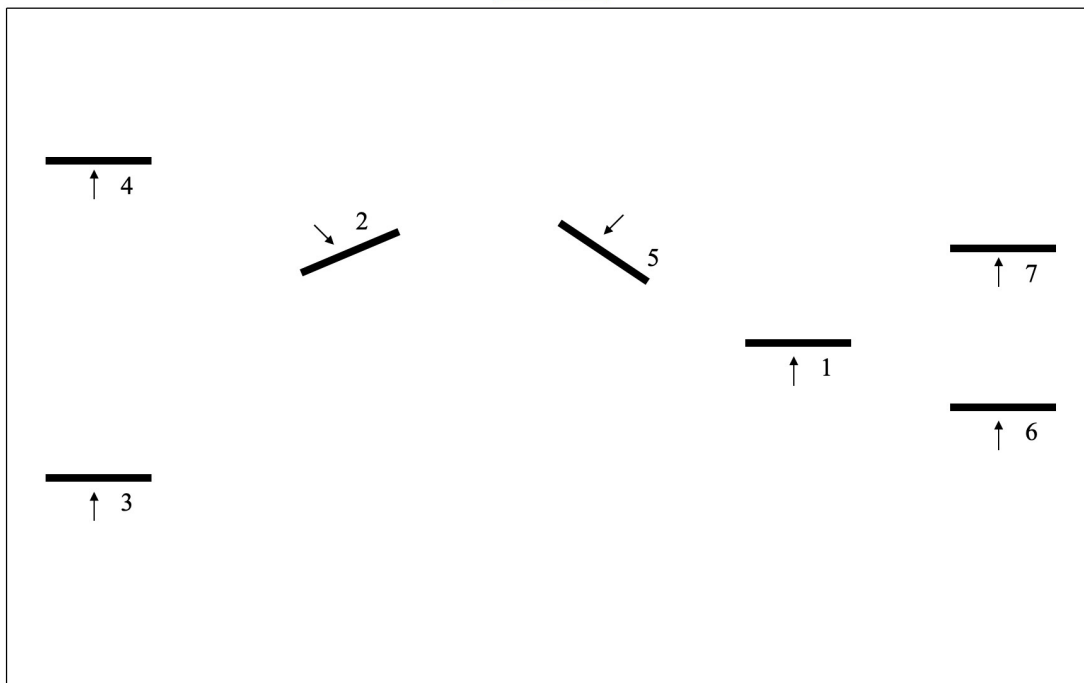
Reminder:

The only disqualifications within the USHHC occur if you do not follow the correct jump course. If you miss a jump, take a jump in the wrong order, or run out of the arena you will be disqualified from that class. Thanks for your understanding!

Height: 2 feet

2024 USHHC Hunter Jumper Course

Judges



SHOW JUMPING

There are also two classes here: Junior Showjumping and Senior Showjumping.

Senior Showjumping has a higher jump height, while Junior has two height options, one lower and one higher. The Showjumping course will be the same for both groups.

Recommended Tack:

Breastplates and martingales are allowed! Crops permitted. A jumping bridle would be ideal, but again, you're welcome to ride in just a halter and reins if you have no other options.

Reminder:

The only disqualifications within the USHHC occur if you do not follow the correct jump course. If you miss a jump, take a jump in the wrong order, or run out of the arena you will be disqualified from that class. Thanks for your understanding!

--JUNIOR SHOWJUMPING--

Please indicate your age and which height you'll be competing at when you register online.

