YEDA Hunt Seat Pilot Season FAQs

What is a pilot season?

The 2027 season is our inaugural pilot season, designed to help us introduce the YEDA Hunt Seat Division, gather feedback, and build a strong foundation for future growth.

This season will allow riders, coaches, and organizers to help shape the future of YEDA Hunt Seat.

How many shows will be offered during the pilot season?

The inaugural season will consist of:

🐴 Four Pilot Shows

🏆 National Championship

Why are there only four shows this year?

As a new division, our goal is to focus on quality over quantity. A smaller schedule allows us to evaluate processes, refine rules, and ensure a positive experience for riders, coaches, horses, and host facilities.

Will points count during the pilot season?

Yes! Riders and teams will earn points throughout the inaugural season. These points will be tracked and recognized at the National Championship through year-end awards and recognition.

Additional details regarding the points system will be released prior to the start of the season.

Please note that pilot season points will not contribute to a Student Incentive Fund (SIF). As the Hunt Seat Division grows, a Hunt Seat SIF program will be developed and introduced in future seasons.

Will there be a National Championship this year?

Yes!

The pilot season will conclude with the inaugural YEDA Hunt Seat National Championship, where riders and teams will compete for national titles and special awards. This year Nationals will be in Lexington Virginia on the Sunday of Nationals.

Will riders need to qualify for the National Championship?

No. During our inaugural pilot season, all riders will be invited to participate in the National Championship.

Will the rules be finalized before the season starts?

A Hunt Seat rulebook will be published prior to the start of the pilot season. Because this is a new division, minor updates or clarifications may be made throughout the year if needed.

Our goal is to create a clear and consistent rules structure while continuing to gather feedback from participants.

Can riders provide feedback during the pilot season?

Absolutely!

We encourage coaches, riders, parents, host facilities, and volunteers to share feedback throughout the season. Your input will help shape the future of the YEDA Hunt Seat Division.

Are more shows planned in the future?

Yes. The pilot season is just the beginning.

As participation increases, YEDA Hunt Seat plans to expand geographically, offer more shows, and create new opportunities for teams and riders across the country.

Can new teams join during the pilot season?

Yes! We welcome new teams, coaches, and facilities interested in helping us grow the division.

If you're interested in starting a team, please complete the interest form.

YEDA Hunt Seat Interest Form

What divisions are available?

- Pearl- Beginning riders- Walk/Trot Flat & Ground Poles
- Opal- Walk/Trot riders Flat Equitation & Ground Poles
- Emerald- Walk/Trot/Canter riders- Flat Equitation & Cross Rails
- Ruby- Intermediate riders- Flat Equitation & Cross Rails
- Sapphire- Advanced riders- Flat Equitation & 18" Over Fences
- Diamond- Advanced riders- Flat Equitation & 2' Over Fences
- Diamond Elite- Championship-level riders Medal-style competition Advanced testing

** EWD and Alumni divisions are planned for future expansion. To ensure a successful launch, the inaugural pilot season will focus on our core Hunt Seat divisions, with additional opportunities expected as the program continues to grow.

What Does It Cost to Participate for the inaugural season?

We believe great opportunities shouldn't require a championship-sized budget!

2027 Founding Season Pricing

- **Rider Membership:** $55 per year
- **Team Membership:** $75 per year
- **Coach Membership: FREE for 2027!** 🎉 To help new teams get started, we're waiving the annual coach membership fee during our inaugural season.

Competition Fees

- **Regular Show Classes:** $40 per class
- **National Championship Classes:** $55 per class

How can I support the Hunt Seat Division?

There are many ways to get involved:

- Become a sponsor
- Volunteer at events
- Host a show
- Start a team
- Donate awards or prizes
- Help spread the word

We're excited to build this program together and appreciate everyone's support as we launch the YEDA Hunt Seat Division!

Founding Member Opportunity

The 2027 season offers riders, teams, coaches, and sponsors a unique opportunity to become Founding Members of the YEDA Hunt Seat Division. Those who participate in our inaugural season will play a direct role in building a program that will impact young equestrians for years to come.

🏆 Be a Pioneer.
🐴 Be a Leader.
🖤 Be Part of YEDA Hunt Seat History.

Additional Questions: Contact the YEDA Hunt Seat Division Team: YEDAHUNTSEAT@gmail.com