



**USEF/NAYC Dressage Qualifying Calendar
Competition Manual
For Approved Competitions held in 2025**

Published October 2024

Updated November 19, 2024



Dear Competition Management:

Congratulations! One or more of your competitions have been approved to host the USEF and NAYC National Championship Qualifying Classes. [Please review the approved calendar here.](#)

Designated qualifying competitions must be **at least a Level 3 competition** and must comply with all the outlined requirements, as well as the USEF Dressage Rules, USEF General Rules, and Selection Procedures/Qualifying Requirements that apply to these competitions.

This document serves as a resource for competition management of USEF/NAYC Dressage Qualifying Competitions and U.S. FEI Dressage Competitions. The manual is intended to provide information to USEF/NAYC Qualifying Competition management for planning purposes. The information provided is subject to changes or updates which will be noted throughout the document.

We appreciate your participation and helping provide these special qualifying opportunities for your exhibitors. Please contact the Dressage Department (festival@usef.org) if you have any questions regarding the contents of this manual.

Useful Links

- [2025-2026 USEF/NAYC Dressage Qualifying Calendar](#)
- [Information for Dressage Qualifying Competition Management](#)
- [USEF/NAYC Dressage Calendar Policies and Procedures](#)
- [USEF Calendar Search](#)
- [USEF Secretary & Manager Search](#)
- [2025 CDI Calendar](#)
- [USEF Rulebook](#)

Important Information for 2025:

- **All qualifying classes must have “Q” in the class number (example, class 101Q) and all combinations entered in USEF/NAYC qualifying classes should be clearly indicated in the results.**
- Hors de Concours entries are not permitted in USEF/NAYC Qualifying classes.
- Qualifying competitions that have date changes **must communicate the changes** to dressage@usef.org for the calendar to be updated accordingly.
- Qualifying competitions that are planning to cancel **must** email dressage@usef.org with detailed reasoning for the cancellation. Prior to cancelling, organizers must work with USEF Dressage Staff to resolve any issues that may lead to cancellation. If organizers do not work with USEF Dressage Staff prior to cancellation of the qualifying classes, they will not be eligible to apply for qualifying status in future years and **cancellation fees will apply**. See page 16 of the manual.

Continued...

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Designated qualifying competitions must comply with all the outlined requirements in this manual, as well as the USEF Dressage Rules, USEF General Rules, and Qualifying Requirements/Selection Procedures that apply to these competitions. Failure to comply may result in investigation, penalties, and sanctions and will affect a competition's future status as a qualifier. If you determine that your competition is unable or unwilling to comply with these requirements and would like to be removed from the official qualifying competition list, contact dressage@usef.org immediately.

Prize List and Required Classes

Prize List Headers and Required Classes for Dressage Qualifying Competitions

Approved USEF/NAYC Dressage Qualifying Competitions must include the below language in their USEF Prize List.

When drafting your prize lists, if you have questions regarding how the required qualifying classes should be listed, please do not hesitate to contact us: festival@usef.org.

For all qualifying competitions held through December 31, 2024, please refer to the 2024 USEF/NAYC Dressage Qualifying Competition Manual [found here](#).

Qualifying Classes – Required Tests: January 1, 2025 – June 16, 2025

Competitions held between January 1, 2025 and June 16, 2025 serve as an official qualifier for the:

- 2025 FEI North American Youth Championship
- 2025 USEF Children Dressage National Championship
- 2025 USEF Pony Rider Dressage National Championship
- 2025 Adequan® /USEF Junior Dressage National Championship
- 2025 USEF Young Rider Dressage National Championship
- 2025 Adequan®/USEF Brentina Cup Dressage National Championship
- 2025 Markel/USEF Young and Developing Horse Dressage National Championships
- 2025 USEF Intermediaire I Dressage National Championship
- 2025 USEF Grand Prix Dressage National Championship
- 2025 Adequan®/USEF Para Dressage National Championships
- 2025 FEI World Breeding Championships for Young Horses in Dressage (Five-, Six-, and Seven-Year Olds) *All approved qualifying competitions will be required to hold the FEI Preliminary Tests for WBC qualifying purposes.*

