



Questions you always wanted to ask...

Presented by

Jean Kraus

FEI *3 Dressage Steward

USEF R Technical Delegate

USEF R Steward



What is the role of the Technical Delegate at a Competition?

We are there to:

1. Safeguard the welfare of the horse
2. Help management provide a safe and fair competition for all
3. Protect the interests of competitors, judges and competition management.

We are there to answer your questions and respond to your concerns.



TDs are the **liaison** between the USEF, competition management, judges and the competitor.

We are the USEF's representative to the competition: their eyes and ears.



We see the competition from multiple perspectives:



The Federations' rules and parameters





Is the competition operating within those parameters





The competitors' needs.





One of our paramount duties is to safeguard the welfare of the horse.

- We are circulating around the show grounds watching the warm-ups, competition arenas, and stabling areas to monitor that the horses are being treated well and are safe.
- We are watching for abuse, harsh riding, over-riding, distress, blood, whip marks, etc.



We assist management to help ensure that every effort is made to provide for a safe competition.

- We inspect the competition and warm-up arenas, as well as the stabling areas and grounds.
- We work to identify potential safety issues and bring them to the attention of competition management.

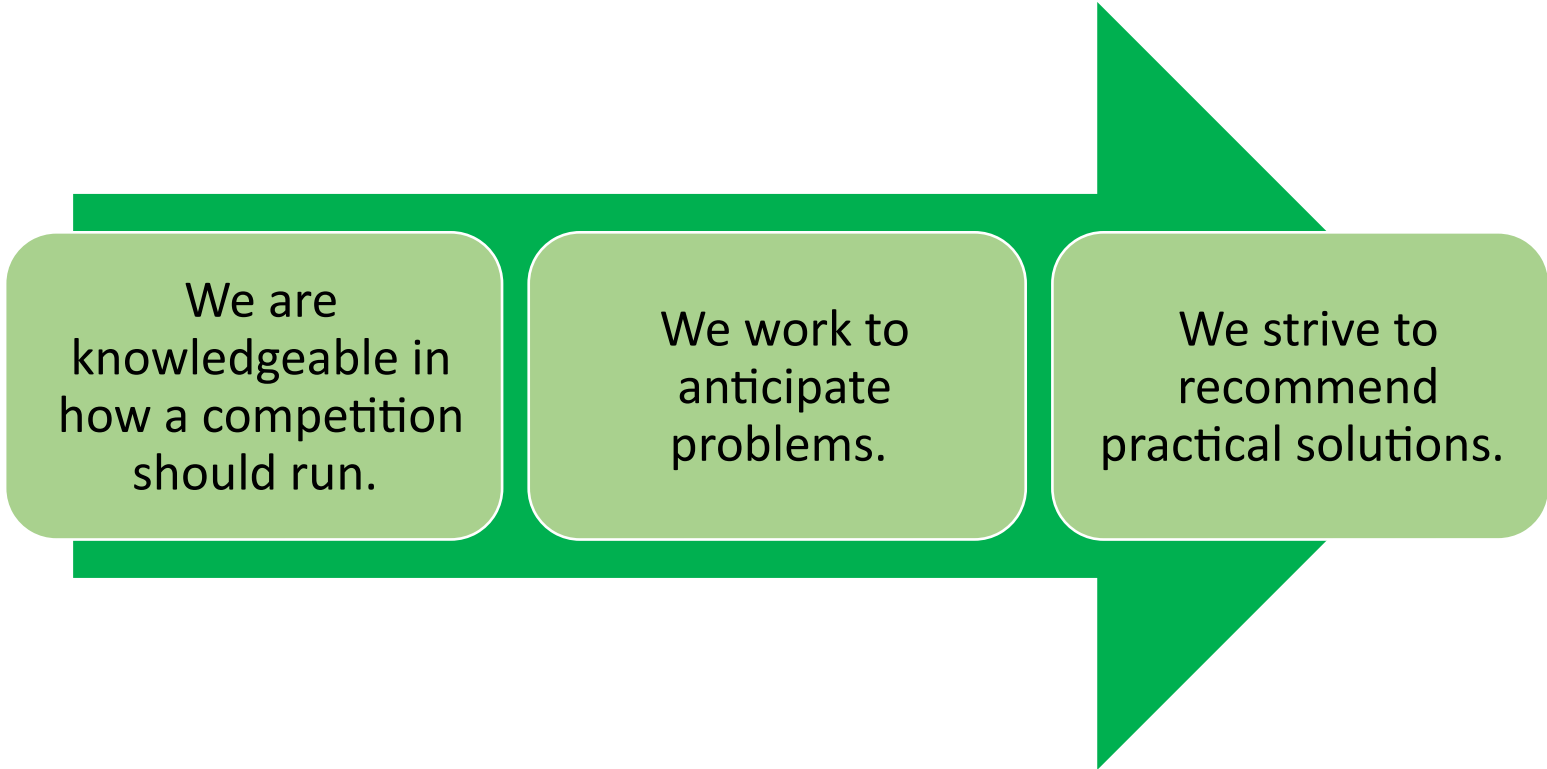


The
Equipment
Checker

**We
educate
and
monitor**

The Ring
Steward

The Warm-
Up Steward



We are knowledgeable in how a competition should run.

We work to anticipate problems.

We strive to recommend practical solutions.

It's pouring down rain, the arena is a lake, the judge is soaked, the competitor wants to ride and management wants to know if they can call it for the day.

How can we help facilitate the making of those tough decisions?


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graph TD; A((TDs are available to management, judges, competitors, et al.)) --> B((We assist in finding applicable rules and then how to interpret them.)); A --> C((We watch, monitor, advise and recommend.)); B --> C; C --> B;
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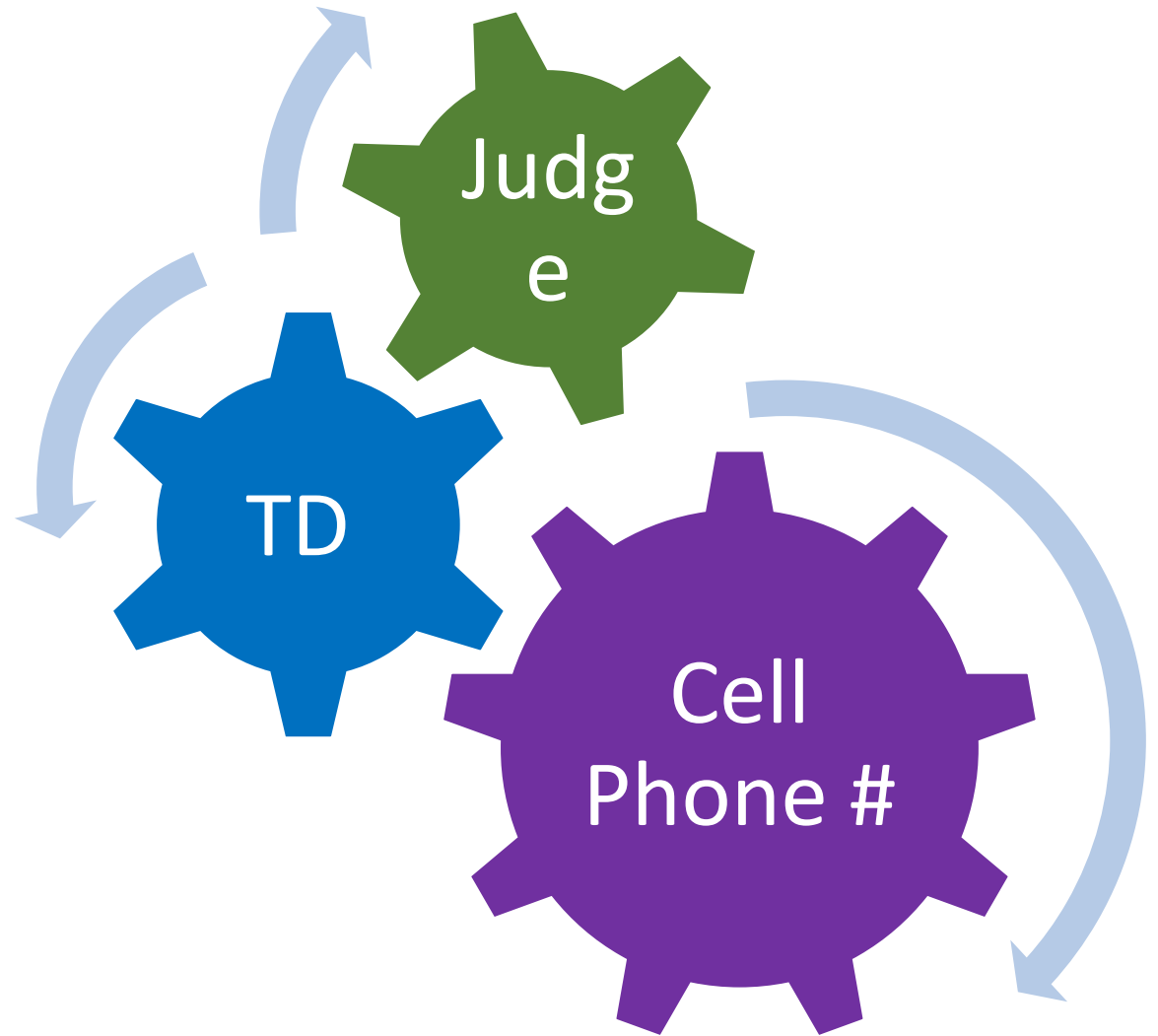
TDs are available to management, judges, competitors, et al.

