



MEMORANDUM

To: Potential Applicants for the 2025 U.S. Dressage Festival of Champions

Date: June 24, 2024

From: Kristen Brett, Director, Dressage Programs

Copy: Hallye Griffin
Laura Roberts

Re: Qualifying Dates and Competitions for the 2025 USEF Dressage National Championships for the Young Horse and Developing Horse Divisions

This preliminary information is being provided to assist you with your competition planning and may be subject to change. Please remember that this information is based upon the recommendations of the USEF Dressage Sport Committee and the final qualifying requirements are subject to approval by the USEF Board of Directors, Executive Committee, or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors.

Date and Location: The 2025 U.S. Dressage Festival of Champions is scheduled to take place on August 18-24, 2025, at HITS Lamplight Equestrian Center in Wayne, IL.

Qualifying Period: The qualifying period for the 2025 USEF Dressage National Championships for the Young and Developing Horse divisions will begin on January 1, 2025, and end on July 21, 2025.

For the Young Horse division, qualification goes with the horse. Therefore, the athlete may be changed during the qualifying period.

For the Developing Horse Divisions (Prix St. Georges and Grand Prix), qualification is athlete/horse combination based. Therefore, the athlete cannot change during the qualifying period.

Qualifying Competitions: Competitions throughout the U.S. have been designated as national USEF/NAYC Qualifying Competitions and a list of these Competitions is available on the USEF website [here](#).

For all divisions, scores earned from the 2024 U.S. Dressage Festival of Champions cannot be used towards qualifying for the 2025 U.S. Dressage Festival Champions.

Age Requirements for Athlete and Horse: Athletes must be a minimum of 16 years old by December 31, 2025, to compete at the Young and Developing Horse Championships (refer to DR128.1).

Young Horses must fit into one of the following age categories to earn qualifying scores and to compete at the Championships (refer to DR119.10):

- a. Become four (4) years of age in 2025.
- b. Become five (5) years of age in 2025.
- c. Become six (6) years of age in 2025.
- d. Become seven (7) years of age in 2025.



For the Developing Horse Prix St. Georges division, horses must be between the age of seven (7) years old and nine (9) years old in 2025 to earn scores and to compete at the Championships (refer to DR119.10).

For the Developing Horse Grand Prix division, horses must be between the age of eight (8) years old and ten (10) years old in 2025 to earn scores and to compete at the Championships (refer to DR119.10).

Qualifying Tests: For all divisions: Qualifying tests at national Qualifying Competitions must be judged by a panel of at least two (2) FEI or USEF 'S' judges. For tests to be counted towards qualification, at least one (1) judge must differ per Qualifying Competition.

- a. For all divisions, Hors de Concours entries are not permitted in USEF/NAYC Qualifying classes.
- b. **Four-Year-Old:** Combinations must obtain at least two (2) scores from the current edition of the USEF Dressage Test for Four-Year-Old Horses.
- c. **Five-Year-Old:** Combinations must obtain at least two (2) scores from the current edition of the FEI Five-Year-Old Preliminary Test and at least two (2) scores from the current edition of the FEI Five-Year-Old Final Test.
- d. **Six-Year-Old:** Combinations must obtain at least two (2) scores from the current edition of the FEI Six-Year-Old Preliminary Test and at least two (2) scores from the current edition of the FEI Six-Year-Old Final Test.
- e. **Seven-Year-Old:** Combinations must obtain at least two (2) scores from the current edition of the FEI Seven-Year-Old Preliminary Test and at least two (2) scores from the current edition of the FEI Seven-Year-Old Final Test.
- f. **For the Five-, Six-, and Seven-Year Olds,** combinations are not required to complete their respective Preliminary Test and their respective Final Test same Qualifying Competition.
- g. **Developing Horse Prix St. Georges:** Combinations must obtain at least two (2) scores from the current edition of the FEI Prix St. Georges Test and at least two (2) scores from the current edition of the USEF Developing Horse Prix St. Georges Test. Combinations are not required to complete the FEI Prix St. Georges Test and the Developing Horse Prix St. Georges Test at the same Qualifying Competition.
- h. **Developing Horse Grand Prix:** Combinations must obtain at least two (2) scores from the current edition of the FEI Intermediate II Test and at least two (2) scores from the current edition of the USEF Developing Horse Grand Prix Test. Combinations are not required to complete the FEI Intermediate II Test and the Developing Horse Grand Prix Test at the same Qualifying Competition.

Questions: If you have any questions regarding the above, please do not hesitate to contact the USEF Dressage Department at festival@usef.org.