



UNITED STATES *Dressage* FEDERATION

2009 Great American Insurance Group/ USDF Regional Championship Program Rules



The Regional Championship program rules published herein are effective October 1, 2008. The program rules and qualifying criteria published herein are subject to additions or revisions. While every effort has been taken to avoid mistakes in this publication, the United States Dressage Federation Inc. assumes no liability to anyone for errors or omissions. USEF rules supersede all other rules when qualifying for this championship program. USEF rules are subject to change at any time. Changes and corrections subsequent to this publication are published in the USDF Connection and on the USDF Web site at www.usdf.org. Refer to the United States Equestrian Federation's Web site at www.usef.org for official rule changes and the most up-to-date version of their rulebook.

A single Regional Dressage Championship program organized by the United States Dressage Federation (USDF), and recognized by the United States Equestrian Federation, Inc. (USEF), will be held in each of the nine USDF regions. In addition, Alaska and Hawaii may each hold state championships if an official request from a Group Member Organization (GMO) is received by April 1 of the prior year.

The 2009 Regional Championships will be sponsored by the Great American Insurance Group (Great American), as the title sponsor. The official title of the Regional Championships shall be:

GREAT AMERICAN INSURANCE GROUP/UNITED STATES DRESSAGE FEDERATION
REGION (#) DRESSAGE CHAMPIONSHIPS
recognized by United States Equestrian Federation, Inc.

In each region, USEF/USDF Regional Championship classes must be offered at each level through Grand Prix, in three divisions: open, adult amateur (AA), and junior/young rider (Jr/YR). FEI Junior Team Test and FEI Young Rider Team Test championship classes must also be offered. Freestyles at First, Second, Third, Fourth, Intermediate I, and Grand Prix levels must also be offered in the open division. If freestyle classes are combined, each championship level must be awarded separately.

Dates and locations of the 2009 Regional Championships will be available from USDF after December 1, 2008.

An official Great American/USDF Regional Championships Master Omnibus Prize List will be published by USDF and may be downloaded from the USDF Web site after May 1, 2009. This omnibus will contain complete prize lists and entry forms for all nine Regional Championships. A printed copy of this prize list may be obtained from USDF by calling (859) 971-2277 or emailing regchamps@usdf.org.

For the remainder of this document USEF/USDF championship classes will be considered the same as Great American/USDF championship classes.

A. Membership/Registration Requirements for Qualifying and Championships

Rider:

- Must be a USDF Participating* Member (PM) at the time qualifying scores are earned and at the time of the championships.
- Must be a USEF member (Junior Active, Senior Active, or Life) at the time the qualifying scores are earned and at the time of the championships.

Horse:

- Must be USDF Lifetime Registered (LTR) at the time qualifying scores are earned and at the time of the championships. Horse registration must be in the name(s) of the current owner(s) or lessee(s) of record. If a current lease recording is on file with USDF, the lessee is recognized as “owner” for all USDF membership requirements.
- Must be USEF (Annual or Lifetime) recorded at the time qualifying scores are earned and at the time of the championships. Horse recording must be in the name(s) of the current owner(s) or lessee(s) of record.
- A horse is not required to have registry papers.

Owner*:

- Must be a USDF member (PM* or Business Member (BM)) at the time the qualifying scores are earned and at the time of the championships.
- Must be a USEF member (Junior Active, Senior Active, or Life) at the time qualifying scores are earned and at the time of the championships.
- At least one owner must meet the USDF and USEF membership requirements

* PMs are USDF members who join USDF directly. USDF Group Members (GM) are ineligible.