Section Code	Test / Class Name	Qualifying Designation
1579	FEI Children Team Test	USEF/NAYC Qualifying
1580	FEI Children Individual Test	
1575	FEI Junior Team Test	
1576	FEI Junior Individual Test	
1577	FEI Young Rider Team Test	
1578	FEI Young Rider Individual Test	
1555	FEI Grand Prix 16-25 Test	
1535	FEI Intermediate II Test**	Markel/USEF/NAYC Qualifying
1587	FEI Junior Freestyle Test	NAYC Qualifying
1588	FEI Young Rider Freestyle Test	
1533	FEI Intermediate I Test	USEF Qualifying
1557	FEI Grand Prix Test	
1558	FEI Grand Prix Special Test	

Continued...

Section Code	Test / Class Name	Qualifying Designation
1573	FEI Pony Rider Team Test	USEF Qualifying
1574	FEI Pony Rider Individual Test	
1590	FEI Para Grand Prix A TOC	
1591	FEI Para Grand Prix B TOC	
1592	FEI Para Grand Prix Freestyle TOC	
9968	FEI Para Intermediate A TOC	
9969	FEI Para Intermediate B TOC	
9970	FEI Para Intermediate Freestyle TOC	
1531	FEI Prix St. Georges Test**	Markel/USEF Qualifying
1551	USEF Four-Year-Old Test	
1584	USEF Developing Prix St. Georges Test	
1585	USEF Developing Grand Prix Test	
1581	FEI Five-Year-Old Preliminary Test	WBC/Markel/USEF Qualifying
1542	FEI Five-Year-Old Final Test	
1582	FEI Six-Year-Old Preliminary Test	
1543	FEI Six-Year-Old Final Test	
1583	FEI Seven-Year-Old Preliminary Test	
1562	FEI Seven-Year-Old Final Test	

**Please note the following:

- All qualifying classes must have “Q” in the class number (example, class 101Q) and all combinations entered in USEF/NAYC qualifying classes should be clearly indicated in the results.
- Hors de Concours entries (HC) are not permitted in USEF/NAYC Qualifying classes.
- **FEI Children Preliminary B Test:** This test must be completed in a FEI Children Preliminary B class or an FEI Test of Choice class. These classes must NOT be offered as USEF/NAYC Qualifying. Please see page 20 for the placement of judges.
- **FEI Grand Prix and FEI Intermediate Freestyle Tests:** These tests must be offered in a FEI Grand Prix Freestyle class, FEI Intermediate Freestyle class, or an FEI Freestyle Test of Choice. These classes must NOT be offered as USEF Qualifying.
- The **FEI Intermediate II Test** must be offered as an open test for U25 and the Developing Grand Prix.
- For the **Developing PSG and Developing GP** qualifying purposes when a CDI Small Tour and/or CDI U25 is held in conjunction with a National Qualifying Competition **with a panel of at least two (2) FEI and/or USEF “S” judges (or at least one (1) FEI Judge and one (1) USEF ‘S’ Judge):**

FEI Prix St. Georges Test	Markel Qualifying ONLY
FEI Intermediate II Test	

Continued...

Qualifying Classes—Required Tests: June 17, 2025—June 26, 2025

Competitions held between June 17, 2025, and June 26, 2025 serve as an official qualifier for the:

- 2025 FEI North American Youth Championship
- 2025 USEF Children Dressage National Championship
- 2025 USEF Pony Rider Dressage National Championship
- 2025 Adequan®/USEF Junior Dressage National Championship
- 2025 USEF Young Rider Dressage National Championship
- 2025 Adequan®/USEF Brentina Cup Dressage National Championship
- 2025 Markel/USEF Young and Developing Horse Dressage National Championships
- 2025 Neue Schule/USEF Intermediaire I Dressage National Championship
- 2025 Neue Schule/USEF Grand Prix Dressage National Championship
- 2025 Adequan®/USEF Para Dressage National Championships

