



UNITED STATES *Dressage* FEDERATION

JUDGES' CHECKLIST

(Revised, 12/2016)

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JUDGES' CHECKLIST

Responsibilities of a Judge:

It is a dressage judge's duty to strive for excellence, commit to preserving the highest standards for the sport while acting as an advocate for the horse and guardian of good sportsmanship in competition. As a standard-bearer for the sport, a dressage judge is always seeking to become more knowledgeable and insightful.

In accepting a contract, a dressage judge is accepting an obligation to act responsibly toward the USEF, to the show committee, to the horses, and to the competitors. Use the Judges' Checklist to help ensure you do the best job possible.

General Responsibilities:

1. Technical Responsibilities:
 - a. Observe the USEF and USDF Codes of Conduct.
 - b. Comply with all pertinent rules of the USEF and USDF, honoring the principles of fair play inherent in them. Interpret rules fairly and thoughtfully.
 - c. Keep up to date on all rule changes.
2. Personal Responsibilities:
 - a. Be an advocate for the horse. Through your comments, try to give advice that will encourage harmony and correct training.
 - b. Respect, cooperate with, and be courteous to show management, other officials, exhibitors, and spectators. Be helpful in unforeseen circumstances and difficult conditions.
 - c. Give every competitor your full attention and judge the class fairly.
 - d. Be punctual.
 - e. Be discreet.
 - f. Dress professionally.
 - g. Be humble and strive for improvement. Learning is a never-ending task. Keep up-to-date on dressage philosophies.
 - h. Be charitable when presented with ineptitude.
 - i. Throughout the day, show your appreciation for all volunteers. They are the ones that make the show work! A smile and a thank you go a long way in a long, thankless day.

The Specifics of Judging:

The Contract:

Being asked to judge a show is an honor, so whether you are available or not, be sure to thank the show committee and respond as soon as possible. Should you accept the contract, use the following checklist to avoid any miscommunications:

1. ___ Reply promptly, (less than a week).
2. ___ Provide all information—including fees and expenses—as requested by the show committee.
3. ___ Provide any necessary details including emergency contact, cell number, and any special needs such as food allergies.
4. ___ Alert the show committee if/when you are judging in the same area during the same show season because, for a variety of reasons, it may be necessary for the show committee to reconsider your contract. (For instance, riders who are trying to accumulate points for year-end awards need signatures from several different judges.)
5. ___ Clarify with the show committee who will make the travel and lodging arrangements.
6. ___ Alert the show committee if there are any classes (such as Dressage Sport Horse Breeding classes) that you are either unqualified to judge or are uncomfortable judging.

Once the contract has been signed by both parties, it is a **legally binding** document. Should you have a real emergency that requires your needing to be released from the contract, contact the show committee as soon as possible. Be sure to speak to a person (not just text or email a message) to let them know of your emergency and to request that your contract be voided. As a professional, it is important to make every effort to find a judge to replace you. Confirm in writing (email), thanking the show for their consideration in releasing you from the contract. (This also provides documentation, in case there is a question later.)

The Competition:

Things to have in your brief case or judge tote:

1. ___ Whistle (and bell if possible)
2. ___ Personal copies of tests and diagrams
3. ___ Packet of post-it notes
4. ___ USEF Rule Book (either printed or available on a laptop computer or i-pad)
5. ___ USDF Judges' Checklist
6. ___ Ink pens (black or blue and red)
7. ___ A towel or a couple of sheets of paper towels
8. ___ Personal items (make a master list to check) such as: sun block, bug spray, seat cushion, visor, eye wear, tissues, snacks, bottled water, etc.
9. ___ A timepiece with a second hand and/or a stopwatch for musical freestyles

Things to know before the show:

1. ___ Directions to the show grounds
2. ___ Start time of the show
3. ___ Expected end time (*Generally, you should not expect a show to end before 5:00 PM, and you should plan to allow an additional 30 minutes to ensure all classes are pinned and to clear up any questions or disputes as well as to fill in any necessary paperwork and to settle your account.*)
4. ___ Cell phone numbers for the secretary and show manager and if possible for the show grounds
5. ___ Hotel name, address, and phone number
6. ___ Name and phone number of person picking you up from the airport
7. ___ Name and phone number of person driving you from the hotel to the showgrounds

Things to review before the show:

1. ___ The USEF Rule Book, especially the chapter on dressage (DR) for up to date or extraordinary rule changes
2. ___ The USDF Glossary of Judging Terms
3. ___ The biomechanics of the exercises
4. ___ The biomechanics of the rider
5. ___ The written requirements for each level
6. ___ The Criteria of the Movements
7. ___ The meaning/verbal interpretation of each mark
8. ___ The conditions for elimination
9. ___ The methodology for noting errors of the test, errors of the course, and voice faults
10. ___ Any changes or relevant information on the current USEF Website

Things to find out at the show:

1. ___ Meet the TD, the show manager, and the show secretary, but remember to be polite and realize that show management needs to focus on a myriad of details right before a show. Once you have arrived on the show grounds, management probably will not be concerned with meeting any of your needs until the show is underway—so make your inquiries as short and as few as possible.
2. ___ Get a copy of your schedule, check that your breaks are scheduled. Look for any ambiguities or confusion in the times or overall schedule.
3. ___ Ask whether there are any Dispensation Certificates, and make sure they are attached to appropriate tests.
4. ___ Get a copy of the emergency procedures designed for the show.
5. ___ Locate the ring where you will be judging.

6. ___ Determine whether you will be using a whistle or a bell.
7. ___ Check the start time for your ring.
8. ___ Check your booth to be sure it is situated correctly, that it contains two chairs, that it is unlocked—in other words, make sure it is ready for you!
9. ___ Make sure your arena is set up correctly, especially the letters. Check that A and C are lined up.
10. ___ Check the ring for any special conditions such as inadequate space to ride around the outside of the ring.
11. ___ Locate the ring steward. Review any special instructions that you may have.
12. ___ Locate the restroom facility nearest your arena.

Things to Attend to Before the Start of Judging:

Housekeeping Details:

- Turn cell phone onto “airplane mode.” *Do not have your phone set to alert you to calls as this may distract you. However, you need to be able to use it quickly should it be necessary to call the TD, the office, or to get emergency help.*
- Check that the tests to be used are for the CORRECT YEAR.
- Organize your “desk” (test sheet or diagram, pens, whistle or bell, timepiece, cell phone, etc.) so that everything is easily accessible.
- Chat with your scribe to put him/her at ease and to find out his/her experience in dressage.
- Assure him/her that you look forward to working together as a team, and that you will depend on each other to avoid making mistakes.

Prepping your Scribe:

a. Review General Procedures:

- The test identified on the score sheet coincides with the schedule.
- The order of the tests coincides with the “order of go.”
- The bridle number of the horse in the ring is the number that is written on the test. (The number written on the test sheet must not be taken from the day sheet.)
- Ensure that all scores and comments are written in ink.
- Make sure abbreviations are “decipherable.”
- Ditto marks are discouraged.
- When applicable, *Elimination or Withdrawn* is written in place of “FINAL SCORE” on the front of the test sheet.

b. Review USEF Requirements:

- All scores and comments must be written in ink.
- All scores must be recorded with a decimal (e.g. 6.0 instead of 6).
- Errors should be noted by the scribe, but deducted (- 2 or - 6) by the judge at end of test. “Use of Voice” should be noted with a line through the original score. The final score (lowered by at least two points) is recorded and initialed by the judge. However, on movements with a coefficient the score need only be lowered by one point. “Use of Voice” should be written in parentheses.
- A change of a score should be noted with a line through the original score, and the final score written in the box and initialed by the judge. The originally written number should not be altered to reflect the new number.

c. Discuss Your Personal Style:

- Whether you give the score or the comment first.
- What to do in case he or she doesn’t hear you or gets “lost” (*You may ask your scribe to make a note on the test sheet so he/she can ask you after the test is over—you may find it disruptive to be interrupted as you are judging—or you may want your scribe to tell you as soon as there is some confusion.*)
- Whether you or the scribe fills in the general impressions and further remarks (*You may want to do this to allow your scribe a bit of a break as well as to get the next test ready.*)

General Procedures:

1. **Stay on time!** It is the responsibility of the judge to stay on time throughout the show. You must make your final remarks quickly and go on to the next competitor. If you find that the schedule is so tight that it is not possible to stay on time, contact the ring steward and management to tell them to tell the competitors that they are to begin to circle the ring to come in as soon as the previous competitor completes the final salute. Try to continue judging through your breaks. At an opportune time, in a friendly way, try to explain to the manager what was over-looked to cause the schedule to run late.
2. **The salute:** It is good to stand before blowing the whistle or ringing the bell to give your rider warning that it is time to proceed to A. After the salute, smile and bow, then be seated.
3. **Blowing the whistle or ringing the bell:**
 - a. Avoid blowing the whistle or ringing the bell when it might startle the horse.
 - b. Try to blow the whistle when the rider has a fair chance to get into the ring on time.
 - c. Check your watch to time the entry as soon as you have blown the whistle. If the rider is late getting into the ring, it is best to inform him or her that he is eliminated. Time permitting and with the judge's approval, he or she can then opt to ride the test but scores will not count.
 - d. When it is time for a ride but no rider has presented him/herself, blow the whistle or ring the bell loudly for a protracted period of time to give fair warning to the errant rider. This will avoid a possible dispute as to whether or not the rider was a "no show." Write "no show" on the test and then sign it.
4. **The final salute:**
 - a. It is unnecessary to stand for the final salute, but as a courtesy, be sure to acknowledge your rider.
 - b. At a licensed show, the Judge may not discuss a ride with a competitor before the bell or after the final salute. At a schooling show, however, if time permits, you may be expected to discuss the ride.
5. **Judging the test:** Generally, the movements are judged by evaluating the basics along with the criteria (B + C) and then factoring in the modifier(s) so the end formula becomes: $B + C \pm m = \text{Score}$. (See appendix for further details.)
6. **Errors:** An error is marked when a horse does a movement or a rider does something other than that which is prescribed by the test.
 - a. **Errors of the Course:** An error of course has to do with not following the prescribed course, such as taking a wrong turn or omitting a movement. When the judge rings the bell, he must explain the mistake and redirect the rider. However, should the rider make another mistake on the same exercise, although the bell is rung again, and the same procedure is followed, no additional penalty points are given. If the error involves a minor deviation of the course, the judge has the option to not disrupt the flow of the test. However, if the bell was not sounded for the original mistake and the same mistake is made in the "mirrored image" of the movement, no further penalty points may be deducted for the second mistake. In tests at Introductory Level through Fourth Level, two points are deducted for the first error, four points for the second error, and the third requires elimination. The judge is responsible for recording the errors at the end of the test. At the FEI Levels, two percentage points are deducted for the first error, and the second error requires elimination.
 - b. **Errors of Test:** When the competitor makes an "error of the test" (rises the trot instead of sitting; at the salute does not take the reins in one hand, etc.) he must be penalized as for an "error of the course". If a rider performs sitting trot where rising trot is prescribed or rising trot where sitting is prescribed, the bell must be sounded and the rider warned that this is an error that accumulates if repeated, leading to elimination at the third occurrence.
 - c. **Repetition of movements:** In principle, a competitor is not allowed to repeat a movement of the test unless the President of the Jury decided on an error of course (rings the bell). If, however, the rider has started the execution of a movement and attempts to do the same movement again, the judge(s) must consider the first movement shown only and, at the same time penalize for an error of course.
7. **Use of Voice:** Each time it is clear to the judge that the rider is using his or her voice—clucking, talking to the horse, or making any sound to communicate with the horse—during the course of the test, at least two points are deducted from the score that would otherwise have been awarded for the movement where this occurred.