B. Qualifying Class and Championship Eligibility

1. Horse/rider combinations which have won a USEF/USDF Regional Championship may no longer compete in a USEF/USDF Regional Championship competition, in that division, at that or a lower level (Grand Prix Level excepted) if they received the minimum qualifying score or higher for that division and level in the championship test per USEF DR127.5.
2. A horse may not be entered in more than one USEF/USDF Regional Championship at a particular level in the same calendar year.
3. Riders are NOT required to be a resident of the region to compete in that region’s championship. USDF will presume qualified horses will compete in the region in which the rider resides. Riders who wish to declare a region other than their region of residence must contact the USDF office by **no later than July 1** of the championship year **and submit a change of region form, at which time the region will be set for the remainder of the year. Change of region forms may be accepted after July up to the closing date of the championship region the rider is declaring for, but no later than August 1, with a late fee of \$100. No changes to region may be made after August 1 for any reason. USDF BOG 12/05/08**
4. A rider may not compete in more than one Regional Championship competition in the same calendar year.
5. In the event a competitor is unable to produce copies of the USDF membership or lifetime horse registration documents required to enter a qualifying class, a USDF membership/registration affidavit may be completed and filed with the competition secretary. A fee of \$5 is required for each affidavit filed. The \$5 fee and a copy of the affidavit must be submitted to USDF by the competition secretary with the competition results. Copies of the required memberships and registrations **MUST** be included with championship entry. Affidavits will not be accepted for USEF or USDF membership or horse recording verification purposes for entry in championship classes.
6. USEF Dressage Seat Medal Semi-Finals: All junior riders through age 18 who have qualified at any level for the Regional Championships (excluding freestyle) are automatically eligible to compete in the Semi-Final classes of the USEF Dressage Seat Medal Program. One Semi-Final class will be offered for juniors, ages 13 and under, and a second Semi-Final class for riders 14 through 18 in each Great American/USDF Regional Championship. A regional champion and reserve champion for each age group will be named in each USDF region. Protective headgear as described in the USEF Rule Book GR801 will be required for participation in these classes. For complete details of this program, see the USEF Rule Book, DR132.2, visit the dressage page of the USEF Web site at www.usef.org, or contact the USEF dressage department at (859) 258-2472.
7. Horses must be entered in qualifying and championship classes under their official recorded names and ownership as specified in USEF Rule Book GR1102, and transfers of ownership or lease registrations must be completed in compliance with USEF rules prior to the competition in order for the horse to compete under the name of the new owner or lessee. (USEF DR127.2)

C. Qualifying System

1. There is currently one qualifying system with nationally-standardized minimum percentages (see Section D for percentages).
2. Prior to competing in a Great American/USDF qualifying class, a horse/rider combination must be eligible according to the USDF/USEF membership and registration requirements for qualifying.
3. To qualify for a Regional Championship, horse/rider combinations must earn a total of two qualifying scores (each score must be the average of all judges officiating in a designated Great American/USDF qualifying class), at two different USEF/USDF-recognized Dressage Competitions, from two different judges, or combination of judges. In addition, the same judge may not have officiated in classes from which qualifying scores are earned, unless the following conditions are met: A panel of judges will be considered as a different judging entity if 50 percent or more of that panel is changed (e.g. a panel of two judges must have one new person, a panel of three judges must have two new people and a panel of five judges must have three new people).
4. To qualify, eligible riders must enter an official Great American/USDF qualifying class at a USEF/USDF-recognized Dressage Competition. The Great American/USDF qualifying class will be the highest or single test of the level and the class must be designated as Great American/USDF qualifying in the prize list. Scores from the USEF Developing Horse Test, earned in designated qualifying classes, may be used as qualifying scores for the Prix St. Georges championship. Scores from the USEF Young Adult “Brentina Cup” Test ~~and FEI Young Rider Grand Prix 20-25 Test~~, earned in designated qualifying classes, may be used as qualifying scores for the Intermediate II championship. Young Riders must ride the FEI Young Rider Team Test to qualify for the FEI Young Rider division, and may ride the FEI Young Rider Freestyle to qualify for the Fourth Level Freestyle. Junior Riders (age 14-18) must ride the FEI Junior Team Test to qualify for the FEI Junior Division and may ride the FEI Junior Individual Test to qualify for Third Level. Junior riders may ride the FEI Junior Freestyle to qualify for the Third Level Freestyle. Pony Riders (age 12-16) may use either the FEI Pony Individual Test or the FEI Pony Team Test to qualify for the Second Level junior/young rider championship class. However, they will ride the Second Level Test, not the FEI Pony Test, in the championships.