We assist in finding applicable rules and then how to interpret them.

We watch, monitor, advise and recommend.

The TD is a resource for you at the competition.

Call us when you need us.





THE USEF TECHNICAL DELEGATE (TD)

a resource for competitors, judges,
and competition management

The TD for this competition is: _____

I am here to:

- Safeguard the welfare of the horse.
- Help management provide a safe and fair competition for all.
- Protect the interests of competitors, judges and competition management.
- **Answer your questions and respond to your concerns.**

Need the TD?

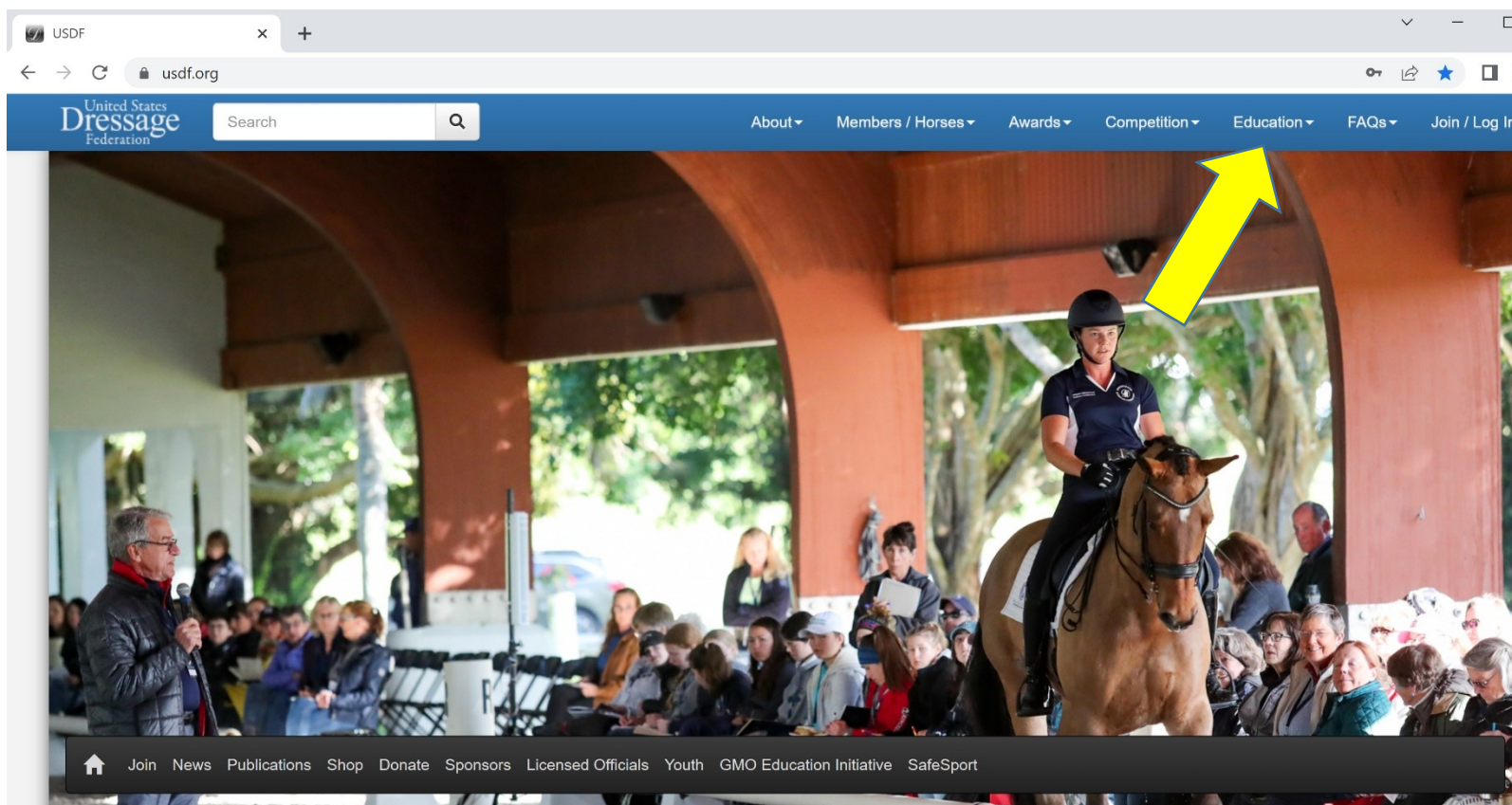
Ask the show office to radio me or call/text _____



NEW DRESS RULES DR 120 ARE A VERY COMMONLY
ASKED QUESTION RIGHT NOW

How to find useful information

Go to the USDF Website



See the box labeled Education? Click on it.

L Education Program

[Continuing Education in Dressage Judging Program](#)

[Recommended Reading](#)

Instructor/Trainer Program

[Training-Fourth Levels](#)

[FEI Levels](#)

[Recommended Reading](#)

[Associate Instructors](#)

Clinics

[Jr/YR Clinics](#)

[Youth Outreach Clinics](#)

Sport Horse Education

[USDF Sport Horse Prospect Development Forum](#)

[USDF Youth/Young Adult Dressage Sport Horse Breeding Seminar](#)

[USDF Sport Horse Seminar](#)

[USDF Handler Clinic](#)

[Online Video Portal](#)

List of Certified Instructors

List of L Graduates and L Graduates with Distinction

Technical Delegates

Other Programs

[Annual Convention](#)

[Trainers Conference](#)

[USDF/IDA Quiz Challenge](#)

[USDF/USEF Young Rider Graduate Program](#)

[Adult Amateur](#)

USDF University

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[Online Education](#)

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[Technical Delegate Learning Modules](#)

[Dressage Today OnDemand](#)

USDF Education Programs and Events

National Education Calendar and Map

USDF Official Podcast

Glossary of Judging Terms

Forms & Documents















Third column over? Technical Delegates? Click on it!

- [Adult Amateur](#)
- [Youth](#)
- [Clinics](#)
- [Instructor/Trainer Program](#)
- [Judge Education](#)
- [Technical Delegates](#)
- [GMO Education Initiative](#)
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Introduction to the Dressage Technical Delegate

Welcome to USDF's Dressage Technical Delegate page! This page has content for the licensed official as well as for those interested in becoming a TD. Each tab has the content indicated. Please note that you will need to be logged-in to your USDF member account to access the TD Resources page. If you have any questions regarding any of this information, please contact tdinfo@usdf.org.