In movements with a coefficient of two, judges may choose to deduct only one mark so that the final mark becomes a two-point deduction.

Note: Points deducted for “use of voice” are *not* listed as errors.

Methodology of Judging:

The Current USEF Rules State:

1. The object of dressage is the development of the horse into a happy athlete through harmonious education. As a result, it makes the horse calm, supple, loose and flexible, but also confident, attentive and keen, thus achieving perfect understanding with the rider.
2. These qualities are demonstrated by:
 - a. the freedom and regularity of the gaits
 - b. the harmony, lightness and ease of the movements
 - c. the lightness of the forehand and the engagement of the hindquarters, originating from a lively impulsion
 - d. the acceptance of the bit, with submissiveness/throughness (Durchlässigkeit) without any tension or resistance

METHODOLOGY is the standardized system by which a judge determines the initial score and the effect of the modifiers in order to arrive at an appropriate final score, justifies or defends his score and how he arrived at that score. *Methodology* allows the judge to arrive at the relatively appropriate score in the same way for different horses under differing conditions, and ensures the same treatment in every instance for the same performance, problems, and modifiers.

Methodology should not be a strict formula when judging a subjectively judged activity and cannot be reduced to strict 'rules.' The value of this training approach is in the development of systematic thinking during the judging process. Personal Methodology, based on systematic thought process, finally gives the judge his or her best way of coming to the most appropriate score and relationship between scores and placings.

A convenient and reliable formula for dealing with judging methodology involves three elements:

"B" = Basics/Biomechanics (Quality of the Basics/Biomechanics)

"C" = Criteria of the exercise (Was it recognizable, and performed as described in the USEF rule book?)

"m" = Modifiers (minor incidents or occurrences that may adjust the score)

The formula is expressed as: $(B + C) +/- m = \text{Score}$

(B + C) provides a first impression or initial score; “m” expresses minor modifiers that adjust the first impression to determine a Final Score.



DEFINITIONS

PURPOSE of the Test/Level:

To evaluate/confirm the expected stage of training for each specific dressage level as stated on the top of the score sheet.

CRITERIA:

Standard by which a movement is judged as stated in the USEF Rule Book.

TEST MOVEMENT:

A section of a dressage test that must be evaluated with a single score.

ESSENCE of the Test Movement:

The most important part of a specific box on the score sheet.

MODIFIER:

Other elements in the box that might add to or deduct from the score.

DIRECTIVE IDEAS:

Explanations on the score sheet in the column after each test movement.

In summary, the *Final Score* is the **Quality of Basics** (Gaits, Impulsion & Submission) **plus** the **Criteria of the Movement** (configuration or mechanic of the movement in the correct gait and pace, focus/purpose/intent) **+/- modifiers** (accuracy, minor incidents or occurrences).

Use of Half Points

Dressage is now allowed to be judged in half points. Previously, “6” could mean nearly “5”, or nearly “7”. Using half points widens the scoring range.

A “6” is still a “6,” and a “7” is still a “7.” A half point is intended to be used for a score that is solidly in the middle – not teetering on the edge of another score. Judge talk (big “6” or little “7”) cannot be conveyed to a rider but half points indicate where they stand within the range. They are also useful to the judge in making a distinction between two performances that are not a full point apart, but are clearly different in quality.

The fact that one “may” use half points does not mean he “must” use half points. On the other hand, accuracy and decisiveness are not determined by sticking to a whole point score – quite the opposite. It takes time to implement a wider scoring range. With practice, most judges find half points increasingly useful, but each should proceed within his or her own comfort zone.

To further widen the score range decimal (tenths) points can be used in the Riders Tests, Artistic portion of USDF Freestyles, Dressage Seat Equitation, and Young Horse classes.



Directive for Rider's Position and Seat Score

Posture and Alignment

At all gaits when sitting, the rider's ear, shoulder, hip, and heel are vertically aligned. The rider does not lean ahead of or behind the vertical. The rider is slightly in front of the vertical when posting the trot. The rider's spine is aligned with the horse's spine, the back is neither rounded nor hollow, the shoulders and hips are level.

Stability

As a result of having a stable core, the rider sits securely in the saddle. The rider does not rock from side to side, as is sometimes seen in the walk and extended trot.

Elasticity

The rider has a positive, mobile tension without being rigid.

Weight Placement

The rider sits vertically with the weight distributed equally on both seat bones whenever the horse's body is straight and does not slip to the outside when riding a circle, a lateral movement, or any movement in which the horse is bent. The rider's body does not lean inward or outward.

Following Mechanics of the Gaits

The rider demonstrates the ability to ride in harmony with the mechanics of each gait, including the medium and extended paces. The hands act independently to maintain a steady, elastic connection with the horse's mouth.

Directives for Rider's Correct and Effective Use of the Aids

Clarity and Subtlety

The rider prepares for and performs the movements using aids that are subtle, tactful, and effective giving the impression of clear communication between rider and horse.

Correct Basics and Criteria

The training of the horse appears to be following the principles established by the Pyramid of Training, and both the horse and rider appear competent with the criteria of the level.

Independence

Separation of leg, seat, and rein aids in a way that allows the rider's intent to remain clear to the horse, without the complication of inadvertent signals. For instance, the hands act independently of the horse's motion to maintain a steady, elastic connection with the horse's mouth.

Accuracy of the Exercises

The geometry of the movements is correct; e.g. size and shape of circles, riding through corners, geometry of serpentine, etc. In lateral movements, the angle and bend are correct.

USDF PROGRAMS

FREESTYLE

Please refer to USDF for most current and complete rules, guidelines and definitions:

<http://www.usdf.org/docs/education/other/FSRGD.pdf>

If you are not familiar with freestyles as a competitor yourself, or you don't judge them often, it would be wise to review the rules and guidelines, as well other ancillary educational material provided by the USDF beforehand. There are allowed movements, forbidden movements that are "above the level," use of half points on technical but tenth (.1) points on artistic, timing rules and deductions, and rules specific to music failure.

Please note: There were some significant rule changes regarding freestyles with the 2015 test cycle. Please be aware of these changes regarding allowed and forbidden movements (which include transitions) especially at First Level and understand your responsibility in upholding the rules.

Technical

Judging freestyle is complex because the order of the elements is unspecified, their placement is not stipulated, and there may be movements that are difficult to determine, mostly because of poor execution. If it is questionable whether or not a compulsory element was performed, you should give the benefit of the doubt to the competitor.

It is not uncommon for riders to repeat a movement. In that case, there may be several scores in the box for "Preliminary Notes." The judge must take *all* preliminary marks into account when determining the "Judge's Mark" for that element.

A main challenge of judging freestyle is "dividing your brain" so that while you are scoring the technical, you are also noting the artistic components. You may begin with a methodology you were taught, but over time, you may develop a system of your own. If you do, be sure to brief your scribe on your personal expectations. They may be different from a previous judge.

Artistic

USDF Artistic Impression scores include Harmony between Horse and Rider, Choreography, Degree of Difficulty, Music, and Interpretation. The use of .1 (tenth) points is encouraged for two reasons: the artistic coefficients are large and so have a great influence on the score, and also because they can help refine difference between the artistic choices the various riders have chosen and executed.

Degree of Difficulty must be assessed not only in terms of configurations that go beyond the minimum for the level (e.g., a steeper angle in half pass or a more difficult line in counter canter), but also for demanding transitions. The choice of configurations should be within the capabilities of the horse to perform correctly and harmoniously. High difficulty should not be rewarded when the configuration or demand goes beyond the horse's scope, and indeed may have a negative influence. *When the basis of the level has been met with quality, the score for degree of difficulty should start at 7. When required movements are presented in a more difficult configuration and combination, the degree of difficulty scores should go up respectively. The more defined/supple transitions would also increase the degree of difficulty score.*

Choreography is assessed on the full and balanced use of the arena, balance in work on both reins (directional balance), a cohesive and understandable design, and creativity. The Music score relates to the actual music selection and preparation. It is judged not by the likes or dislikes of the judge, but whether or not it is suitable for the horse, is seamless in nature (no jarring edits), and has a unifying theme or instrumentation. Interpretation is evaluated on how the music expresses the gaits as well as the rider's ability to use the phrasing and dynamics of the music to express the choreography.

A good freestyle takes a lot of forethought and preparation. Respect that, and have a meaningful summary statement for the rider, e.g. “music beautifully supported the dance,” or “choreography showcases the abilities of the horse,” or “trot choreography was interesting, but canter work too test-like.”

Briefing the Freestyle Scribe

- ___ For general issues, see “Prepping your Scribe” on page 4.
- ___ Point out Technical Execution, Artistic Impression and what categories are included in each.
- ___ Explain that scores only go in the column labeled “Preliminary Notes.” Because of limited space on some tests, scores can alternatively be written under the wording of the required movement.
- ___ Suggest that a line between the walk, trot, and canter movements be extended into the margin to quickly find the appropriate required movement.
- ___ Point out where you want them to place additional comments.
- ___ Point out that some boxes have dotted lines indicating right and left.
- ___ Instruct your scribe to write small in case there is more than one entry per box.
- ___ Explain how you specify right and left, i.e. “I’ll say half-pass right” as opposed to “right half pass.”
- ___ Specify what you will do at the end of the performance, i.e. the Judges Marks for Technical Execution and all, part, or none of the Artistic Impression scores.

QUADRILLE/PAS DE DEUX

Please refer to USDF for most current and complete rules, guidelines and definitions:

Quadrille <http://www.usdf.org/docs/education/other/QuadallRGD.pdf>

Pas de Deux <http://www.usdf.org/education/other-programs/pasdedeux/index.asp>

Quadrille has two types of tests: the four-rider standard test and the freestyle. In both types, judging quadrille focuses on the total picture of the team as it executes each movement. The bases for evaluating each are Spacing, Alignment, and Synchrony (SAS). In the standard tests, the SAS criteria appear again in the Collective Marks along with Impulsion, Submission, and Performance as a Group. Before any show, you should become familiar with the tests you will be judging.

Spacing: Both longitudinal (one behind the other) and lateral (side-by-side) spacing are judged. There is no set, “correct” spacing for any particular maneuver or transition, since horses may be closer together or further apart depending on the experience of the group and the nature of the movement performed. However, the same spacing should be maintained throughout the individual movement.

Alignment: Longitudinal alignment refers to how well the riders stay one behind the other when in a column and lateral alignment is how they remain when side-by-side. Because alignment is very dependent upon synchrony, these two factors are scored together in the Collective Marks.

Synchrony: Synchrony is the uniformity with which the horses initiate and complete movement. Figures, turns, transitions and dressage movements such as leg-yield should be commenced and ended altogether as one. Be aware that some maneuvers may be structured to initiate *successively* (one then the next).

Modifiers (lesser considerations) and Collective Marks

Impulsion: A half (.5) to one point can be deducted for each movement affected by lack of impulsion. When the whole ride is sluggish, then it will be reflected in the Collective Marks as well. When the impulsion is outstanding, it can enhance the score for the movement, depending on what else happens, and it certainly should be reflected in the Collectives.

Submission: All horses do not need to be perfectly on the bit. Of course, if all horses were well connected, it would add to the score for the individual maneuver, and also result in a good score for Submission in the Collectives.