The following is a list of tests that may be offered as qualifying and the corresponding Championships class entered for 2009:

Qualifying Test	Championship Test
Training Level Test 4	Training Level Test 4
First Level Test 4	First Level Test 4
Second Level Test 4	Second Level Test 4
Third Level Test 3	Third Level Test 3
Fourth Level Test 3	Fourth Level Test 3
FEI Prix St. Georges	FEI Prix St. Georges
FEI Intermediate I	FEI Intermediate I
FEI Intermediate II	FEI Intermediate II
FEI Grand Prix	FEI Grand Prix
USDF First Level Freestyle	First Level Freestyle
USDF Second Level Freestyle	Second Level Freestyle
USDF Third Level Freestyle	Third Level Freestyle
USDF Fourth Level Freestyle	Fourth Level Freestyle
FEI Intermediate I Freestyle	FEI Intermediate I Freestyle
FEI Grand Prix Freestyle	FEI Grand Prix Freestyle
FEI Pony Team Test	Second Level Test 4
FEI Pony Individual Test	Second Level Test 4
FEI Junior Team Test	FEI Junior Team Test
FEI Junior Individual Test	Third Level Test 3
FEI Junior Freestyle	Third Level Freestyle

FEI Young Rider Team Test	FEI Young Rider Team Test
FEI Young Rider Freestyle	Fourth Level Freestyle
USEF National Young Adult "Brentina Cup"	FEI Intermediate II
USEF Developing Horse	FEI Prix St. Georges
FEI Young Rider Grand Prix 20-25	FEI Intermediate II

Check USEF and USDF Web sites for updated information regarding these tests.

5. Riders must pay the \$10 qualifying class fee to the competition secretary prior to riding in the class. USDF does not refund USDF Regional Championships qualifying fees to competitors for any reason.
6. The qualifying ride fee of \$10 will be sent to USDF from the competition secretary. Eligible competitors must be given the option to enter the class as "USDF qualifying" for a maximum additional fee of \$10. Only one ride is permitted and a maximum of one entry fee charged for the class in addition to the \$10 USDF qualifying fee. Separate ribbons or trophies are not awarded for Great American/USDF qualifying entries. USEF/USDF qualifying and/or championship classes must be designated as such in the prize list. (USEF DR127.4)
7. Horse/rider combinations may enter only one test, and one freestyle, at each level per day as "USDF qualifying." (USEF DR127.4)
8. Competitions, lasting one or multiple days, may offer only one qualifying class per level/division per day.
9. Any and all eligible horse/rider combinations who achieve the minimum qualifying score in a Great American/USDF qualifying class will receive one qualifying score toward their two score requirement to be eligible to enter a Regional Championship if all other conditions are met.
10. To qualify at freestyle, riders must earn a total of two freestyle qualifying scores at the level at which they wish to qualify, earned in designated Great American/USDF qualifying classes, at two different USEF/USDF-recognized Dressage Competitions from two different judges or combinations of judges as described in Section C.3.
11. FEI classes at CDI/CDI-Y/CDI-J/CDI-P or USEF High Performance qualifying competitions must be designated as Great American/USDF qualifying in the prize list in order for classes to be counted as qualifying by USDF. Prior to riding in the class, riders must pay the \$10 qualifying class fee to the competition secretary.
12. The rider must enter the Great American/USDF Regional Championships in his own region unless an Annual Change of Region form has been received in the USDF office by July 1 of the championship year. All persons living outside of the United States must declare a region by the deadline of July 1 of the current competition year.
13. All horse/rider combinations may receive qualifying scores in ANY region but only at shows within the current qualifying year of the region in which the show is held.
14. There is no limit on the number of horses on which a rider may qualify.
15. Qualification is based on horse/rider combination. If a new rider wishes to compete with the horse at the championships, he must requalify. (USEF DR127.7)
16. Automatic invitations shall be extended to the top twelve **placed** competitors who are U.S. citizens, in the NAYRC and NAJC **final team and individual classes**. Invitations shall also be extended to the top twelve horse/rider combinations invited to, **in addition to those horse/rider combinations that competed at**, the USEF High Performance National Championships at Grand Prix and Intermediaire I, and to the top twelve horse/rider combinations **ranked** from the USEF National Junior, Young Rider and Young Adult Ranking lists. However, these invitations exclude Regional Championship freestyle classes for invitees from the USEF National Junior, Young Rider and Young Adult Ranking lists. **These invitations cannot be transferred or applied to other horse/rider combinations, classes, or divisions. Riders receiving an automatic invitation are responsible for entering the Regional Championships by the closing date, and may change their region designation, provided that they do so in writing to the USDF office so prior to the closing date of entries. USDF BOG 12/05/08**
17. Competitors obtaining qualifying scores after the official closing date (see Section C.20 below) must either enter the championship class(es) before the closing date OR submit a post entry to compete in the championship classes, if post entries are allowed in the prize list of the competition.
18. One whip no longer than **47.2 inches (120 cm)**, including lash may be carried in all qualifying classes