- [USDF Technical Delegate Committee](#) 
- [Veronica Holt Dressage Technical Delegate Fund](#) 
- [USDF Apprentice Technical Delegate Clinic](#) 
- [Dressage Attire & Equipment](#) 
- [USEF Program Rules](#) 
- [NEW! 2022 Dress Code \(DR 120\)](#) 
- [Want to become a Technical Delegate?](#) 
- [TD Education Calendar](#) 
- [USEF Rules & Regulations](#) 
- [USEF Annex A to DR 121](#) 
- [Show Biz](#) 
- [An Excerpt from the 2022 USEF/USEF TD Clinic: Equipment Session](#) 

[Technical Delegate Resources](#)
 (member login required) 

For questions or further information, please contact USDF at tdinfo@usdf.org or call (859) 971-2277.

This is our TD page which houses our resources. It is available to us but it is also available to you.

In order to navigate around here, click on a topic such as NEW! 2022 Dress Code.

A Visual Guide to 2022 Dressage Attire

Revised 2/21/2022

AN IN-DEPTH LOOK AT THE NEW USEF
RULES PERTAINING TO RIDER DRESS



Coat colors have a wider range...



Breeches or jodhpurs may be of any white, light or dark color but not bright or patterned.



Bright colors not allowed.



1-5 are all bright colors and not allowed.

6-10 are all colors that are not bright. They are legal.

Bright/Shiny/Dayglow – are not acceptable



Need information on Dressage Attire & Equipment? Or Annex A?

[USDF Technical Delegate Committee](#)



[Veronica Holt Dressage Technical Delegate Fund](#)



[USDF Apprentice Technical Delegate Clinic](#)



[Dressage Attire & Equipment](#)



[USEF Program Rules](#)



[NEW! 2022 Dress Code \(DR 120\)](#)



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[An Excerpt from the 2022 USEF/USEF TD Clinic:
Equipment Session](#)





Dressage Attire & Equipment




updated 5/1/2021

USEF DRESSAGE CHAPTER: DR 121 ANNEX A

1 | Page

Effective immediately, 2021 / Updated May 13, 2021

Annex A is a supplement to the USEF Dressage Rules. All bits/equipment labeled as 'Pending Review' are not permitted in USEF/USDF competition until determined otherwise in this Annex. Please refer to FEI Dressage Rules directly for permitted saddlery/equipment in FEI CDI events. Additional clarifications and rulings from the USEF Dressage Sport Department are noted and dated.

Bits, Saddlery and Equipment		USEF Dressage Snaffles, saddlery or equipment permitted at Fourth Level and below	USEF Dressage Bridoon and curb bits permitted with a double bridle	USEF Dressage Snaffle bits, saddlery or equipment permitted for FEI tests	FEI Dressage (CDIs) Bridoon and curb bits permitted with a double bridle	FEI Dressage (CDIs) Snaffle bits, saddlery or equipment permitted for FEI tests
	Myler MB02 Comfort Snaffle	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Myler MB32 Mullen Barrel: loose ring or eggbutt	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Myler O4 Low Port Comfort: loose ring or eggbutt (May be used with eggbutt, full cheek (snaffle only), hanging cheek (snaffle only), or loose rings)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

NOTES: (1) All snaffle mouthpieces are approved w/ loose ring, D-ring, eggbutt or hanging cheek rings. (2) The diameter of the snaffle or bridoon mouthpiece must be min. 10 mm diameter at rings or cheeks of the mouthpiece. The diameter of the curb mouthpiece must be min. 12 mm. Exception: for ponies, diameter may be less than 10 mm. For CDIs, snaffles must have a min. diameter of 12 mm for horses and 10 mm for ponies. The diameter of a bit is measured at the rings or cheeks of the mouthpiece. (3) For bridoons, snaffles & curb bits used in USEF and FEI competitions, the max. height of the deviation is 30 mm from the lower part of tongue side to the highest part of the deviation. The widest part of the deviation must be where the mouthpiece contacts the tongue & must have a min. width of 30 mm. (4) D-ring or hanging cheek bits are not permitted as a bridoon in a double bridle at any level.