When acceptance of the aids for the team as a whole is not acceptable, it could result in loss of one or more points in the movement, plus the Submission score must be appropriately low. When acceptance of the aids is what you would expect for the level, then it would have no impact on the score for the individual movement, and the Collective score would be 6 or better depending on consistency.

Disobedience: if pervasive with one or more horses, can disrupt a number of movements. This should be reflected not only in the lowered scores for each of those movements, but also in the Collective mark for Submission. However, an isolated incidence of shying, with quick recovery and no affect to ensuing movements, would be addressed only in the particular movement concerned and not in the Collectives.

Performance As A Group: This Collective Mark addresses the ability of the entire team to perform the required movements. If some could and some could not perform a specific movement, then the score for that individual movement would be affected. Depending on the frequency of the inconsistencies, Performance as a Group also would be influenced.

Trots can be ridden either rising or sitting, but whichever is elected, the entire team must perform in that manner.

QUADRILLE FREESTYLE

Quadrille Freestyle is not restricted to four horse/rider combinations. While it is not common, teams of six, eight or more are permitted. The score sheet is divided into Technical Execution and Artistic Impression. Compulsory elements are consistent with the standard test of the same level and are listed on the score sheet; however, they are assessed collectively, not individually. Because of this, and because there are no FEI quadrille tests, the USDF Quadrille Freestyle score sheet is the same from Basic through Grand Prix.

The Artistic scores are: Choreography (includes difficulty), Choice of Music and Interpretation, Harmony of Presentation, and Team Appearance. With the exception of the last, these categories are in keeping with individual musical rides. Refer to "Judging the Freestyle," especially the general comments and the section on Artistic Impression.

PAS DE DEUX

There are no compulsory Pas de Deux tests; they are ridden strictly as freestyles. In an international championship, FEI Individual Musical Freestyle Score Sheets would be used for the equivalent level. However, for all other shows in the United States, the USDF Pas de Deux score sheets are legal for Training through Grand Prix.

The score sheet is divided into Technical Execution and Artistic Impression. Technical requirements are the same as the individual freestyle and are listed on the score sheet, however they are judged collectively. Pas de Deux judging is similar to quadrille, as the two primary aspects of the riding are alignment and synchrony.

The Artistic scores include Harmony between Horses and Riders, Choreography (including difficulty), and Musicality, which is similar to Music and Interpretation on the USDF individual freestyle score sheet. Refer to "Judging the Freestyle," especially the general comments and the section on Artistic Impression.

USEF PROGRAMS

PARA-EQUESTRIAN

RULES FOR EXECUTION OF TESTS

The rules of the USEF Dressage Division are used in adjudication of these tests at a USEF Competition. Please refer to USEF for most current and complete guidelines and rules. In addition to these, please refer to the current rules which govern Para-Equestrian at National Level Competitions:

http://www.usef.org/_IFrames/breedsdisciplines/discipline/allpara.aspx

PARA-EQUESTRIAN DEFINITION

USEF defines Para-Equestrian (GR142) as a competition, division or section that provides equestrian competition opportunities for eligible individuals with a diagnosed permanent, physical disability as determined by the USEF Para-Equestrian Classification System (see GR1311). In essence, it offers these riders an equal or parallel ("Para") venue of competition compared to the able-bodied riders.

PARTICIPATION IN CLASSES

Dressage is one such venue open to these riders and is the area addressed here. Para-Equestrian riders may enter regular classes in the horse show to be judged along with and by the same standard as able-bodied riders. Para-Equestrians can enter both Para-Equestrian classes and the regular dressage classes at the equivalent level at a dressage show.

Riders need to be classified either by FEI Classifiers at a CPEDI (each rider's Grade, profile and compensating aids can be downloaded from the FEI website) or with a USEF Dispensation Certificate to describe the specific equipment each rider is entitled to use. These are required at all USEF competitions in which riders wish to use special equipment. These act to describe which 'compensating aids' allow Para riders to perform. Copies of Dispensation Certificates are provided to Competition Management and must accompany the test used for judging the ride. Rules about these Dispensation Certificates can be found in the USEF GR 1310.

JUDGING STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES

Judges are still guided by the FEI objective that Dressage is the development of the horse into a happy athlete through harmonious education. Judges need to be mindful that these FEI Guidelines and definitions of Gaits, Paces, and Movements are in full force. Para riders are to be judged using the same criteria as able-bodied riders without exception. Utilization of the Training Pyramid in judging is to be strictly followed; however, since riders with physical disabilities do not have full use of their entire body, all references to aids must be interpreted to include the use of other parts of their body and/or appropriate and declared compensating aids. Other than these accommodations, the judging criteria must remain the same for any dressage test, with the horse's performance as what is evaluated. The judge must keep in mind:

- Safety
- Impartiality to the particular disability
- Testing the riding skill and effectiveness of aids

GRADES OF PARA-EQUESTRIAN COMPETITION

There are four grades of Para-Equestrian competition as recognized by FEI. These grades can be summarized with the following general descriptions:

- GRADE I/II:** Mainly wheelchair users with poor trunk balance and/or impairment of all four limbs, or no trunk balance and good limb function, or moderate trunk balance with severe impairment of four limbs.
- GRADE III:** Mainly wheelchair users, or those with severe locomotor impairment involving the trunk and with good to mild upper limb functions, those with severe arm impairment and slight leg impairment or severe unilateral impairment.
- GRADE IV:** Usually able to walk without support. Moderate unilateral impairment or moderate impairment in four limbs, severe arm impairment. May need a wheelchair for longer distances due to lack of stamina. Total loss of sight in both eyes, or intellectually (special non-recognition) impaired. Blacked out glasses or blindfold must be worn by such riders.
- GRADE V:** Impairment in one or two limbs, or some visual impairment. Specific categories of disabilities may be found in the FEI division rules following the classifiers profiles. These determine through review by designated classifiers the Grade to which each rider will be allowed to compete. Such documentation is required from each rider at the equestrian competition.

TESTS USED IN COMPETITONS

Current tests are available from the FEI website and may be used in any national competition as well as FEI approved events. Please go to:

<http://www.fei.org/fei/your-role/organisers/p-e-dressage/tests>

WHO MAY JUDGE THESE CLASSES

There are also special FEI tests for Para-Equestrians at five (5) different levels, which can be judged by USEF "r" judges through Level 3, and "R" and "S" judges through Level IV. USEF Rules show the equivalency chart for entries (USEF GR 1009.3).

USEF NATIONAL PROGRAMS

JUNIORS

Please refer to USEF for most current and complete guidelines and rules:

http://www.usef.org/_IFrames/breedsdisciplines/discipline/alldressage/juniorInfo.aspx

YOUNG RIDERS

Please refer to USEF for most current and complete guidelines and rules:

http://www.usef.org/_IFrames/breedsdisciplines/discipline/alldressage/youngRiderInfo.aspx

YOUNG ADULT "BRENTINA CUP"

Please refer to USEF for most current and complete guidelines and rules:

http://www.usef.org/_IFrames/breedsdisciplines/discipline/alldressage/youngAdultInfo.aspx

DRESSAGE SEAT EQUITATION ("DSE") & DRESSAGE SEAT MEDAL PROGRAM ("DSM")

Please refer to USEF for most current and complete guidelines and rules:

<http://www.usef.org/documents/disciplines/dressage/EquitationGuidelines.pdf>

Regular DSE classes may use any USEF Judge "r" "R" or "S"

DSM Semi Final Classes require two USEF Judges "R" or "S"

DSM Finals Classes require three USEF "R" or "S" Judges (Finals class judges must be approved by the Federation Dressage Committee).

Dressage judges often do not get much experience judging group classes such as DSE. Thus, it is important to familiarize yourself with the applicable USEF Rules (DR 117 and DR 133 in particular). You may also want to download the following documents for review: (These documents can all be found on the USEF web site)

1. ___ DSE Score Sheet (or, if applicable, the DSM Semi Finals and Finals Score Sheet)
2. ___ Guidelines for Judging Dressage Seat Equitation
3. ___ "Patterns" document that suggests a variety of additional tests that may be used for placing classes

Remember that it is now required that the judge give a final percentage score for each rider in a DSE class. Preliminary scores are permitted but not required, and the judge may develop and use his or her own methodology for placing the class and determining scores. Decimal (tenth) points can be used.

Conducting a Class

DSE classes should be held in an enclosed ring that is larger than a standard dressage arena. If such a space is not available, an open schooling area is permitted. Classes may also be held in a 20x60m arena and in that case, no more than six horses may be required to canter at one time.

Specific Things to Remember:

- ___ Safety of horses and riders is paramount.
- ___ Classes are limited to 25 riders, and large classes may be further divided by the judge(s) as appropriate.
- ___ In any class, judges may limit the number of horses cantering at one time in their discretion.
- ___ Medium walk, working trot (sitting and rising), and canter both directions must be performed.
- ___ Judges may require additional tests of some or all of the riders to help place the class. All individual tests must comply with applicable rules.

- _____ These tests should use movements and exercises from the Training and First Level tests (see the “Patterns” document and related pattern diagrams for suggestions).
- _____ Change of horses not allowed.
- _____ Any additional tests should be clearly explained to the riders, preferably using a microphone.
- _____ If stirrups are required to be dropped, the riders should be instructed to cross them.
- _____ The judge(s) should stand where they have the best view of the class. It is desirable to “work” the class, but judges should also be cognizant of the time constraints of the show and the endurance of horses and riders and not let classes run too long.
- _____ When multiple judges are officiating, they should consult with each other before arriving at the final scores and placings.
- _____ Back numbers and the appropriate DSE Score Sheets are required.
- _____ Snaffle bridles and approved headgear meeting USEF specifications are required.
- _____ No junior rider in a DSE class may ride a stallion.

Placing and Scoring the Class:

- _____ The judge’s first job is to compare all riders in a class for overall placings. In placing the class, each rider must receive a final score, which will be recorded by USEF and USDF.
- _____ Score sheets will not be posted, but judges are encouraged to provide verbal comments to the riders at the end of the class.
- _____ In judging correct position, keep in mind the directives of DR 117 as well as the suggestions of the Guidelines for Judging Dressage Seat Equitation Classes.
- _____ Remember that it is the rider being judged not the horse; however, lameness of horses must be penalized per DR122.6.
- _____ The quality of the horse should have no influence if seat and aids are not seen as having a detrimental effect on the horse’s movement.

Unlike a Dressage test, it is impossible to see every rider constantly during the class. Look for the overall picture and effectiveness and do not dwell on one detail of position or on personal “pet peeves.” The Guidelines provide good descriptions of both good and undesirable position characteristics as well as suggestions for arriving at numerical scores.

The DSE Scribe:

- _____ Your scribe should stand with you as you view the class.
- _____ Explain to the scribe how you like to record preliminary scores and/or comments, if given, as well as how you will arrive at final scores and placings.
- _____ The scribe should help you identify each rider’s number (perhaps with a brief description of the horse – small grey, tall bay etc.) as the class starts.

There are USEF judges continuing education clinics geared toward the correct judging of Dressage Seat Equitation. Once you have attended one of these forums, you will receive an * by your name in the USEF Roster of Judges, noting your Dressage Seat Equitation education.

MARKEL/USEF YOUNG HORSE DRESSAGE PROGRAM

Please refer to USEF for most current and complete guidelines and rules:

<http://www.usef.org/IFrames/breedsdisciplines/discipline/alldressage/NatlyHProgram.aspx>

Qualifying classes require two (2) FEI or USEF “S” Judges. It is required that at least one (1) judge have completed and received credit from a USEF or FEI-recognized Young Horse training session. This Young Horse designation is noted in the Licensed Official roster on the USEF and FEI web sites.