(including NAYRC and NAJC) unless such use is otherwise prohibited by FEI or Federation rules or selection procedures for the classes. (USEF DR120.5) An adjustable-length whip may not be carried by a mounted rider. **USEF BOD 1/13/08 Effective 12/1/08**

19. Tests may be read in qualifying classes except in FEI level classes and freestyle classes.

20. Qualifying seasons will vary for each region. The season during which qualifying scores may be earned for a particular Regional Championship is from the day after the closing date of that region's 2008 championship, to the closing date of that region's 2009 championship. The closing date must be at least four weeks prior to the championship event. If the dates of a competition fall within the calendar week (12:01 a.m. Monday through 12:00 midnight Sunday) of a Regional Championship closing date, that show may count for the current qualifying year. The competition management must declare in writing* that they will send Great American/USDF qualifying class results to the USDF office by overnight mail, fax or email on the first business day following the show.

* The USDF Regional Championships Declaration of Intent form for the extended qualifying deadline must be submitted to USDF by June 1 of the current competition year, and prior to advertising the extended deadline in the prize list.

Competitions that have submitted their Declaration of Intent form to USDF, MUST advertise their qualifying year in their prize list. Please note that scores and competitions can be counted for only one qualifying year. Competitions that declare and are counted for the current calendar year's championships count ONLY for the current year. In other words, NO qualified rides from these shows will count for the next year's championships.

21. Competition secretaries must send the results of the Great American/USDF qualifying classes to USDF, along with \$10 per ride. USDF will deposit the funds received from the Great American/USDF qualifying classes, less an administrative fee, into a prize money fund, and a restricted fund for the National Dressage Championships. (See Section J.3)

22. USDF will maintain a database of qualified horse/rider combinations. A list of qualified horse/rider combinations will be posted for each level and division on the USDF Web site. USDF will verify eligibility of championship class entries with the championship's secretary prior to each championship's competition.

D. Minimum Qualifying Scores

One set of nationally-standardized qualifying scores has been established for all USEF/USDF Regional Championships, for levels through Grand Prix, in three divisions: open, adult amateur, and junior/young rider. FEI Junior and FEI Young Rider classes have only one respective division. Freestyles have only open divisions.

The minimum percentages are as follows:

	OPEN	AA	JR/YR
Training Level (Test 4)	68%	63%	63%
First Level (Test 4)	66%	62%	62%
Second Level (Test 4)	64%	61%	61%
Third Level (Test 3)	62%	60%	60%
Fourth Level (Test 3)	62%	60%	60%
FEI Junior (Team Test)	—	—	60%
FEI Young Rider (Team Test)	—	—	60%
Prix St. Georges	60%	60%	60%
Intermediate I	60%	60%	60%
Intermediate II	60%	60%	60%
Grand Prix	60%	60%	60%
FREESTYLE	OPEN	AA	JR/YR
First Level	65%	—	—
Second Level	65%	—	—
Third Level	65%	—	—
Fourth Level	63%	—	—
Intermediate I	63%	—	—
Grand Prix	63%	—	—

