



MEMORANDUM

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

Date: June 24, 2024

From: Laureen Johnson, Director, Para Equestrian

Copy: Hallye Griffin
Kristen Brett

Re: Qualifying Dates and Competitions for the 2025 USEF Para Dressage National Championships for the Grand Prix and Intermediaire I.

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 Para Equestrian Sport Committee and the final qualifying requirements are subject to approval by the USEF Board of Directors 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 Para Dressage National Championships for the Grand Prix and Intermediaire I will begin on July 23, 2024, and end on July 21, 2025.

For these Championships, 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](#).

Scores may only be earned at these competitions or CPEDIs (See Ranking List Score Calculation below). The 2024 FEI Calendar can be found [here](#) and please note that the 2025 FEI Calendar will not be published on this link until approved by the FEI, no later than December 31, 2024.

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

Eligibility Requirements for Athlete and Horse:

- Athletes must be a minimum of 13 years old as of December 1, 2024 (refer to DR128.1).
- Horses must be a minimum of six-years-old in 2025 (refer to DR119.1 and DR305).
- Athletes must have a USEF National and/or FEI International Para Equestrian Dressage Classification and be assigned a Grade I-V with a confirmed or review, with a fixed review date (FRD), status to earn qualifying scores (refer to DR119.12, DR119.13, and DR305).
- Athletes must ride independently and at their classified Grade.



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. Freestyle Tests completed at a national Qualifying Competition must be judged by a minimum of one (1) USEF 'S' or FEI judge.

- a. **Grand Prix:** Combinations must obtain at least two (2) scores in their respective Grade level from the current edition of the FEI Para Grand Prix A Test and at least (2) scores in their respective Grade level from the current edition of the FEI Para Grand Prix B Test.
- b. **Intermediaire I:** Combinations must obtain at least two (2) scores in their respective Grade level from the current edition of the FEI Para Intermediate A Test and at least two (2) scores in their respective Grade level from the current edition of the FEI Para Intermediate B Test.
- c. **Freestyle:**
 - i. **Grand Prix:** Combinations must also complete one (1) FEI Para Grand Prix Freestyle Test in their respective Grade level within the qualifying period. The Freestyle Test score may be earned in an FEI Para Grand Prix Freestyle Test of Choice class held at a national Qualifying Competition or earned in an FEI Para Grand Prix Freestyle Test held at a CPEDI. This score will not be used in the calculation of a combination's final average.
 - ii. **Intermediaire I:** Combinations must also complete one (1) FEI Para Intermediate Freestyle Test in their respective Grade level within the qualifying period. The Freestyle Test score may be earned in an FEI Para Intermediate Freestyle Test of Choice class held at a national Qualifying Competition or earned in an FEI Para Intermediate Freestyle Test held at a CPEDI. This score will not be used in the calculation of a combination's final average.

Ranking List Score Calculation:

- a. USEF will automatically track scores for combinations which are earned at national Qualifying Competitions.
- b. For all divisions, scratches, eliminations, and withdrawals will not be penalized.
- c. **CPEDI Scores:** CPEDI scores are calculable at the option of the athlete and will only be computed into the combination's overall average upon receipt of a USEF CDI/CPEDI Report Form within the specified deadline stated on the form to the USEF Dressage Department. Scores submitted late will not be accepted. It is the sole responsibility of the athlete to ensure that all qualifying CPEDI scores for this Championship are submitted to USEF on time and are accurate.
- d. A combination cannot earn a score in a national Qualifying Competition if the athlete submits the USEF CDI/CPEDI Report Form from the same event.

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