Championship classes require two (2) FEI judges. The panel must have either USEF or FEI Young Horse Designation. The panel shall sit together at C.

The USEF website will have all of the material you will need to judge a Young Horse Class. You will need to download and place in your judges’ notebook the following material:

- _____ The scoring grid; this grid will allow you to keep track of the scores you give for the entire class.

- _____ The guidelines regarding the scores (decimal/tenth points can be used) and what you should be looking for regarding quality and the training of the Young Horse.
- _____ A complete list of comments for the written test as well as guidelines for the oral commentary.

There are USEF continuing education clinics for judges geared toward the correct judging of the FEI Young Horse Tests. Once you have attended one of these forums, you will receive an * by your name in the USEF Roster of Judges, noting your Young Horse education.

DEVELOPING HORSE DRESSAGE PROGRAM

Please refer to USEF for most current and complete guidelines and rules:

http://www.usef.org/_IFrames/breedsdisciplines/discipline/alldressage/developingHorseInfo.aspx

Qualifying Classes require two (2) FEI or USEF "S" Judges

For tests to be counted towards qualification, at least one (1) judge must differ per panel.

Championship Competition:

Day 1 – Qualifying Class: These tests will be judged by either three (3) FEI Judges or Two (2) FEI Judges and one (1) USEF 'S' Judge, all of whom must have USEF or FEI Young Horse Designation.

Day 2- Championship Class: These Tests will be judged by either three (3) FEI Judges or two (2) FEI Judges and one (1) USEF "S" Judge (at least one (1) of which must differ from those judging the "Qualifying Class"), all of whom must have USEF or FEI Young Horse Designation.

The Developing Horse Prix St George and the Developing Horse Grand Prix competitions are judged exactly as you would a regular FEI class.

- _____ There are two tests designed specifically for each age group and you should download these two tests from the USEF Website and keep them in your judges notebook.
- _____ The Developing Horse Prix St. George uses the current FEI Prix St. George as well as the USEF Developing Horse Prix St George. They are both judged as you would judge a regular FEI test.
- _____ The **Developing Horse Grand Prix uses the current FEI Intermediare II** and the **USEF Developing Horse Grand Prix**. They are both judged as you would judge an FEI Intermediare II test.

PONIES

Please refer to USEF for most current and complete guidelines and rules:

https://www.usef.org/_IFrames/breedsdisciplines/discipline/alldressage/dressagePonies.aspx

RIDER TESTS

Please refer to USEF for most current and complete guidelines and rules:

https://www.usef.org/_IFrames/breedsDisciplines/discipline/allDressage.aspx

Appendix I. New/ Revised USEF Rules Pertaining to Judging (changes in red)

(Rule references current as of 12/10/2016. Please refer to USEF online rulebook for the most complete and current rules.)

DR102.1 The Halt: At the halt the horse should stand attentive, engaged, motionless, straight and square with the weight evenly distributed over all four legs. The neck should be raised with the poll as the highest point and the head slightly in front of the vertical. While remaining "on the bit" and maintaining a light and soft contact with the rider's hand, the horse may quietly chew the bit and should be ready to move off at the slightest indication of the rider. The halt must be at least 3 seconds **when shown with a salute**. The halt should be **maintained** throughout the salute *Effective 4/1/2016*

DR111.3g Travers: **This exercise is performed in collected trot. The forehand remains on the track with the head looking straight along the track. The haunches are moved to the inside, with the horse slightly bent**

toward the direction of movement, so that from the front or behind one sees four tracks. The degree of bend is greater than that of shoulder-in and a constant angle of approximately 35 degrees should be shown. The horse's outside hind leg passes and crosses in front of the inside hind leg. The outside foreleg is placed in front of the inside foreleg. To start the travers, the haunches must leave the track or, after a corner or circle, are not brought back onto the track. At the end of the travers, the quarters are brought back onto the track as in. *Effective 4/1/2016*

DR116 The Impulsion, The Submission (Willing Cooperation) This is repeated throughout the rules, everywhere submission is written, Willing Cooperation is added in parentheses. *Effective 2/1/16*

DR119.2 The FEI Seven-Year-Old Tests are equivalent to Fourth Level. *Effective 2/1/16 BOD 1/16/16*

DR119.4.e A person may compete as a U25 Rider from the beginning of the calendar year in which he reaches the age of sixteen (16) until the end of the calendar year in which he reaches the age of twenty five (25). *Effective 2/1/16 BOD 1/16/16.*

DR119.11 Riders with a diagnosed permanent disability who require the use of compensatory aids or adaptive equipment must hold a Federation Dispensation Certificate indicating their International (FEI) or their National (USEF) classification status. A copy of an athlete's Dispensation Certificate listing all of his or her allowed compensating aids and adaptive equipment must be included with the rider's entry, with a copy then attached to each of their Dressage sheets for the Judge's reference. A copy must remain with the entry records for review by the Technical Delegate.

BOD 1/16/16 Effective 4/1/16

DR119.12 Athletes in FEI Para-Equestrian tests must have a current Federation Dispensation Certificate which indicates their Classification status to be eligible to participate.

BOD 1/16/16 Effective 2/1/16

DR121.1.3 For Federation Third and Fourth Level tests same as (2) above, or a simple double bridle (bridoon [snaffle] and bit [curb] and curb chain, cavesson noseband only). The curb "chain" can be made of metal, leather or a combination. A lip strap and rubber, leather, or sheepskin cover for curb chain are optional. *Effective 2/1/16 BOD 1/16/16*

DR 121.1 While in the competition ring and during awards ceremonies, a logo/monogram or name may appear on either or both sides of a saddle cloth in a area not exceeding 200cm²(26.632 sq. inches). Only the following logos or names are permitted: breed logos (for horses registered with that breed); a national flag (for citizens of that country); USEF or USDF names/logos. Professionals may have a business or product name/logo of their official sponsor. Amateurs may not have a business or product name/logo unless they own the business. Competition award pads and stable name pads are permitted. No other advertisement or publicity is permitted on saddle cloths or horses *Effective 4/1/2016*

DR121.2 The crownpiece of the bridle must lie immediately behind the poll and may extend forward onto the poll, but it may not be fitted to lie behind the skull (see diagram). Bridles are not permitted in which the noseband is connected to the bit or cheekpiece below the level of the browband. A throatlatch is required except when the combined noseband or Micklem bridle are used.

BOD 1/16/16 Effective 4/1/16

DR 121.3 The curb "chain" can be made of metal, leather or a combination. A lip strap and rubber, leather, or sheepskin cover for curb chain are optional.

Effective 2/1/16 BOD 1/16/16

DR121.7- The use of equine body tape or bands (equi-taping, Kinesio tape) is prohibited. *Effective 4/1/2016*

DR121.7 Fly hoods (ear covers) are permitted for all classes in order to protect horses from insects. The fly hoods should be discreet in color and design and should not cover the horse's eyes. After completion of the test, the rider or his representative is responsible for removing the fly hood to present to the designated ring

steward for inspection to ensure that nothing prohibited has been added (for example, ear plugs). Logos in compliance with DR121.1 and manufacturer's logos are permitted. *Effective 2/1/2016*

DR121. Bits-

- Bridoons where the center link(s) of the bits can lock, and have the effect of a mullen-mouth snaffle, are not permitted.
- The curb chain may never be so tightly fixed as to harm the horse. *Effective 4/1/16*

DR122.5. c In FEI tests (except those listed under "d" below), every "error of the course" whether the bell is sounded or not, must be penalized, except as noted above:

1. the first time by 2 percentage points from the total score received;
2. the second time by elimination; However, at the discretion of the judge, the rider may continue to finish the test. If the competitor's continued presence in the ring is about to interfere with the start of the next scheduled ride, then the judge must excuse him/her from the ring.

d. For USEF and FEI Young Horse tests, and FEI Children, Pony Riders and Junior tests, the deduction for an error shall be:

1. First error: -0.5% (1/2 percentage point) from total score received
2. Second error: -1.0% (one percentage point) from total score received
3. Third error: Elimination

e. For Rider Tests, the deduction for an error shall be:

1. First error: **Total** Score reduced by 0.5 points
2. Second error: **Total** Score reduced by 1.0 points

Effective 2/1/16 BOD 1/16/16

DR 123.4 -Electronic scoreboards are permitted, however, when multiple judges officiate in a class, scores from other judges must not be visible to the judges of the same class. Scoreboards that show a running score (total average percentage) and open scoring (average marks per movement for all judges) to the audience are encouraged. However, **in classes with multiple judges**, electronic scoreboards must not be placed where any judge in the class can see the running scores **or open score format. The movement marks of each individual judge may only be shown to the public, not to the judges.** Scoreboards that display only the final scores **after each horse has finished its test** are permitted and may be visible to the judges. *Effective 2/1/16 BOD 1/16/16*

DR 122.7a The Mark for each movement should first establish the fact whether the movement is marginal (5 or below) or higher. The judge should state the reason for his judgment, at least when giving marks of ~~6.0~~ **6.5** or below. *Effective 12/1/16 BOD 1/16/16*

DR 123.6 In a USEF/USDF Championship class, the horse must obtain ~~55%~~ **57%** or better to be named Champion or Reserve Champion. When either or both the first or second placed horse does not receive a score of ~~55%~~ **57% or better**, the horse(s) will receive non championship ribbon only. *Effective 12/1/16*

DR 124.1 In the Dressage division "disqualification", as defined in GR117, includes elimination, except for designated qualifying classes for regional or national championships where scores may be disqualified for championship qualifying purposes and the entry may retain the scores for class ranking and reporting purposes. *BOD 1/16/16 Effective 4/1/16*

DR 124.3 When a judge suspects a violation or ineligibility listed under any GR or DR rule, in particular DR120, DR121 or DR 124, the judge must request, as soon as possible that the ring steward and/or TD investigate the possible infraction. *Effective 4/1/2016. BOD 1/16/16*

From 2017 Rulebook 12/20/2016

DR 107 1. The changes of gait and pace should be clearly shown at the prescribed marker; they should be quickly made yet must be smooth and not abrupt. The **rhythm** of a gait or pace should be maintained up to the moment when the gait or pace is changed or the horse halts. *BOD 8/29/16 Effective 12/1/16*

DR119.1. No horse may compete in any under saddle class if it is under thirty-six months of age (of foaling date) at the time of competition. Horses competing at the Grand Prix Level must be at least **eight (8)** years of age and horses competing above Fourth Level must be at least seven **(7) years of age**; the horse's age is to be counted from January 1 of the year of birth to January 1 of the current competition year. BOD 1/16/16 Effective 12/1/16

DR119.2 The FEI Five-Year-Old Tests are equivalent to **Second Level** BOD 1/16/16 Effective 12/1/16

DR119.10-**Horses competing in the FEI Dressage Tests for 7 year old horses must be seven years old.** The horse's age is counted from January 1 of the year of birth to January 1 of the current competition year. BOD 8/29/16 Effective 12/1/16

DR120.7 One whip no longer than 47.2 inches (120 cm), including lash may be carried in all classes except, **under penalty of elimination**, USEF/USDF Championships, USEF National Dressage Championships, USEF High Performance Championships, USEF High Performance qualifying and selection trials. BOD 8/29/16 Effective 12/1/16