E. Championship Rules

1. Riders must declare on the championship entry form for each level if the horse/rider combination is competing in the open, adult amateur, or junior/young rider division and must meet minimum percentage requirements for the championship division entered.
2. Any horse entered in a USEF/USDF Regional Championship competition, even if entered at two levels, must be ridden by the same rider throughout the competition. Therefore, a horse can only be ridden by one rider.
3. Cross-entering open/adult amateur divisions is NOT permitted at the same or at adjacent levels except at a level that does not offer an adult amateur division.
4. If a rider intends to enter a Regional Championship as an adult amateur, the rider must be an adult by the current USEF definition and a current amateur by the USEF definition. (USEF GR1306/1307, GR1306 and DR119.3)
5. If a rider intends to enter a championship as a junior/young rider, the rider must be a junior/young rider by the current USEF definition and his birth date must be on file with USDF by July 1 of the championship year.
6. Photocopies of USDF/USEF membership cards and horse recording and registration certificates must accompany championship entry (USDF PM for rider, USDF PM or BM for owner, etc.).
7. Whips may not be carried in championship tests (Exception: Competitors riding sidesaddle may carry a whip no longer than **47.2 inches (120 cm)**, including lash, in USEF/USDF Championships.) An adjustable-length whip may not be carried by a mounted rider. **USEF BOD 1/13/08 Effective 12/1/08**
8. All championship tests must be ridden from memory. (USEF DR122.1)
9. The gate must be closed for every USEF/USDF championship ride. (USEF DR126.6.a)
10. At no time during a USEF/USDF Regional Championship competition may any horse entered in that championship competition be ridden by anyone other than the rider entered in the championship competition on that horse (exception: grooms riding on loose rein). Further, any horse entered in a championship competition, even entered at two levels, must be ridden by the same rider throughout competition. (USEF DR127.6) (NOTE: This applies throughout the entire competition, even after a horse has completed its championship classes.)
11. In the event of a tie (equality of total points) for champion and/or reserve champion in USEF/USDF championships classes, the collective marks will determine first, second, and/or third or all three places; (i.e. when a tie for first place is broken by collective marks, tied competitors will receive first and second places, etc.). If collective marks are equal, the tie will remain unbroken (i.e. two first places will be awarded next third place, etc.). Ties (equality of total points) after second place will be broken by collective marks. Ties (equality of total points and collective marks) occurring in third through eighth places will remain unbroken. In the case of a tie (equality of total points and collective marks) for champion, prize money designated for champion and reserve champion will be combined and divided equally between the two competitors.
12. Hors de Concours entries are not permitted in USEF/USDF championship classes. (USEF DR119.5)
13. In a USEF/USDF championship class, the horse/rider combination must obtain the necessary minimum percentage score to be named champion or reserve champion. (USEF DR123.4) If the highest placed horse/rider combination receives less than the minimum percentage, there will be no awards ceremony, however all class placings will be reported.
14. In USEF/USDF championship classes, a steward must be appointed to check the saddlery, bits and spurs, on both sides of each horse immediately after it has completed its test and has left the arena. Any discrepancy to the saddlery rules will result in immediate elimination. (USEF DR126.10)
15. A Registered (R) Dressage Technical Delegate (TD), who is a current Participating Member of USDF, is required to officiate at USEF/USDF championships. TDs for competitions offering qualifying and/or championship classes must investigate incidents of non-compliance and report violations to USEF. (See Section H.3. c. below and USEF GR1019 and DR127.3)
16. Entries in USEF/USDF dressage championship classes are limited to competitors who have met the qualifications, membership, horse recording and registration requirements, and deadlines outlined in USEF DR127 and published by USDF. Competitors who are properly qualified, whose completed entries are received by the closing date for a particular Regional Championship, and who have complied with all championship rules may not be denied entry into the Regional Championship classes for which they have

qualified. Only one class per division and/or level may be held to determine USEF/USDF regional champions. (USEF GR915.2)

17. USEF/USDF championships classes may not be split. (USEF DR126.1)

18. Championship classes for juniors and young riders and Dressage Seat Medal Semi-Finals classes may only be held on weekends, including Friday. Juniors and young riders are limited to entry in only two championship classes, excluding freestyle.

19. Except for freestyles, championship classes at consecutive levels, for the same division, may not be held on the same day. When only an open division is offered, no division of a consecutive level may be offered on the same day.