The resources are there, you just need to know how to navigate to them.

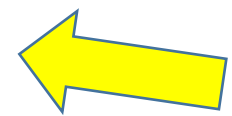
Adult Amateur
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- [USEF Annex A to DR 121](#)
- [Show Biz](#)
- [An Excerpt from the 2022 USEF/USEF TD Clinic: Equipment Session](#)

[Technical Delegate Resources \(member login required\)](#)



For questions or further information, please contact USDF at tdinfo@usdf.org or call (859) 971-2277.

Need information on whether or not you can carry a whip in a Qualifying class, Young Horse class, do you have to have a double bridle...?

Click on the green button. You will need to be a member of USDF.


Dressage Technical Delegate Resources

Welcome to USDF's Dressage Technical Delegate Resources page! This page provides licensed dressage technical delegates (DTD) and individuals enrolled in DTD Training Programs access to the continuing education Learning Modules and resources for use in the field. If you have questions regarding any of this information, please contact tdinfo@usdf.org.

[TD Checklist](#) 

[National Show Rules for Qualifying Classes](#)  

[USEF Social Media Policy](#) 


[Dressage Equipment Lite](#) 

[TD Competition Flyer](#) 

[TD Name Badge Order Form](#) 

[Ring Steward Instructions](#) 

[Best Practices: TD Guidelines for Enforcing COVID-19 Rules at a Competition](#) 

[TD Resource Guide](#) 

[USEF Forms & Publications](#) 

[Pony Measurement Resources](#) 

[Warmup Ring Steward Lite](#) 

[TD Infraction Worksheet](#) 

[Ring Steward Overview](#) 

[A Further Explanation of Helmets](#) 

[An Excerpt from the 2022 USEF/USEF TD Clinic: Equipment Session](#) 

[2022 USDF TD Townhall: DR 120](#) 