DR120.10 Dummy" spurs with no shank are also allowed. Only blunt metal spurs (i.e., with no rowels), no longer than 3.5 cm are permitted for FEI Pony Rider tests **and FEI Tests for children.** BOD 8/29/16 Effective 12/1/16

DR121.1 An English type saddle with **flaps and stirrups** is compulsory for all tests and classes other than FEI tests. Stirrups must have closed branches. BOD 8/29/16 Effective 12/1/16

DR121.2 Except for the FEI Pony tests, a crescent noseband is also permitted at these levels. Except for the crescent noseband, buckles and a small disk of sheepskin, which may be used in the intersection of the two leather straps of a crossed noseband, the headstall and cavesson/noseband of the bridle must be made entirely of leather or leather-like material. **However, wear tabs on cheek pieces and reins may be made of non-leather or other material.** BOD 8/29/16 Effective 12/1/16

DR121.10 There is no restriction on the length of whip permitted for working a horse in hand. One whip no longer than 47.2 inches (120 cm) including lash may be carried in all classes except, **under penalty of elimination**, USEF/USDF Championships, USEF National Dressage Championships, USEF High Performance Championships, USEF High Performance qualifying and selection trials, and observation classes. BOD 8/29/16 Effective 12/1/16

DR122.1 Calling Tests. All Federation Tests may be called during the competition except, **under penalty of elimination**, at any Final or Championship Event at which time all tests must be ridden from memory. BOD 8/29/16 Effective 12/1/16

DR122.7.a . The mark for each movement should first establish the fact of whether the movement is marginal (5 or below) or higher. The judge should state the reason for his judgment, at least when giving marks of **6.5** and below. BOD 1/16/16 Effective 12/1/16

DR123.6 In a USEF/USDF Championship class, the horse must obtain **57%** or better to be named Champion or Reserve Champion. When either or both the first or second placed horse does not receive a score of **57%** or better, the horse(s) will receive non-championship ribbons only. The awards ceremony for the class will still be held, with all horses that placed in the class participating and all other horses receiving normal championship awards. BOD 1/16/16 Effective 12/1/16

DR125.5 **When a competition has more than seven competition rings on any day, at least two Dressage Technical Delegates must be on duty. Three Dressage Technical Delegates are required for an event when a Dressage Competition schedules more than 1200 rides for the event.** BOD 1/16/16 Effective 12/1/16

DR127.4- **USEF/USDF Qualifying and Championship Classes and USEF/USDF National Championships** for Dressage Horse/rider combinations may enter **more than** one test, and Freestyle, at each level per day as "USDF qualifying". Championships must be offered according to USDF Championship specifications. Each

USEF/USDF Qualifying and/or Championship classes must be designated as such in the prize list and in the competition results. **BOD 1/16/16 Effective 12/1/16**

DR127.6 **Under penalty of disqualification from all championship classes for the horse/rider combination, at no time during a USEF/USDF 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).** **BOD 8/29/16 Effective 12/1/16**

Appendix II. FAQs for Dressage Judges:

Reference to United States Equestrian Federation Rules

(Rule references current as of 3/1/2016. Please refer to USEF online rulebook for the most complete and current rules.) https://www.usef.org/_IFrames/RuleBook/rules.aspx

Family

How do I know if a relative is considered “family” according to the USEF rules?

Reference: GR123

Clients

Who is considered a “client” of a judge or TD?

Reference: GR107

Conduct of Recognized Competitions: General Rules

Are riders in USDF tests required to follow the USEF rules? Can unrecognized dressage classes be held at a USEF show? Do I have to follow the local show rules if they are not in the USEF Rule Book? Are grooms, family members and/or coaches of competitors required to follow the rules? How is the show/judge protected in these cases?

Reference: GR821 & GR138

Cruelty and Abuse

What should a judge do if he/she observes cruelty to a horse?

Reference: GR839

What is considered to be cruelty or abuse?

Reference: GR 839, DR124.1.i, DR124.2

Scheduling: Length of Competition; Time Schedules; Interruption & Delay Procedures

What is a show required to do if they want to move a class, or require riders to ride before their scheduled time? When a show is stopped because of bad weather, is the judge’s permission required if management wants to reschedule the rest of the rides on the next day?

Reference: GR829 – GR832.7

Attire and Equipment

Must a judge eliminate a rider if he/she does not have (or has the wrong) bridle number?

Reference: GR801.10, DR 121.11, DR124.1o, DR133.1h, DR 207.8

Is the show required to provide a number for each competitor (horse/rider combination)?

Reference: GR1213.11, GR801.10

Drugs & Medications: Testing

Can horses be drug tested if they did not actually show?

Reference: GR402.1

Protests, Charges, etc.

What is the difference between a “Protest” and a “Charge”?

Reference: GR602 - GR604

What recourse does a judge have when management or the TD does not follow the rules?

Reference: GR604

When can the show or a competitor file a protest or charge against a judge?

Reference: GR602- GR603

What actions by a judge are non-protestable?

Reference: GR602.6, DR122.6, DR124.b

Violations & Penalties: Individuals

How is a judge protected by the USEF rules against rude or abusive competitors?

Reference: GR 702.1.e

Violations & Penalties: Licensed Competitions

How is a judge protected by the USEF rules against shows that do not honor their contracts or assign judges to classes when they are not eligible?

Reference: GR 706.1

Regulations Governing Showing Under Judges, Stewards and TDs

How does a judge determine if there is a conflict of interest in judging former clients, horses or clients of family members? Is it the responsibility of the judge or the competitor to report conflict of interest situations?

Reference: GR107, GR1037, and GR1303

Licensed Judges Classification Rules

Is a USEF – licensed Arabian (etc.) judge eligible to judge Dressage classes if the classes are ONLY open to horses of that breed? Is a Guest Card required for a Dressage judge officiating at breed-restricted shows?

Reference: GR1010 and GR1011

Guest Judge

How many times can a Dressage judge get a Guest Card to judge DSHB classes?

Reference: GR1011.13

Regulations Governing Judging: Adjudicating, Restrictions

Can a show house a judge in a private home without the judge’s permission?

Reference: GR 1032.3 and DR126.1d.3

Must a judge eliminate an unsafe horse from a class?

Reference: GR1033.11, DR124.1.k, DR122.7.l

May a judge discuss the potential sale of a horse with a competitor during a break from judging?

Reference: GR1037.3

Cellular Phones

May a judge use a cellular phone while adjudicating during a competition?

Reference: GR1033.3

Technical Delegate Duties

Is a TD required to investigate possible rule violations if requested to do so by a judge?

Reference: GR1034.4

Competition Officials: Manager

Can a relative of the show manager officiate as a judge or TD?

Reference: GR1038.8

Rules and Appointments of Officials and Employees

At what point before the show are the USEF rules effective?

Reference: GR1217.2

If an “r” or “R” judge is substituted for an “S” due to an emergency, is he or she eligible to judge at a higher level than he/she is licensed, or can he judge a client?

Reference: GR1211.2

Prize Lists

Are shows required to send the judge a copy of the prize list?

Reference: GR 1212.1

Is a show required to list special class specifications and rules in the prize list, if they are not already in the USEF Rule Book?

Reference: GR 902.2

Facilities

Is a show allowed to schedule classes when natural or artificial light is not sufficient for the judge to officiate?

Reference: GR 1216.10

Is a show required to provide reasonably clean restrooms?

Reference: GR 1216.2

Must food be provided?

Reference: GR 1216.4

Entries: General Conditions

Who can show Hors de Concours? Can a rider ask the judge’s permission to show “HC”?

Reference: GR827, DR119.5

Leaving the Arena without the Judge’s Permission

Is there a penalty for a rider who leaves the arena without the judge’s permission? (This does not include a horse jumping out of the arena.)

Reference: GR1305.2

Score Sheets

Must score sheets *and comments* be written in ink?

Reference: DR 123.1

Must corrections on the score sheets be initialed by the judge?

Reference: DR123.1

Special Dispensations to use Compensating Aids or Adaptive Equipment

Do riders with a physical disability need to provide a special dispensation certificate?

Reference: GR1311-1314, DR 119.11

Appendix III: Sample Contract for Competition Officials

A fillable PDF copy of the below sample contract can be downloaded at
<http://www.usdf.org/docs/ShowFlash/web/GeneralInfo/Before/OfficialsContract.pdf>

This contract is a sample of what may be used as a contract between show management/GMO and competition officials.

This Agreement is not intended to nor should it be construed to create an employer/employee relationship between USDF and Contractor. Contractor is an independent contractor and as such USDF has the right to control or direct only the result of the work done by Contractor but not the means and methods of accomplishing this result. Accordingly, it is advised legal counsel review the agreement language before implementation.

Adjustments for local conditions can and should be made as appropriate.

Date: _____

Name of Official: _____

Address of Official: _____

Preferred Phone Number: _____

Name of Competition: _____

Address: _____

Contact Person: _____

Phone(s): _____

Confirming our prior correspondence, this contract confirms that _____ (name of official) is licensed and in good standing with _____ with a rating of _____ and is available and willing to officiate _____ (name of competition) which is a _____ (CDI, USEF/USDF recognized, USEF National, rated or schooling show) in _____ (location) on _____, 20____ (show dates).

Compensation:

The agreed-upon fee is \$_____ per day. For judges, this is for eight hours of judging time per day. If you choose to leave early, or to work overtime, compensation may be altered. If you choose to work overtime, please indicate that your rate per hour is \$_____ up to a maximum of _____ hours of overtime. If you choose not to work overtime, please strike through the previous sentence and indicate NO OVERTIME.

Travel and Miscellaneous Expense:

If personal vehicle is used, you will be reimbursed the current IRS mileage plus actual receipted tolls. If airline travel is used, please give preferred airlines, departing airport, and preferred time to arrive below. If you wish to arrange your own travel, _____ (name of show management/GMO) must approve all costs and flight times.

Total compensation will be paid to you for services, per diem, and travel expenses at the conclusion of the competition unless other arrangements are made with _____ (name of show management/GMO).

The following expenses will be paid by the competition:

1. Economy Advanced Purchase Airfare from _____ (home airport) to _____ (show airport) and return.
Preferred airline(s) _____
Preferred arrival time _____
2. If driving, the estimated round trip will be _____ miles at \$_____ (IRS business rate) per mile.
3. Reimbursement for travel expenses to and from airport, shuttle or mileage, and airport parking.
4. Hotel/motel lodging for _____ nights (***non-smoking unless indicated otherwise***).
5. All meals while traveling and at the competition, or a meal per diem of \$ _____ per day.
2. Transportation from the airport to the hotel/motel and to the show grounds and return will be supplied by the show, or reimbursed to the official.
3. Please check one:
_____ I prefer to rent a car.
_____ I prefer **not** to drive to or from the hotel, airport, and or competition.

Cancellation:

Should this show be cancelled for any reason after this contract has been signed by both parties, the competition agrees to pay the official as follows:

- If competition cancels this contract two months or more prior to the competition, official shall receive no compensation other than expenses incurred, including but not limited to change fee for airline ticket if purchased by official.
- If competition cancels this contract less than two months prior to the competition, official shall receive _____ plus expenses incurred including but not limited to change fee for airline ticket, if purchased by official.
- If the official must cancel at any time, the official shall forfeit all compensation for the competition, and shall reimburse the show for any non-recoupable expense incurred. The official shall assist in finding a suitable substitute acceptable to the competition committee.