F. Additional Rules and Requirements

1. Competition managers of USEF Dressage Competitions which hold USEF/USDF qualifying and/or championship classes are responsible to USEF for knowing and complying with all USEF rules and USDF guidelines regarding qualifying and/or championship classes. (USEF DR127.3)

2. A host GMO officer or CEO of competition licensee, and the competition manager must sign an agreement with USDF which includes the organizer's agreement to abide by USEF and USDF rules and regulations, and releases USDF from liability, financial or otherwise, during or in connection with the event.

3. Once an application to hold a USEF/USDF regional dressage championship has been submitted, no changes to facility, organizer, manager or secretary may be made without prior notification and written consent of both USDF and the regional director. In addition, USDF and regional director reserve the right to select an alternate host site and management if the facility, organizer, manager, or secretary named in the original host site application is changed without written permission from USDF and the regional director.

4. Awards ceremonies must be scheduled for each championship class.

5. A tentative schedule for the awards ceremonies must be printed in the "Show Program".

6. The confirmed schedule for the awards ceremonies must be posted in the show secretary's office by noon on the day prior to the beginning of the competition. If the posted awards schedule is changed, all affected competitors must be notified.

7. Riders placing in Great American/USDF Regional Championship classes must be present, mounted and in full riding attire for awards ceremonies. Failure, without prior permission of the competition manager, to be present and properly attired, will eliminate the official score and placing and the next highest score will move up in placing. Competitors may decline to participate in the victory round for safety reasons. Unmounted awards ceremonies can be held if weather or other calamity prevents mounted awards ceremonies. Riders must be in full riding attire.

8.. Specific requirements and penalties for failure to participate in prize-giving ceremonies must be announced in the prize list. It is recommended that saddlery for ceremonies be the same as in the competition, but that black or white leg bandages also be allowed. Rosettes should be placed on the horses' bridles prior to the ceremony. The judge at "C" should be invited to participate in the prize-giving. Competition management is responsible for the safe conduct of ceremonies and must excuse any horse that threatens the safety of participants. (USEF DR123.9)

9. Requests to be excused from the awards ceremony must occur one hour before the scheduled ceremony, **except in the case of an emergency.** The requests must be made to the Awards Coordinator who must confer with the USDF Representative, the Competition Manager, and the Technical Delegate in the decision-making process.

10.. Date applications may not use the name or title of a championship that has not been assigned to that licensed competition for the competition year named in the application. The fees are waived when a competition changes its name to include the title of a regional or national championship or when the name reverts back to its original name. Using the name or title of a championship that has not been assigned to that licensed competition during the same competition year is a violation of USEF rules. (USEF GR309.13 and GR706.1.p)

11. Copies of documents submitted by competitors to verify USEF and USDF membership and horse recording must be available to the TD in the competition office. (USEF DR127.2)

12. Management must post the USEF Statement of Principle and USDF Statement on Animal Welfare on the competition grounds.

G. Facilities

1. An unmodified, standard-sized arena must be used for USEF/USDF championship classes. (USEF DR126.6.a)
2. If marked, the center line, throughout its length should be as clearly marked as possible, without however, being of a nature to frighten the horses. (USEF DR126.6.c)
3. A grass arena is not permitted for USEF/USDF championship classes. (USEF DR 126.6.c)
4. If entries warrant, management should provide a minimum of two arenas with suitable footing for championship classes.
5. It is strongly recommended that arena fences be made of wood or plastic board (i.e. not chain), especially for FEI level championships.
6. It is recommended that separate warm-up areas be provided for both championship and open classes with footing comparable to the competition arenas.
7. The schedule for arena and warm-up area maintenance should be posted.
8. Proper footing must be provided and maintained in championship warm-up and competition areas. Warm-up and competition arenas should be dragged and watered as often as is necessary to maintain good footing. (USEF DR126.9)
9. Management must provide a sufficient number of stalls on the competition grounds to stable all of the horses entered in the event. Stabling must be safe and substantial with adequate lighting. (USEF GR1215)
10. Convenient and ample water facilities must be provided. (USEF GR1216.1)
11. Management must provide a convenient source for the purchase of feed and hay.
12. Adequate and sanitary toilet facilities must be provided. (USEF GR1216.2)
13. A secretary's office with adequate personnel and proper communication between secretary, announcer, in-gate, each ring, and stables must be provided. (USEF GR1216.5)
14. Management must provide a suitable PA system for public announcements, awards ceremonies, and freestyles.

