Educational Program Information for Competition Managers

Graduation from The USDF L Education Program (L Program) is the first step to becoming a USEF Licensed Dressage Judge and the program is dependent on the support of competitions to provide host sites for Part 2 (evaluative sessions) along with sitting and scribing opportunities for those enrolled in the program.

The L Program committee is grateful to the competitions for their support and the role they play in training judges which is vital to ensure quality judges for the future.

Below is a list of procedures and guidelines to help competition management with questions or requests regarding the L Program.

- **Scribing Hours** - Participants (30 per program) or candidates can complete the scribing hour requirement at any time. A total of 12 hours from three judges is the L Program requirement.

- **Sitting Hours** - The following applies only to the Part 2 where only 10 candidates per program are allowed:
  - Candidates can only complete these hours after they have been officially accepted into Part 2 by USDF.
  - Candidates must obtain permission from the competition manager and the officiating judge prior to the competition date. The usual procedure is to first obtain permission from the competition manager, before asking permission from the judge. If a candidate wants to sit with a particular judge, he/she may ask for that judge’s schedule and then contact the appropriate competition manager(s). Candidates should not ask a judge to promise a sitting session without prior approval from competition management.
  - Candidates are required to complete ten hours from two judges including three hours at Training, First, and Second Level.

- **Guidelines** - provided to participants and candidates regarding their sitting and scribing hours:
  - Do not plan to compete at a show where you are sitting or scribing.
  - It is best not to fulfill “sitting” requirements where you are a local professional instructor/trainer. It could be perceived as a conflict of interest if you sit with a judge that will be judging your students later in the competition.
  - Do not repeat any comments made by the judge.
  - Do not request particular hours.
  - Offer to help with the competition when time is available.
  - Dress appropriately for judging when sitting with a judge for the L Program.
  - Arrive early. Be sure to be in the judge’s box for the entire class, not only portions of the class.

- **Hosting Part 2 Sessions** - L Program organizers are required to get the signature of competition managers before the applications for Part 2 can be approved.
  - Organizers are instructed to be considerate of competitors and competition volunteers.
  - Organizers should make sure that the candidates do not disturb the competition.
  - Organizers should make sure that the area they use is cleaned up before they leave.
  - It is suggested that some notification be given to competitors when a Part 2 session is taking place.
  - It may be helpful for the organizer to provide signage for the program.

If you have any questions or comments regarding the L Program, its candidates, graduates, or graduates with distinction, please contact Lprogram@usdf.org