Other:

To be filled out by competition:

Phone number to the competition grounds: _____

Motel/hotel phone number: _____

Additional classes to be offered:

- ___ Dressage Sport Horse Breeding (requires special license)
- ___ Dressage suitability
- ___ Dressage seat equitation
- ___ Musical freestyle
- ___ Quadrille
- ___ Pas de deux
- ___ Prix Caprilli
- ___ Materiale
- ___ Young Horse
- Other _____

To be filled out by official:

I prefer a smoking room _____ I am allergic to _____
Particular diet requirements: _____
Preferred beverages & snacks: _____
In morning: _____ In afternoon: _____

You acknowledge the risk of injury or death associated with the activity covered by this Agreement including (i) the propensity of horse and ponies to behave in dangerous ways which may result in injury to participants in horse-related activities; (ii) the inability to predict a horse or pony's reaction to sound, movements, objects, persons, or animals; and (iii) hazards of surface or subsurface conditions. You assume all such risks and waive your right to sue _____ (name of show management/GMO), its agents, servants, employees, officers, and directors, or any of them, on account of injury to or death to you, or injury to your property, resulting in connection with your participation in the activity covered by this Agreement.

Option: Show Management/GMO might want to include the Primary State Statutes on Equines.

This Agreement may not be transferred, assigned or reassigned by either party without the prior written consent of the other party. I agree to the terms of this contract

I agree to the terms of this contract:

_____ Date _____
Competition Organizer/Manager/Secretary (circle title)

_____ Date _____
Official
(Official should sign both copies, and return one copy to the competition management)

Emergency Contact during competition:

Name _____ Phone _____

Appendix IV: Where to Get Information and Important Links

United States Dressage Federation:
4051 Iron Works Parkway
Lexington, KY 40511
Phone: 859/971-2277
Fax: 859/971-7722
Email: usdressage@usdf.org
Website: www.usdf.org
Judges Committee Liaison: <mailto:Judgescommittee@usdf.org>

USDF Resources:

Glossary of Dressage Judging Terms:

http://www.usdf.org/EduDocs/Competition/162552015_USDF_Glossary_.pdf

Dressage Protocol:

http://www.usdf.org/EduDocs/Competition/Dressage_Protocol.pdf

Score Sheets: <http://www.usdf.org/downloads/forms/index.asp?TypePass=Tests>

- USDF Introductory Level score sheets
- USDF Quadrille score sheets
- USDF Musical Freestyle score sheets (First through Fourth Level)
- USDF Pas de Deux score sheets
- USDF Sport Horse Tests
 - **Individual Classes:** Prospect; Breeding Stock; Group Class; Prospect under Saddle
 - **Master Classes:** Prospect; Breeding Stock; Group Class; Prospect under Saddle
 - **Championship**
 - **Materiale**
 - **Amateur Handler**

Dressage Sport Horse:

<http://www.usdf.org/education/other-programs/sport-horse-seminars/index.asp>

USDF Sport Horse Breeding Class Guidelines:

<http://www.usdf.org/competitions/competitions-championships/sporthorse/index.asp>

USEF Main Office

4074 Iron Works Parkway
Lexington, KY 40511
Tel: 859/258-2472
Fax: 859/231-6662

Website: www.usef.org

Hannah Niebielski- USEF Director, Dressage National Program- (859) 225 – 6918

hniebielski@usef.org

USEF Weekend Emergency Number: 859-312-5186

***This number is only to be used by licensed competition officials and management and only on weekends and holidays.**

Reminder: Judges need to promptly inform USEF and USDF of any e-mail or address changes. These changes and clarifications are sent, by the Dressage Dept., to the list of dressage e-mail addresses on file at USEF.

USEF Regulation Department:

USEF Rule Books: http://www.usef.org/_IFrames/RuleBook/rulebooks.aspx

Official Form for Proposed USEF Rule Changes:

http://www.usef.org/_IFrames/RuleBook/ruleChanges.aspx

FEI Rule Books: <http://www.fei.org/fei/regulations/dressage>

Member's Confidential Evaluation Form for Judges, Stewards, TDs, etc.:

<http://www.usef.org/documents/competitions/LicOffEvaluation.pdf>

Competition Footing Evaluation Form:

<http://www.usef.org/documents/competitions/CompFootEval.pdf>

USEF Tests, Booklets and General Information: Training through Fourth Level Test

https://www.usef.org/_IFrames/breedsdisciplines/discipline/alldressage/2015dressageTests.aspx

FEI Tests: <http://www.fei.org/fei/your-role/organisers/dressage/tests>

Licensed Officials Committee:

https://www.usef.org/_IFrames/AboutUs/Committee/Default.aspx

USEF Judges Evaluation of Steward/Technical Delegate Form:

<http://www.usef.org/documents/competitions/CompEvalForm.pdf>

USEF Clinics:

http://www.usef.org/_IFrames/LicensedOfficials/clinics.aspx

Requirements & Procedures for obtaining "r", "R", and "S" status:

<https://www.usef.org/documents/licensedOfficials/LicenseForms/Dressage%20-%20Recorded.pdf>

<https://www.usef.org/documents/licensedOfficials/LicenseForms/Dressage-Registered.pdf>

<https://www.usef.org/documents/licensedOfficials/LicenseForms/Dressage%20-%20Senior.pdf>

USEF Reports Division

Eyewitness Report form for Act of Alleged Abuse:

<http://www.usef.org/documents/competitions/EyewitnessAbusRpt.pdf>

International Dressage Officials Club (IDOC):

Information and Membership:

Janet Foy

5898 Cumbre Vista Way

Colorado Springs, CO 80924

Dressagejanet@yahoo.com

International (FEI)