H. Personnel

1. Management must provide a sufficient number of trained and experienced personnel to manage the event and to substitute in case of emergency.
2. All USEF/USDF Regional Championships must have a veterinarian present on the grounds throughout the competition regardless of the number of horses competing. In the year after a competition has hosted a USEF/USDF Regional Championship, a veterinarian will be required to be present only if 200 or more horses competed the year prior to hosting the championships. (USEF GR1211.4) The official veterinarian shall be a licensed graduate of an accredited veterinary school in good standing in his/her state of practice, be familiar with the current USEF Equine Drugs and Medications Rules and have experience in equine veterinary practice. (USEF GR1204.1)
3. Management must contract a sufficient number of officials and pay all their expenses, as agreed upon in their contracts.
 - a. Two judges (at least one of whom must be an "S" or FEI dressage judge) must officiate in each championship class. It is recommended that three judges officiate in FEI level championship classes.
 - b. Fifty percent of judges hired to officiate in Regional Championship classes must have permanent residence outside the region.
 - c. "R" Dressage TDs hired to officiate Regional Championship classes must be selected from outside the region and must be a USDF PM. This applies only to the primary competition TD, who is the person responsible for filing the TD report for the competition with USEF.
4. Two people should be assigned to score each championship test. It is recommended that the adding machine tape be attached to each test and results must be posted promptly.
5. A professional photographer must be retained, at the expense of competition management, to photograph the awards ceremonies and champions.
6. Both competition manager and competition secretary must be USEF Senior Active, or Life Members, and manager must be USDF PM, GM, or Interscholastic/Intercollegiate Member (IM) at time of application and championship.

I. USDF Responsibilities

1. Produce the Official Prize List for all 2009 Regional Championships as part of a Master Omnibus for

the Great American/USDF Regional Championship Program. This omnibus will be published online at www.usdf.org by May 1, 2009. Printed copies are available upon request from USDF.

2. On behalf of Great American Insurance Group, USDF will provide:
 - a. \$1,500 grant money to each championship. Grant money will be paid to the organizer of a Regional Championship, one-third before the competition and the remaining two-thirds post-competition, after all results have been submitted, banners and other materials have been returned, and all provisions of the contract have been met.
 - b. The first and second place prizes for all championship classes.
 - c. Championship ribbons for each level and each division to eighth place.
3. USDF will send a staff representative to each championship. The USDF representative can and should advise management on Regional Championship requirements and report on infractions. However, enforcement of championship requirements is solely within the role and obligations of competition management. The USDF representative will also be available to provide information about USDF and its programs and policies.
4. USDF will publish complete results for each championship in USDF Connection and on the Web site.
5. USDF reserves the right to change, alter, or retract any placings and/or prizes for up to 60 days after the last day of the championship if an error or violation is discovered, after which no changes will be made.

J. Prize Money and Recognition

1. Should sponsorship money be available for use as prize money, it will be distributed evenly among the regions.
2. The qualifying fee will be \$10 per class entered. \$5 from each qualifying fee will be deposited into a prize money fund. Prize money is accumulated during the USEF competition year (December 1-November 30). All prize money allocated from qualifying fees will be divided equally among all USDF regions and all Regional Championships classes, with 60% of the amount per class to go to the champion; the remaining 40% will go to the reserve champion.
3. Prize Money for the nine Great American/USDF Regional Championships will be paid directly by the USDF office to the recorded horse owner within 30 days of the last day of each championship. The amount of prize money to be awarded to each champion and reserve champion in all levels and divisions (open, AA and Jr/YR) of the 2009 Regional Championships will be announced by February 2009.
4. The horse/rider combination must obtain the necessary minimum percentage score to be named champion or reserve champion and receive prize money and other prizes.
5. Ribbons will be provided through eight placings.
6. Special pins will be given to all riders who participate in a Regional Championship class.

K. Possible Sanctions for failure to follow USDF Championship Program Rules:

1. Withholding all or part of grant money;
2. USDF penalties;
3. USEF penalties for rule violations; and/or
4. Ineligibility of organizer to host future USDF Championships.