Section Code	Test / Class Name	Qualifying Designation
1579	FEI Children Team Test	USEF/NAYC Qualifying
1580	FEI Children Individual Test	
1575	FEI Junior Team Test	
1576	FEI Junior Individual Test	
1577	FEI Young Rider Team Test	
1578	FEI Young Rider Individual Test	
1555	FEI Grand Prix 16-25 Test	
1535	FEI Intermediate II Test**	Markel/USEF/NAYC Qualifying
1587	FEI Junior Freestyle Test	NAYC Qualifying
1588	FEI Young Rider Freestyle Test	
1533	FEI Intermediate I Test	USEF Qualifying
1557	FEI Grand Prix Test	
1558	FEI Grand Prix Special Test	
1573	FEI Pony Rider Team Test	
1574	FEI Pony Rider Individual Test	
1590	FEI Para Grand Prix A TOC	
1591	FEI Para Grand Prix B TOC	
1592	FEI Para Grand Prix Freestyle TOC	
9968	FEI Para Intermediate A TOC	
9969	FEI Para Intermediate B TOC	
9970	FEI Para Intermediate Freestyle TOC	
1531	FEI Prix St. Georges Test**	Markel/USEF Qualifying
1551	USEF Four Year Old Test	
1581	FEI Five Year Old Preliminary Test	
1542	FEI Five Year Old Final Test	
1582	FEI Six Year Old Preliminary Test	
1543	FEI Six Year Old Final Test	
1583	FEI Seven Year Old Preliminary Test	
1562	FEI Seven Year Old Final Test	
1584	USEF Developing Prix St. Georges Test	
1585	USEF Developing Grand Prix Test	

Continued...

****Please note the following:**

- All qualifying classes must have “Q” in the class number (example, class 101Q) and all combinations entered in USEF/NAYC qualifying classes should be clearly indicated in the results.
- Hors de Concours entries (HC) are not permitted in USEF/NAYC Qualifying classes.
- **FEI Children Preliminary B Test:** This test must be completed in a FEI Children Preliminary B class or an FEI Test of Choice class. These classes must NOT be offered as USEF/NAYC Qualifying. Please see page 20 for the placement of judges.
- **FEI Grand Prix and FEI Intermediate Freestyle Tests:** These tests must be offered in a FEI Grand Prix Freestyle class, FEI Intermediate Freestyle class, or an FEI Freestyle Test of Choice. These classes must NOT be offered as USEF Qualifying.
- The **FEI Intermediate II Test** must be offered as an open test for U25 and the Developing Grand Prix.
- For the **Developing PSG and Developing GP** qualifying purposes when a CDI Small Tour and/or CDI U25 is held in conjunction with a National Qualifying Competition:

FEI Prix St. Georges Test	Market Qualifying ONLY
FEI Intermediate II Test	

Qualifying Classes – Required Tests: June 17, 2025 – July 21, 2025

Competitions held between June 27, 2025 and July 21, 2025 serve as an official qualifier for the:

- 2025 USEF Children Dressage National Championship
- 2025 USEF Pony Rider Dressage National Championship
- 2025 Adequan® /USEF Junior Dressage National Championship
- 2025 USEF Young Rider Dressage National Championship
- 2025 Adequan®/USEF Brentina Cup Dressage National Championship
- 2025 Markel/USEF Young and Developing Horse Dressage National Championships
- **2025 USEF Intermediaire I Dressage National Championship**
- **2025 USEF Grand Prix Dressage National Championship**
- 2025 Adequan®/USEF Para Dressage National Championships

Section Code	Test / Class Name	Qualifying Designation
1579	FEI Children Team Test	USEF Qualifying
1580	FEI Children Individual Test	
1575	FEI Junior Team Test	
1576	FEI Junior Individual Test	
1577	FEI Young Rider Team Test	
1578	FEI Young Rider Individual Test	
1555	FEI Grand Prix 16-25 Test	
1533	FEI Intermediate I Test	
1557	FEI Grand Prix Test	
1558	FEI Grand Prix Special Test	
1573	FEI Pony Rider Team Test	
1574	FEI Pony Rider Individual Test	
1590	FEI Para Grand Prix A TOC	
1591	FEI Para Grand Prix B TOC	
1592	FEI Para Grand Prix Freestyle TOC	
9968	FEI Para Intermediate A TOC	
9969	FEI Para Intermediate B TOC	
9970	FEI Para Intermediate Freestyle TOC	
1531	FEI Prix St. Georges Test**	Markel/USEF Qualifying
1535	FEI Intermediate II Test**	
1551	USEF Four-Year-Old Test	
1581	FEI-Five-Year-Old Preliminary Test	
1542	FEI-Five-Year-Old Final Test	
1582	FEI Six-Year-Old Preliminary Test	
1543	FEI Six-Year-Old Final Test	
1583	FEI Seven-Year-Old Preliminary Test	
1562	FEI Seven-Year-Old Final Test	
1584	USEF Developing Prix St. Georges Test	
1585	USEF Developing Grand Prix Test	