<http://www.fei.org/fei/disc/dressage>

Sanctioning of FEI Competitions

All questions pertaining to the FEI Draft Schedule

- FEI Clinics
- FEI Bulletin and Calendar Subscription
- FEI Rules Questions

Appendix V. A Comparison of Dressage Rules

A COMPARISON OF DRESSAGE RULES

	*USEF Dressage: Training-Fourth Level Tests	*USEF Dressage: FEI Level Tests	FEI Dressage: Rules for Dressage Events 25 th Ed.	USEF Eventing: All Levels
D E R S	<p>Test: All 4th: Short conserv color coat w/tie, chokr stock tie or integrated stand-up collar, white or lght col breech or jodhpurs, boots or jodhp boots. Cutaway coat w/short tails permit. Half-chaps, gaiters & leggings not allow Ex: Riders thru First Levl may wear half-chaps, gaiters, leggings in solid blk or brwn, w/o fringe, match color of boots & made of sm leather or leather-like mat. Conserv colr gloves req. Cur. & retired mbrs of Armed Serv/police may ride in their serv uniform @ any levl. (DR120). Jkts or vests & any col breech & shirts perm for riders in Lvl 1 shows & Opport cl. Nckwear only perm w/jacket. Pasde Deux/ Quadrille: Must follow USDF reqs ex. headgr & boots req as in DR120. Cooling vests may be worn under jkt (DR120). USEF 4 yo Test same as FEI YH tests. At all test lvls, riders may wear jkts in other colors w/in the internat'l HSV color scale, as described in FEI Art. 427.1. Contrast coloring/ piping allowed. Prot headgear, stocks, ties, gloves & boots may be same color as coat. When spnsrshp is permit by GR1306, name &/or logo of indiv sponsor(s) may appear on both sides of jkts or top garmnts at hgt of breast pckts not excd 80 cm2 in size. Logos describ under DR121.1 also permit as above. Sponsor name &/or logo may be on headgr if otherwise permit. Dress code req, but elim. at judge's discret, ex. mandate elim for headgear & DR120.6-16. (DR124.) Protect headgear elim. in DR120.5 & GR801 req. for all mnted riders on grnds (GR801 & DR120). Earphones/ other electronic communicat devices prohib while compet but permit in warmup. Warmup: Upon arrival on grnds: Boots/ shoes must have disting. heel. Protect headgr req for anyone mounted. Riders w/safety concerns encour. to wear orange vest.</p>	<p>Test: Dark tailcoat w/white or light color breeches, stock or tie or integrated stand-up collar, gloves, blk riding boots & spurs. FEI Jr & 4/5/6 yo Tests: Conserv color short jacket, stock or tie, breeches & spurs optional. A dark tailcoat permit for FEI Jr Tests. Pony Riders: Drk coat/club uniform coat, breeches or jodhpurs, white shirt w/tie or stock, gloves & boots. Protective headgear req. for all tests & may be worn w/dark tailcoat or short, dark jacket, dark hatcover, or Armed Serv/police uniform (if eligible) & otherwise conform as above. Military/ police, Quadrille/Pas de Deux: See Tr-4th. Dress in colors w/in internat'l HSV color scale, sponsorships & logos permit as described for Tr-4th level dress code. For GPF only, any single color tailcoat permit. Striped or multi-color coats not permit. Tasteful, discreet accents (collar of dif hue, modest piping or crystal decoration) permit. Dress code elim at judges discret ex for headgear. Warmup: Upon arrival on grnds: Boots/shoes must have disting heel. Protective headgear req. for anyone mounted. (GR801 & DR120).</p>	<p>Civilians: At CDI3*, CDI4*, CDI5*, CDI-W, CDI0s, Chmps, Reg& OG: Black or drk blue tail coat or other drk colors w/in internat HSV color scale (other colors may be appr by appl to FEI), conrst color & piping permit, white or off-wh breeches, stock or tie, gloves, blk boots & spurs or hat, neckwr, gloves & boots may be same color as coat. For GPF only, any single color tailcoat permit. Stripe or multicolor coats not permit. Tstful, discr accnts (collar of dif hue, modst pipng, crystal déc) permit. CDI*, CDI** or CDI-Am: Same or blk or drk blue jkt (as above). This dress desir for all other intern evnts unless otherwise in rules. Military (incl studnts & emplyes), police, other state, nat studs/schls/inst etc: Same, civil or serv dress. Earph/ otr electron dev prohib while compet but perm in wrmup (Art.427). YRs: Sme as Srs. Jrs: Same as SRs ex dark coat permit. Pony Rldrs & Chldrn: Same ex drk jkt, wh or fawn brches or jods, wh shrt w/tie or stock. Prot headgr req for all riders, ex Athlet 22/older may wear tophat/ bowler in comp & prior wrmup if on horses 7/older. Horse Inspct: Prot hgdg req for Chldrn, Pny Rldrs, JRs, YRs & rec for others.</p>	<p>Test: Beg. Novice-Train HTs: Predom black or dark blue protect headgear; dark or tweed coat (tails not permit); conserv color shirt w/stock & pin, choker or tie; (if choose no jacket; mst wear long/short slv conserv color shirt w/collar & w/o neckwear; tucked into breech); lght or white jods or britches; black, brown field or jodhp boots or black or brown full grain sm leather leg piece & matching leather boots. Optional: dark, tan, beige or white gloves. Chaps &/or half-chaps not allowed. Prelim HTs: same ex jacket req. Intermed-Advan HTs & 3-days: Same ex. no tweed coat, tail coats permit, protective headgear, shirt, stock w/pin, white or dark gloves req., pref. black dress boots or black full grain leather leg piece & matching leather boot. Chaps & half-chaps not allowed. Armed & police force mmbers: Service dress w/gloves, protect headg & spurs. (EV114.5) Eventing Tests or 1-day Horse Trials: See EV114.8 for options. All levels (BN-Adv) must wear protect headgear ex. as otherwise mandated by local law. Warmup: Upon arrival, anyone riding mst wear properly fitting protect headgear which passes or surpasses ASTM/SEI stndrds for equestre use & carries SEI tag. Harness mst be secured & properly fitted. (EV114.1) Boots/ shoes must have a disting. heel. (GR 318)</p>
S A D L E R Y	<p>Test: *English saddle w/stirrups req. for all tests & classes ex. FEI tests. Stirrups must have closed branches. *May be const d w/wo tree but cannot have horn, swell gallerie, or open gullet. Australian, Baroque, Endur, McClellan, Spanish, Stock, or West saddles (or mod versions) not permitted ex. w/USEF Disp Certif. Tr-2nd: Snaffle w/ cavesson & both parts of flash (not too tightly fixed & adj. to allow 2 fingers underneath), drop, flash, crescent or cross. noseband. Headstall & cavesson/ noseband mst be all leather or leather-like ex. buckles, crescent & sm sheepsk disk on cros nseband. Padded cavess/ nseband, crwnpiece & chinpad w/cavesson allowed. Browbnd req & ex for parts that attach to crwnp/ headstl, not req. to be made of leather/ leath-like material. Bridle crownpc mst lie immed beh poll & may ext fwd onto poll; may not lie beh skull. Bridles not permit if nsbnd is connect to bit or chkpc bel lvl of browbnd. Thriltch req ex with comb nseband or Micklem. Comb nseband w/no throat latch permit; when used w/dbl bridle, lower strap of nseband (flash attach) nt permit. Micklem bridle perm at any lvl where snaffles permit; not permit w/ dbl bridle. Bit clips prohib w/Mcklm. Multicolor brwbnd w/gems, beads, etc permit. Non-metal decor on surf of nsbnd perm. Reins mst not be rope or rope-like mat. 3rd-4th: Same as above or simple dbl bridle (bridoon, bit & curb chain, caves nsbnd only; curb chain may be metal, leather or combin. Lipstrp & rubber, leather or sheepskin cvr for chain opt) w/caves nseband. Engl style stirrps w/o attachmts or safety stirrps compuls. Safety stirrps mst hve closed brnch of metal or other breakaway mat. Sdapds opt, but shld be white or conserv clr. Logos, monogrms or names no more than 200 cm² allowed on ea side of sad pad. Warmup: Tr-2nd: Same as in Tst (snaffle). 3rd-4th: May use snaf or dbl bridle. 4 yo Test same as FEI YH tsts. Caves, drop, cros or flsh nsbnd perm w/snaf usd in wrmup or comp, ex as prohib for some tsts. Parariders in PE & USDF/USEF tsts mst use snaf at Grdes 1a- III. Dbl perm in wrmup/compet only @Grde IV.</p>	<p>Test: Dressage saddle which must be close to horse & have long near-vertical flaps & stirrups. FEI tests at national competitions (exclude. HP, Yng Adult, FEI Jr & FEI YR qual cl.), a plain snaffle may be used, or a simple dbl. bridle (bridoon, bit & curb chain; curb chain may be metal, leather or combination; lip strap & rubber, leather or sheepskin cover for chain optional) w/ cavesson noseband (not too tightly fixed). Snaffle w/ cavesson & both parts of flash must not be too tightly fixed & adj. to allow 2 fingers underneath. Cavesson may have chin pad. Multi-colored browband w/gems, beads, etc. permitted. FEI Pony & 4/5/6 yo Horses: plain snaffle req. Crescent noseband not permit w/snaffle (DR121.1-4) Cross noseband not permitted for 4/5/6 yo Horses. Combined noseband w/no throat latch permitted; when used w/dbl bridle, lower strap of noseband (flash attachm) not permitted. Micklem bridle permit only where snaffles permit. Not permit w/ dbl bridle. Bit clips not permit w/Micklem. Saddle pads, stirrups, sponsorship, bridle padding & logos same as Tr-4th Levels. FEI Para-Eq riders may use plain snaffle or simple dbl bridle. Warmup: Same or may use snaffle. DR121.7. Note: Dbl bridle req for USEF HP cl; Yng Adult qual & champ cl. Effective 8/1/15, snaffle bridles are permit for NAJYRC qual cl, USEF JR qual & YR qual cl. Dbl bridles are still mandatory for NAJYRC and USEF JR & YR champs after 8/1/15.</p>	<p>Test: Dressage saddle which must be close to horse & have long near-vertical flaps. Double bridle (curb, bridoon & curb chain) w/cavesson noseband and curb chain not too tightly fixed. Optional: lipstrap & rubber, leather or sheepskin chain cover. Curb chain may be metal, leather or a combination. Padding is allowed on bridles. Combined noseband w/no throat lash permitted; when used w/dbl bridle, lower strap of noseband not allowed. Micklem bridle allowed only w/snaffle. YRs: Same as for Seniors. Jrs: Same as for Seniors ex. either snaffle or dbl bridle permitted for Prelim test. Warmup: Same or may use snaffle w/cavesson, dropped, Mexican (crossed, figure-8) or flash noseband. (Art. 428) 4/5/6 yo Horses: Mexican noseband not permitted & snaffle required.</p>	<p>Test: English saddle & permitted bridle. Double bridle w/cavesson noseband & w/bridoon & curb bits w/curb chain made of metal, leather or a combination (optional: lipstrap & rubber, leather or sheepskin chain cover) when permitted by test. W/double bridle, cavesson noseband may never be so tight as to harm horse. W/snaffle may use cavesson, dropped, crossed or flash noseband. Micklem bridle & Stotztem (combined nseband w/no throatlatch) permitted as pictured. (See Appendix 4) Noseband must all leather or leather-like, ex. sheepskin disc of crossed noseband. Breastplate allowed. (EV115.2) Warmup: English saddle & any bridle, inc. double, snaffle, gag or hackamore. (EV115.1)</p>
B I T S	<p>Pictured in USEF Rule Book. All mst be smooth w/ solid surfce; no twisted, wire or roller bits. Snaffle mouthpc w/more than one rolling prt prohib. Bits may be made w/rubber or plastic cvr, but may not be modif by adding latex, etc. Metal or rigid plastic, synthetic or flexible mouthpc snaffles (incl. flex. rubber or synthetic) permit, prov contours conform to pictured bit. Flex mouthpc bits not allow in FEI tsts or w/dbl bridle. A dbl jinted snaf w/rotat. mouthpc may be shaped to allow tongue relief; max ht of deviation is 30mm frm lower prt of tongue side to highest pt of deviat; widest part of deviat must be where mouthpc contacts tongue & mst have min width of 30mm. Mouthpc of joint or unjoint snaffle may be shapd in sl curve, but other ported snaffles prohib. Mouthpc of snaffle may hve up to 2 jnts. A bushing or coupling permit as center link in dbl joint snaffle ex. surf of cnterpc mst be solid w/no movable prts,</p>	<p>Pictured in USEF Rule Book. Same restrictions as Tr-4th Levels, ex. bits (incl. curb and/or bridoon of dbl bridle) must be metal or rigid plastic & may be covered w/rubber (in manufactured state); flexible rubber bits not permitted. Bridoons where the center link(s) of the bits can lock, and have the effect of a mullen-mouth snaffle, are not permitted. For FEI tests and warm up must use dbl bridle or snaffle of metal or rigid plastic pict. under Fig.1, B1 or B2. (In both cases may be cov. w/rubber (in manufactured state) but flexible rubber not permitted) Dbl-jointed bridoon must have rounded middle piece. (Dr. Bristol not permitted.) Permitted:</p>	<p>Pictured in FEI Dres. Regs and USEF Fig. 1B. Same as USEF rules for FEI Levels, ex. bridoon & curb may be covered w/rubber/latex. Note wording for size of mouthpiece: Diameter of mouthpce of the bridoon &/or curb must be such so as not to hurt horse. Min. diameter (at rings or cheeks of mouthpiece) is 12 mm for curb, 10 mm for bridoon; 14 mm for snaffle used in Young Horse cl & 10 mm for Pony cl. (1) D-ring may be used as snaffle but not as bridoon (i.e., w/dbl bridle); (2) Snaffle w/rotating mouthpce permitted; (3) Strght bar snaffle permit w/mullen</p>	<p>Test: Pictured in USEF Rule Book (Appendix 4) & spec. on each test. A snaffle made of metal, leather, rubber or plastic is permit for all tests. Curb lever arm must not ex. 10 cm length bel mouthpc. If curb has slid mouthpc, curb lever arm bel. mouthpiece must not ex. 10 cm when mouthpce is in uppermost posit. Bridoon & curb must be made of metal or rigid plastic & may be cov. w/rubber (flexible rubber bridoons &/or curbs not allowed). Diam. of bridoon ring must be such as not to hurt horse. (EV115.2) An ord. snaffle has str. bar or center joint. Ord. snaffle w/rotating mouthpiece permit'd. Snaffle w/rotat middle piece permitted. If 2 joints, all parts must be</p>