2022 USEF/USDF DRESSAGE RULES FOR QUALIFYING CLASSES HELD AT NATIONAL SHOWS

Compiled by the USDF TD Committee 12/2021

	SNaffle	DOUBLE	SNaffle BIT DIAMETER	WHIP	SPURS	BOOTS	DRESSAGE COAT	MINIMUM HORSE AGE	RIDER AGE	AVERAGE MINIMUM QUALIFYING SCORE/CRITERIA	PROGRAM EQUIVALENT LEVEL
USEF YOUNG ADULT 'BRENTINA CUP' DRESSAGE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP	NO	YES	10 MM MIN.	120 CM	MANDATORY	CAN MATCH COAT COLOR	SHORT COAT/TAILS	8 YEARS OLD	16 - 25	66%	I-2 & DEVELOPING GP
USEF INTERMEDIAIRE 1 DRESSAGE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP	YES	YES	10 MM MIN.	120 CM	MANDATORY	CAN MATCH COAT COLOR	SHORT COAT/TAILS	7 YEARS OLD	MINIMUM 16 YEARS OLD	66%	INTERMEDIATE 1
USEF GRAND PRIX DRESSAGE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP	YES	YES	10 MM MIN.	120 CM	MANDATORY	CAN MATCH COAT COLOR	SHORT COAT/TAILS	8 YEARS OLD	MINIMUM 16 YEARS OLD	66%	GRAND PRIX & GRAND PRIX SPECIAL
TESTS FOR CHILDREN	YES	NO	12 MM MIN.	120 CM	OPTIONAL 3.5 CM MAX	CAN MATCH COAT COLOR	SHORT COAT	6 YEARS OLD	12 - 14	62%	2ND LEVEL: TEST 3
FEI PONY RIDER	YES	NO	LESS THAN 10 MM	100 CM	OPTIONAL 3.5 CM MAX	CAN MATCH COAT COLOR	SHORT COAT	6 YEARS OLD	12 - 16	62%	2ND LEVEL: TEST 3
YOUNG RIDER: USEF/NAYC QUALIFYING & FESTIVAL OF CHAMPIONS	YES	YES	10 MM MIN.	120 CM	MANDATORY	CAN MATCH COAT COLOR	SHORT COAT/TAILS	7 YEARS OLD	16 - 21	64% / 66%	PSG LEVEL
JUNIOR RIDER: USEF/NAYC QUALIFYING & FESTIVAL OF CHAMPIONS	YES	YES	10 MM MIN.	120 CM	MANDATORY	CAN MATCH COAT COLOR	SHORT COAT/TAILS	6 YEARS OLD	14 - 18	64% / 66%	3RD LEVEL: TEST 3
MARKEL/USEF YOUNG HORSE DRESSAGE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 4 YEAR OLD (ONLY THE USEF DRESSAGE TEST FOR 4 YEAR OLDS IS USED FOR QUALIFICATION)	YES: CROSSED NOSEBANDS ARE PROHIBITED	NO	12 MM MIN.	120 CM	OPTIONAL	CAN MATCH COAT COLOR	SHORT COAT	4 YEARS OLD	MINIMUM 16 YEARS OLD	75% 7.5 AVERAGE	1ST LEVEL: TEST 3
