



Platinum Performance/USEF Show Jumping Talent Search Finals

For complete Talent Search Finals Rules please visit the official [Talent Search Finals Prize List](#).

Qualifying: In order to be eligible to compete in the Talent Search Finals EAST, a rider must earn 90 points and a ribbon placing in a 2* or 3* Talent Search class.

Open to Junior and Young Riders under USEF rules who are U.S. citizens, members of the United States Equestrian Federation, Inc., and who have qualified prior to August 31, 2026. Previous Finals winners are ineligible for either Final.

Friday, October 2nd

- 10:00am - Riders Meeting
- 12:00pm – Horse Inspection
- 2:00pm – Schooling Class

Saturday, October 3rd

9:00am Phase I (Flat) & Phase II (Gymnastics)

- Phase I (flat) and Phase II (Gymnastics) will be performed individually by each athlete, sequentially.
- Athletes will receive the required flat movements and the order in which to perform the movements the Friday prior to their respective Talent Search Final.
- Flatwork movements must be performed in both directions, athletes are encouraged to incorporate the movements into the ring as they wish. The flat phase should be completed efficiently within a four to five minute timeframe.
- A tone will be sounded for the athlete to begin the gymnastics phase.
- Athletes will receive one score for the flat phase and one score for the gymnastics phase.
- The gymnastics score will receive a multiplier of 1.5.

Sunday, October 4th

9:00am Phase III (Jumping)

- To be shown over a course of approximately 10-13 fences set at 1.15m with spreads to 1.50m (excluding the water jump, which may be wider).
- To include one double combination and one triple combination, or three double combinations, and an open water jump (with or without a pole, see USEF JP128).
- Speed 350 meters per minute.
- To be judged on effectiveness of execution. Time and jumping faults will be taken into consideration in the judges' evaluation of the rider.
- Phase III will have a multiplier of 2.
- The start order of Phase III will be the reverse order of standings after Phases I and II, respectively.

1:00pm Phase IV (Ride Off)

- Prior to the start of Phase IV, a veterinary evaluation will be held for the top ten (10) horses qualified to participate.
- Phase IV is open to the 10 best placed athlete/horse combinations (including those tied for 10th place) according to cumulative scores from Phases I, II, and III.

- The starting order of Phase IV will be the reverse order of standings after Phases I, II, and III.
- Phase IV fences will be set at 1.15m in height with spreads to 1.50m and must include a double or triple combination. The water jump will not be used in Phase IV. Minimum speed of 375 meters per minute with a maximum speed of 500 meters per minute.
- Phase IV will be held over a shortened course and will be judged. The judges will be looking for a rider who can combine speed with short turns, accuracy, an efficient track while maintaining control, classical riding, and the horse's ability to jump clear. The time taken to complete the round will be considered as a factor in the judges' scoring. Faults will be scored as four points deducted from the final score for each rail down. Although Phase IV will be timed, time and faults are NOT the sole deciding factors.
- The judges will score each round numerically and add to each athlete/horse combinations overall score. Scores will not be announced until the end of the class. The Finalist with the highest score from all four phases will be the winner; the Finalist with the second-highest score will finish second, and so on. Finalists that retire or are eliminated will receive a score of zero for Phase IV and placed last in Phase IV. Phase IV will have a multiplier of 2.

Overall Rules:

- Courses may only be walked by the competitor. Trainers are prohibited from walking any Talent Search Finals courses.
- Beginning at 6:00pm Thursday, October 1st only the athlete may ride the horse.
- FEI schooling rules will be in effect beginning the day prior to Phase 1 and throughout the remainder of the competition.

Entries can be complete through [Show Management System](#) - Deadline September, 15, 2026.