<p>ex as pict; Cntr link may be tilt in dif orient frm mouthp but mst hve rnd edges (no Dr Bristol). Snaff or bridoon mouthpc mst be min 10mm diam at mouthp rings or chks, ex. Ponies: diam may be less than 10mm. Type of bit may not vary, mst be attach only as pict. Any bit combin any mouthp pict in Fig.1A w/any chkpc in 1A is permit. Crb lever arm (lgtm bel mthpc) mst not ex 10cm; upper chk mst not be lngr than lower chk; if slid mouthpc, lgt mst not ex 10 cm when mthpc is at upermst posit. Curb mthpc mst be min 12 mm diam at chks. Curb bit w/rotat lever arm perm (DR121. Fig 1B) Pl snaffle req for Equit. (DR132)</p>	<p>Snaffle w/rotating mouthpiece, curb bit w/rotating lever arm & straight bar snaffle w/mullen mouth & w/eggbutt rings. Snaffle or bridoon w/rotating middle piece or rotary bit with rotating middle piece permitted. Snaffles in YH classes must have min 14 mm diam mouthpiece. Curb chain hooks can be fixed or not fixed. <u>The curb chain may never be so tightly fixed as to harm the horse.</u></p>	<p>mouth & w/eggbutt rings; (4) Snaffle or bridoon w/rotating middle piece permit; (5) Snaffle or bridoon rotary bit w/rotating middle piece permit; (6) Fixed curb chain hooks permitted; (7) No limit to diam. of bridoon ring. (Art. 428) (8) Snaffles are permitted as marked on test sheets.</p>	<p>rounded & smooth. All bridoons illustrated in App. 4 may be used as snaffle or bridoon.. A dbl bridle should consist of a broken & a straight bit. Bits can be plastic or metal. Any illustrated rings or cheeks permit w/any bit. (App. 4) Warmup: No restrictions.(EV115)</p>
<p>Mounted rider may carry one whip no longer than 47.2" (120 cm) incl. lash, in all classes ex. in USEF/USDF Champs & USEF National Dres. Champs. (Except: Sidesaddle riders may carry whip not over 47.2" in USEF/USDF Champ.) Whips permitted in all qual. classes (incl. NAYRC & NAJC) unless otherwise prohib by USEF or FEI rules or class selection procedures. Warmup: One lungeing whip only when lungeing & one whip not over 47.2" (incl. lash) permitted. Adjustable length whip prohib. while mounted. No restriction on whip length permitted for working a horse in hand. (DR120.5 & 121.9) Optional for Equitation. (DR132).</p>	<p>Same as Tr-4th Levels, ex one whip no longer than 100 cm allowed in FEI Pony Rider Tests & no whip in (1) USEF/USDF Champs; (2) USEF HP Champs, Qual. & Select. Trials; (3) USEF Nat Dres Champs (DR120.5 & 121.9). HP classes: Upon arrival, only rider when riding, walking, leading or lungeing(lunge whip allowed) may carry whip (max 120 cm). Groom may walk, lead & lunge w/whip. Whip must be drop before entering space around arena or will receive an error.</p>	<p>Test: Forbidden. Warmup: One whip with a total max. length of 120 cm is permitted (100 cm for Pony cl & 1.2 m for Children). Upon arrival on grounds, only rider when riding, walking in hand, leading or lungeing (lunge whip permit) may carry a whip (max. 120 cm & 100 cm for ponies). Groom may walk, lead & lunge w/whip. Whip must be dropped before entering space arnd arena or rider will rec. an error. (Art. 428 & 430)</p>	<p>Test: One whip no longer than 120 cm (47.2") incl. lash permit. ex. in USEF/USEA Champs & USEA Champ divisions. Riders competing sidesddle may carry whip at all competitions, incl. champs. Warmup: One whip no longer than 120 cm (47.2") (incl. lash) permitted. Standard lunge whip permit when lunging. (EV 114.3) Adjustable length whip prohibited while mounted. Whip must be used only to encourage or reprimand; whip use regulated; excessive use prohib. (EV111.3)</p>
<p>Optional at Tr-4th Levels. Must be metal & English-style. Shank must be curved or straight, pointing directly back from center U of spur when on boot. If curved shank, must be worn only directed down. Swan-necked spurs allowed. Inside arm must be smooth & one or both arms may have rubber covers. If w/rowels, must be blunt/smooth & free to rotate. Metal spurs w/rnd, hard plastic knobs on shank are allowed ("Impuls" spur). "Dummy" spurs w/no shank permitted. Max length for spurs used in all ex FEI Pony classes/tests is 5.08 cm (2") incl rowels. Spur length meas from base to end of shank. Restrict also applies to wrmp & training areas. USEF 4 yo Test same as FEI YH tests. (DR120.8) Opt for Equitation. (DR133)</p>	<p>Mandatory, ex. spurs optional in FEI Junior Tests and FEI Tests for 4, 5 & 6 yo horses. FEI Pony Riders: only blunt metal spurs (i.e., w/no rowels) no longer than 3.5 cm permitted. Otherwise same as Tr-4th Levels. HP classes: Same as FEI, i.e. if w/rowels, must be blunt/smooth & free to rotate. If spur length is meas for HP classes, meas is from boot to tip of spur (DR 120.8)</p>	<p>Req ex. for CDI-P and CDI-Ch events. Must be metal. Shnk must be curved or str point dir back frm centr of spur whn on boot. Arms must be sm & blunt (no sharp edges). If w/rowels, mst be blunt/smfree to rotate. Metal spurs w/rnd, hrd plastic knobs on shnk allowd (Impuls spur). Dummy spurs w/no shank allow. (Art 427) Pony Ridrs & Child:Spurs opt but if usd, only blunt metal spurs max 3.5 cm. Spur length meas from boot to tip. Rowels not allowed.</p>	<p>Optional at all levels. Forbid if capable of wound horse. Must be sm metal. If w/shank it must not ex 4 cm (1 9/16") meas from boot to end of spur & must pt only to rear. If shank curvd, it mst direct down; metl or plast spurs w/rnd hrd plast or metal knobs (Impuls spur), dummy spurs w/no shank & swan-neck spurs perm. Rwels permit in all lvls & in Dres pract/ wrmp. If rowels usd, mst be free to rotate;mst be rnd & sm w/no tines. (EV114) Can't be usd to reprimnd. (EV111.4)</p>
<p>Test: Forbidden: Martingales, bit guards, gadgets(bearing, side, run or balanc reins, neck strips, nasal strips, tongue tied down, etc), boots (incl Easy Boots), bndgs (inc tail bndg), blinkers, ear muffs/ plugs, nose & seat cvrs, hoods, equine body tape/bands & rein addit/ attachm ex leg bndg allow in PDD & Quadrille; M breastpl &/or crupper allow. Ea bit mst be attach to a sep rein. E Reins may only attach to bits. Decor of hrse forbid ex braiding mane/tail. False tails w/o metal parts permit. Shoes w/or w/o cuffs attach w/nails or glue, or wraps, & don't ext past hair line of hoof permit. Fly hoods, discreet in color & dsqgn, permit for all cl but mst not cvr horse's eyes. Fly hoods may have manufact or other permit logo. Wrmup: Same ex run marting (only w/snaffle rein of pl snaf bridle & connct to rein on same side & free to slide; rings thr which reins slide may not connct to nck strp); boots, bndg (w/o magnets) permit. Single dir side reins (attach frm bit to girth, saddle or surcing on side of hrse (not bet legs) or dbl slid (triangle) side reins perm only whn lung (mnted or unmntd). Dbl slid side reins may att to saddle or surc & girth or both ends of ea rein may attach to saddle, surc &/or girth. Only 1 lnge line perm only while lngng. Driving & long lining prohib. Lunge line mst attach only to snaf bit of bridle, (on ins. or across head, or under/ arnd chin, to snaf ring on opp side of hndlr), haltr or caves & go direct to longr's hand. Dbl bridle not perm while lunging. Fly hoods/ear covrs that don't cvr eyes permit & can't use ear plugs. Nmbrs req when horse is exercisd or ridden. Equitation: Back 3's req.</p>	<p>Same as Tr-4th Levels, ex. breastplate &/or crupper not permitted in USEF HP Champs, USEF HP Qualifying & Selection Trials. Warmup: Running martingales not permitted for horses entered in USEF HP qualifying & selection trials. Noise canceling ear muffs/plugs permitted at prize-giving ceremonies for horses competing at any level, including HP classes. (DR121.6-7 & .10)</p>	<p>Test: Forbidden: Martingales, breast plates, bit guards, any gadgets (bearing, side, running or balancing reins, etc.), any form of blinkers. No saddle covers or décor of the horse w/extravag items, such as ribbons, flowers, etc. in tail, etc. Normal plaiting of mane & tail allowed. False tails may not have metal parts (ex. hooks & eyelets) or extra added weight. False tails & tail extens perm only w/prior permission of FEI. Ear hoods, discreet in color & design, are permit for all Events & may provide noise reduction, but mst not cvr horse's eyes. Ear plugs not permit ex in prize giving. Warmup: Same ex. boots, bandages, lungeing cavessons, single direct side reins or dbl sliding side reins, only when lungeing w/one lnge line only, attach to either lung cav. or snaf bridle/ bridoon permit. Lung w/lung line attach to curb not allowed. Run marting not permit. Nmbrs req when working. (Art 428) If enter space arnd or in arena w/boots or bndg, will receive error. (Art 430)</p>	<p>Test: Forbidden: Martingales, bit guards, gadgets (bearing, side, running or balancing reins, etc.), reins w/any loops or hand attachments, boots, leg bandages, blinkers, incl. earmuffs, earplugs, hoods, nose & seat covers. Protective, discreet fly hoods made of thin material, that do not cover horse's eyes, permitted but subj to inspect by Officials after test. Breastplates permitted. Warmup: Irish & running martingales (w/rein stops), bit guards, boots, bandages, fly shields, nose & seat covers permitted. Side reins permitted only while lunging unmounted horse, as are running reins and chambons. Forbidden: Other martingales, gadgets (as bearing, running or balancing reins, etc) & blinkers. (EV115.1-2) All horses (competing & non-competing) must wear numbers at all times when horse is exercised or ridden under penalty of warning for 1st offense and \$50 fine if repeated. (EV108.1)</p>
<p>In locat w/high average heat/humidity, mgmt. can waive jackets before or during show. Riders must wear prot headgear & any color shirt w/sleeves & collar, w/o neckwear & w/o decor ex. T permit. logos. T-shirts not permit. Mmbers of Armd Services/ police may wear summer uniforms. In inclement weather: May wear hat cover & transp or conserv color raincoat. (DR120.6-7) R If coats are waived, a solid-colored cooling or lightwt vest may be worn over a riding shirt as specified in DR120.6.</p>	<p>Same as Tr-4th Levels. (DR120.6-7)</p>	<p>Waiving coats is not addressed; therefore is not permitted under normal circumstances. However, the Ground Jury is permitted to make decisions in all circumstances not specifically addressed by the rules. (Art. 453) Therefore, the jury could waive coats if it deemed appropriate.</p>	<p>At temps above 85 ° F, a heat index above 85, or at discret of the GJ or Organizr, comps will be permit to compete w/o jkts. Riders mst wear either long or short sleeved shirt of conserv color w/o neckwear. Mmbers of Armd Serv/police may wear summer uniforms. Inclem weather: May wear windbrkr or rain coat ovr clothes: may mst be visible. (EV114.9)</p>
<p>National Tests: 1st 2 pts; 2nd 4 pts; 3rd Elim. (but, at judge's discretion, may finish test unless finishing would make next ride late). For USEF and FEI YH tests, & FEI Child, Pny Ridr & JR tests deduction for an error shall be: 1st error: -.5% pts of total score rec'd; 2nd error: -1% pts of total score rec'd; 3rd error: Elim. For Rider Tests, deduction for an error is: 1st error: Total score reduced by 0.5 pts; 2nd error: Total score reduced by an addit 1.0 pts; 3rd error: Elim. Judge at C decides if error is made & other judges' scores are adapted accordingly (penalty points deducted) w/approval of C judge. (DR 122.5b-f).</p>	<p>Same as FEI ex if elim, at judge's discretion, may finish test unless finishing would make next ride late. For HP cl, the fol are err & 2 pts ded for ea but they are not cumul & won't result in elim: (1) Entr space arnd arena or entering arena w/whip, horse leg boots or discrep in dress (e.g.no gloves) Ex: whip for +3 mvem =elim; (2) Not enter arena w/in 45 sec but bef 90 sec after bell; (3) Enter arena bef bell; (4) In FS, ent arena aft 20+sec of music but w/in 90 sec; (5) If FS is lngr/shrttr thn time all, .5% deduct frm art score.(DR 122.5)</p>	<p>1st 2 % pts; 2nd Elim; For YH, Child,Pny Ridr & JR tsts: 1st error: -.5% pts frm tot score; 2nd: -1% pts frm tot score; 3rd: Elim. For FEI FS, 2 pts ded for ea error, but they are not cumul & will not result in elim. Judge at C decides if error is made & other judges' scores are adapted. List of pos errors same as for USEF HP classes ex if test has started bef discrep is noticed, Judge @C allows an asst to rmvme item(s). Athlete cont test & marks given bef interrupt. are not changed. (Art. 430)</p>	<p>1st 2 pts; 2nd 4 pts; 3rd Elim. After elim. may finish test. (EV136.1) If there is more than one judge, unless all judges are in agreement on an error, the competitor receives the benefit of the doubt. (EV134.14)</p>

*See Dispensation Certificate for Para Riders (BLUE text in Chart valid as of 4/1/16; FEI rules valid as of 1/1/16) (PINK text in Chart valid as of 4/1/13; FEI rules valid as of 1/1/13)
** See FEI Rules for Dres Events for Pony Riders & Children (BROWN text in Chart valid as of 4/1/15; FEI rules valid as of 1/1/15) (RED text in Chart valid as of 4/1/12; FEI rules valid as of 1/1/12)
Compiled by Janine W. Malone (PURPLE text valid as of 4/1/14 or 6/14; FEI rules valid as of 1/1/14) (GREEN text in Chart valid as of 4/1/11; FEI rules valid as of 1/1/11)