MARKEL/USEF YOUNG HORSE DRESSAGE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 5 YEAR OLD	YES: CROSSED NOSEBANDS ARE PROHIBITED	NO	12 MM MIN.	120 CM	MANDATORY	CAN MATCH COAT COLOR	SHORT COAT/TAILS	5 YEARS OLD	MINIMUM 16 YEARS OLD	75% 7.5 AVERAGE	2ND LEVEL
MARKEL/USEF YOUNG HORSE DRESSAGE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 6 YEAR OLD	YES: CROSSED NOSEBANDS ARE PROHIBITED	NO	12 MM MIN.	120 CM	MANDATORY	CAN MATCH COAT COLOR	SHORT COAT/TAILS	6 YEARS OLD	MINIMUM 16 YEARS OLD	75% 7.5 AVERAGE	3RD LEVEL
MARKEL/USEF YOUNG HORSE DRESSAGE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 7 YEAR OLD	YES: CROSSED NOSEBANDS ARE PROHIBITED	YES	10 MM MIN.	120 CM	MANDATORY	CAN MATCH COAT COLOR	SHORT COAT/TAILS	7 YEARS OLD	MINIMUM 16 YEARS OLD	68% AVERAGE	4TH LEVEL
DEVELOPING HORSE DRESSAGE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS - PSG (NOT HIGH PERFORMANCE - CDI)	YES: CROSSED NOSEBANDS ARE PROHIBITED	YES	10 MM MIN.	120 CM	MANDATORY	CAN MATCH COAT COLOR	SHORT COAT/TAILS	7/8/9 YEARS OLD	MINIMUM 16 YEARS OLD	70% AVERAGE	USEF DEVELOPING HORSE PRIX ST. GEORGES TEST
DEVELOPING HORSE DRESSAGE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS - GP (NOT HIGH PERFORMANCE - CDI)	YES: CROSSED NOSEBANDS ARE PROHIBITED	YES	10 MM MIN.	120 CM	MANDATORY	CAN MATCH COAT COLOR	SHORT COAT/TAILS	8/9/10 YEARS OLD	MINIMUM 16 YEARS OLD	66% AVERAGE	INTERMEDIATE II & DEVELOPING GRAND PRIX
ADULT AMATEUR EQUITATION PROGRAM	YES	NO	10 MM MIN.	120 CM	OPTIONAL	CAN MATCH COAT COLOR	SHORT COAT	3 YEARS OLD	MINIMUM 22 YEARS OLD	70% OR HIGHER	ALL DRESS, SADDLERY & EQUIPMENT RULES FOR FIRST LEVEL
USDF DRESSAGE SEAT MEDAL SEMI-FINALS	YES	NO	10 MM MIN.	120 CM	OPTIONAL	CAN MATCH COAT COLOR	SHORT COAT	3 YEARS OLD	13 AND UNDER 14 THROUGH 18	70% IN DSE CLASS OR REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP STATUS	ALL DRESS, SADDLERY & EQUIPMENT RULES FOR FIRST LEVEL
USEF DRESSAGE SEAT MEDAL FINALS	YES	NO	10 MM MIN.	120 CM	OPTIONAL	CAN MATCH COAT COLOR	SHORT COAT	3 YEARS OLD	13 AND UNDER 14 THROUGH 18	CHAMP & RESERVE IN SEMI-FINALS ADVANCE TO FINALS	ALL DRESS, SADDLERY & EQUIPMENT RULES FOR FIRST LEVEL