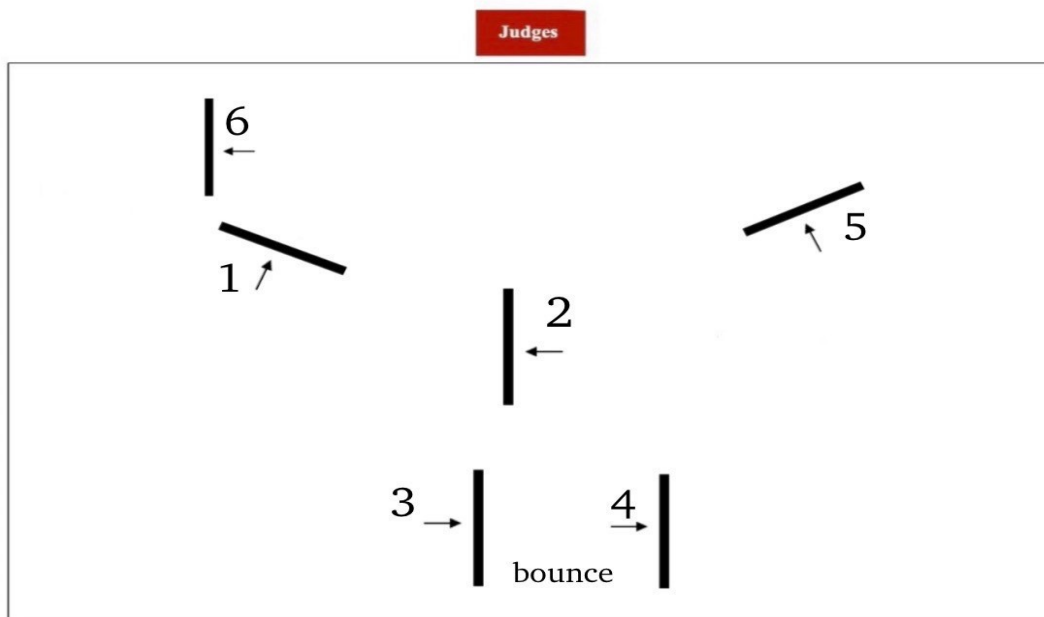
Height: 10 and under: 1 foot. 11 and up: 2 feet.

--SENIOR SHOWJUMPING--

Please note that this class will overlap with Junior Dressage Freestyle. If you are entered in both, we will do our best to schedule your show times so that you can participate in each.

Height: 2 1/2 feet.

2024 USHHC Show Jumping Course



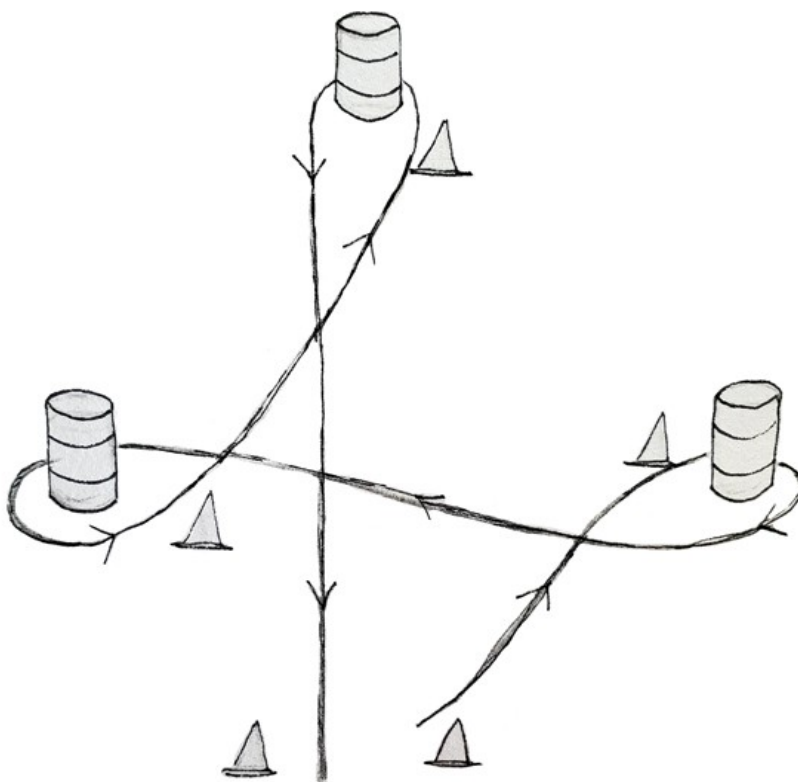
BARREL RACING

All about speed, this Western event is the fastest of the day!

Recommended Tack:

Western tack is encouraged, but if you don't happen to have any feel free to use what you need. Crops and breastplates are allowed, but not martingales.

This competition will be on the clover-leaf pattern (a common barrel pattern) below:



PUISSANCE

Puissance is all about height! The bricks (not actually, they'll be either foam or cardboard blocks) will raise and raise each time you clear the jump, eventually becoming poles at the very top. Who can jump the highest today?

Age Limit: 10 and older.

