



## **USHJA FOUNDATION GOCHMAN FAMILY GRANT for USEF Pony Finals presented by Collecting Gaits Farm**

### **OVERVIEW**

The USEF Pony Finals presented by Collecting Gaits Farm\* is a rite of passage for many riders who begin in the hunter/jumper sport at a young age. The competition is not just another competition; it offers educational opportunities and chances for young riders to develop friendships and connections that will follow them throughout their participation in this sport.

Given this event's longstanding benefits to our young USHJA members, the USHJA Foundation is offering up to three annual grants to young riders, who exemplify the qualities that are most important in our sport – sportsmanship, tenacity, and horsemanship and can demonstrate a financial inability to afford the expense of going to the USEF Pony Finals, to go to the US Pony Finals.

The grant is not strictly monetary in nature but rather experience-based. The grant recipient(s) will receive an opportunity to compete at USEF Pony Finals and will be provided an appropriate pony if one is needed.

This grant aims to inspire young riders to embrace this sport at the earliest age and encourage them to continue growing as equestrians is graciously supported by Becky and David Gochman and family.

### **APPLICATION/NOMINATIONS**

Any USHJA member, parent or friend may apply or submit a nomination on behalf of a USHJA member. Individuals may apply themselves with signed parental consent. Each application/nomination must include:

- **LINK** to a Video of the applicant/nominee riding over a hunter course at a minimum fence height of 2'3"
- If this is a nomination, include a personal letter describing the nominee, how you know them, and why they are deserving of this award. A personal letter is not required for applicants applying for themselves.
- A completed application/nomination form
- Three, one-page letters of recommendation from teachers, employers, coaches or trainers and/or those you reported to during your community service. Letters should detail your background, achievements, examples of leadership and community involvement. One letter must be from the applicant/nominee's trainer and at least one from a USHJA member. *Letters from relatives or form letters will not be accepted.*
- The applicant/nominee may be interviewed during the application process by a USHJA Foundation Board member
- Document financial need; accepted documents include: most recent tax return OR FAFSA if applicable. (*Note: All financial information is kept confidential for review only by the USHJAF Review Panel*)

*\*USEF is not involved in the formation or execution of this grant.*

## **NOTIFICATION**

Applicants will be informed of the Board's decision related to their application before the end of June. Any individual may receive the grant only once. All financial information is kept confidential. Nomination forms are available on the USHJA Foundation website ([www.ushjafoundation.org](http://www.ushjafoundation.org)).

## **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

- ✓ Any USHJA member in good standing who did not reach their 18th birthday on December 1 of the current competition year
- ✓ Has not participated in USEF Pony Finals previously
- ✓ Can demonstrate financial need

**\*\* PLEASE FOLLOW THESE DIRECTIONS CAREFULLY. APPLICATIONS THAT CONTAIN MORE INFORMATION THAN REQUESTED OR ARE INCOMPLETE WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.**

**Applications must be received either via email or postal mail by 11:59 pm on April 6, 2018 or they will not be considered.**

**Please mail completed application to:**

USHJA Foundation  
Attention: Gochman Family Grant  
3870 Cigar Lane  
Lexington, KY 40511

**OR Email completed application to:**

[foundation@ushja.org](mailto:foundation@ushja.org)