UNITED STATES DRESSAGE FEDERATION™

Membership and Horse Registration Requirements

USDF EDUCATION PROGRAMS MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

	PM	GM	EM	NM
USDF Jr/YR Clinics – auditor	✓	✓	✓	✓
USDF Jr/YR Clinics – participant	✓			
Earn Credit toward University Recognition	✓	✓	✓	
L Education Program-Part 1 - auditor	✓	✓	✓	✓
L Education Program-Part 1 - participant	✓	✓	✓	
L Education Program-Part 2	✓			
Continuing Education in Dressage Judging - auditor	✓	✓	✓	✓
Continuing Education in Dressage Judging - participant	✓	✓		
Instructor Certification-Workshops	✓	✓	✓	
Instructor Certification-Final Exam	✓			
Adequan®/USDF FEI-Level Trainers Conference	✓			
USDF/USEF Young Rider Graduate Program	✓	✓		
Sport Horse Seminars - auditor	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sport Horse Seminars - participant	✓	✓		
Adequan®/USDF Annual Convention	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sport Horse Prospect Development Forum – auditor	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sport Horse Prospect Development Forum – participant	✓	✓	✓	
USDF Apprentice Technical Delegate Clinic	✓	✓	✓	✓
National Education Initiative - auditor	✓	✓	✓	✓
National Education Initiative - rider	✓	✓	✓	

PM = Participating Membership
 GM = Group Membership
 EM = Education Membership
 NM = Non Member

AWARD AND CHAMPIONSHIP PROGRAMS MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

	LHR	HID	PM	GM	NM [†]
Compete at USEF-licensed/USDF-recognized competitions	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Qualify for GAIG/USDF Regional Dressage Championships	✓		✓		
Compete at GAIG/USDF Regional Dressage Championships	✓		✓		
Qualify for USDF Regional Adult Amateur Equitation Final	✓		✓		
Compete in a USDF Regional Adult Amateur Equitation Final	✓		✓		
Compete at US Dressage Finals	✓		✓		
Qualify for USDF Breeders Championship Series Finals	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Compete at USDF Breeders Championship Finals	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Qualify for USDF Breeders Championship Series Materiale Class	✓	✓	✓	✓*	✓*
Compete in USDF Breeders Championship Finals Materiale Class	✓	✓	✓	✓*	✓*
Adequan®/USDF Year-End Awards	✓		✓		
USDF Horse Performance Certificates	✓		✓		
USDF Rider Awards	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Qualify for USDF Dressage Seat Medal Semi-Finals	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Compete at USDF Dressage Seat Medal Semi-Finals	✓	✓	✓		

^{*}Applies only to the owner membership requirement. Rider must have a PM at the time the horse's qualifying score is earned.

LHR = USDF Lifetime Horse Registration
 HID = USDF Horse Identification Number
 PM = Participating Membership
 GM = Group Membership
 NM = Non member

[†]For the purposes of this chart EM members should refer to NM listing.

Wondering what type of memberships you and your horse need?

The information is all readily available to you. You just need to know how to navigate to it!

This is a very handy chart that is in the Members Guide pg. 7.