****Please understand, because heights vary dramatically between different ages and puissance is all about how high you can jump, we've selected this age limit to help create more fairness.****

Beginning Height: 2 feet

Recommended Tack:

You're welcome to use whatever tack you'd like for this one (though jumping tack is ideal)-- it's all about height! Crops allowed, as well as martingales and breastplates.

Reminder:

If you knock down once, you get a rerun. If on the second time you clear it, there's no change to your score. However, if you knock down the second time, your turn is over. This doesn't necessarily mean you won't place, depending on your final height compared to that of the other competitors.

DRESSAGE

Please note that Junior Dressage Freestyle will overlap with Senior Showjumping. If you are entered in both, we will do our best to schedule your show times so that you can participate in each.

There are two Dressage Freestyle classes, Junior Dressage and Grand Prix Dressage. Both will be performed in the same arena, *an 8 meter by 16 meter arena.*

- *Junior Dressage Freestyle* focuses on more basic dressage moves-- perfect for people just getting into dressage or looking for an easier class.
- *Grand Prix Dressage Freestyle* is the hardest and highest level of dressage. Our GP class doesn't have all the dressage moves in the world required – but you're welcome to add more if you don't already feel overwhelmed. ;)

Recommended Tack:

No martingales or breastplates allowed. Double bridles preferred, but you could ride with just a halter and reins if you need. It will not mark down points.

Reminder:

You're welcome to add moves other than those required to your dressage routine, but make sure to have all of the required moves in your routine and stay to the time limits.

- *Junior Dressage:* 1-3 min
- *Grand Prix Dressage:* 2-4 min

If you fail to fit the time or forget a required move it will affect your score.

****Please note: Music is not required, but if you choose to have it, music must be received by July 1, 2024. If you fail to do so, you will not have music for your freestyle. ****

Let's delve into the required moves for the dressage classes:

JUNIOR DRESSAGE FREESTYLE

Time limit: 1-3 minutes long

Required moves:

- Walk
- Trot
- Canter
- Collected walk
- Collected trot
- Flying lead changes (at least one)
- Walk pirouette

GRAND PRIX DRESSAGE FREESTYLE

Time limit: 2-4 minutes long

Required moves:

- Walk
- Trot
- Canter
- Collected walk
- Collected trot
- Collected canter
- Extended walk
- Extended trot
- Extended canter
- Piaffe
- Passage
- Canter pirouette
- Halfpass (any gait)
- 1 tempi flying lead changes (at least 10, in a row)



RELEASE FORM

Please fill in the release form below and bring it with you the day of the event. In the case that you do not wish to participate in the photo/video part of this release form, please contact us directly at ushhcmail @ proton.me and we will happily assist you!

RELEASE OF LIABILITY AGREEMENT

This Release of Liability Agreement (the "Agreement") is entered into on August 10, 2024, by and between:

Event Organizer: United States Hobby Horse Championships (USHHC)

Participant: _____

Event Description: Participation in the United States Hobby Horse Championships.

RELEASEES: The term "Releasees" refers collectively to USHHC, its officers, directors, employees, volunteers, agents, representatives, and any other individuals or entities associated with the event.

ASSUMPTION OF RISK: I, the undersigned participant, acknowledge and understand that the event involves inherent risks and dangers, including but not limited to physical injury, emotional distress, and property damage. I voluntarily assume all such risks and agree that the Releasees, their heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns, shall not be liable for any injuries, damages, or losses sustained by me during or as a result of the event.

RELEASE AND WAIVER: In consideration of being allowed to participate in the event, I, on behalf of myself, my heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns, hereby release, waive, discharge, and covenant not to sue the Releasees, their heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns, from any and all liability, claims, demands, actions, or causes of action arising out of or related to any loss, damage, or injury, including death, that may be sustained by me during the event or while on the premises where the event is being conducted.

INDEMNIFICATION: I agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Releasees from any loss, liability, damage, or cost they may incur due to my participation in the event, including any legal fees and expenses.

PHOTO AND VIDEO RELEASE: I grant permission to USHHC to use photographs and/or videos of me taken during the event for promotional and marketing purposes.

GOVERNING LAW: This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the state of Michigan.

I HAVE READ THIS RELEASE OF LIABILITY AGREEMENT, FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS TERMS, UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING IT, AND SIGN IT FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY WITHOUT ANY INDUCEMENT.

Participant's Name: _____

Participant's Signature: _____

Parent/Legal Guardian Name if for a minor: _____

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____