**Please note the following:

- All qualifying classes must have “Q” in the class number (example, class 101Q) and all combinations entered in USEF/NAYC qualifying classes should be clearly indicated in the results.
- Hors de Concours entries (HC) are not permitted in USEF/NAYC Qualifying classes.
- **FEI Grand Prix and FEI Intermediate Freestyle Tests:** These tests must be offered in a FEI Grand Prix Freestyle class, FEI Intermediate Freestyle class, or an FEI Freestyle Test of Choice. These classes must NOT be offered as USEF Qualifying.

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- The **FEI Intermediate II Test** must be offered as an open test for U25 and the Developing Grand Prix.
- For the **Developing PSG and Developing GP** qualifying purposes when a CDI Small Tour and/or CDI U25 is held in conjunction with a National Qualifying Competition **with a panel of at least two (2) FEI and/or USEF “S” judges (or at least one (1) FEI Judge and one (1) USEF ‘S’ Judge):**

FEI Prix St. Georges Test	Markel Qualifying ONLY
FEI Intermediate II Test	

Qualifying Classes – Required Tests: July 22, 2025 – December 31, 2025

Competitions held between July 22, 2025 and December 31, 2025 serve as an official qualifier for the:

- 2026 FEI North American Youth Championship
- 2026 USEF Children Dressage National Championship
- 2026 USEF Pony Rider Dressage National Championship
- 2026 USEF Junior Dressage National Championship
- 2026 USEF Young Rider Dressage National Championship
- 2026 USEF Brentina Cup Dressage National Championship
- 2026 USEF Intermediaire I Dressage National Championship
- 2026 USEF Grand Prix Dressage National Championship
- 2026 USEF Para Dressage National Championships

Section Code	Test / Class Name	Qualifying Designation
1579	FEI Children Team Test	USEF/NAYC Qualifying
1580	FEI Children Individual Test	
1575	FEI Junior Team Test	
1576	FEI Junior Individual Test	
1577	FEI Young Rider Team Test	
1578	FEI Young Rider Individual Test	
1555	FEI Grand Prix 16-25 Test	
1535	FEI Intermediate II Test	
1587	FEI Junior Freestyle Test	NAYC Qualifying
1588	FEI Young Rider Freestyle Test	
1533	FEI Intermediate I Test	USEF Qualifying
1557	FEI Grand Prix Test	
1558	FEI Grand Prix Special Test	
1573	FEI Pony Rider Team Test	
1574	FEI Pony Rider Individual Test	
1590	FEI Para Grand Prix A TOC	
1591	FEI Para Grand Prix B TOC	
1592	FEI Para Grand Prix Freestyle TOC	
9968	FEI Para Intermediate A TOC	
9969	FEI Para Intermediate B TOC	
9970	FEI Para Intermediate Freestyle TOC	

**Please note the following:

- All qualifying classes must have “Q” in the class number (example, class 101Q) and all combinations entered in USEF/NAYC qualifying classes should be clearly indicated in the results.

Continued...

- Hors de Concours entries (HC) are not permitted in USEF/NAYC Qualifying classes.
- **FEI Children Preliminary B Test:** This test must be completed in a FEI Children Preliminary B class or an FEI Test of Choice class. These classes must NOT be offered as USEF/NAYC Qualifying. Please see page 20 for the placement of judges.
- **FEI Grand Prix and FEI Intermediate Freestyle Tests:** These tests must be offered in a FEI Grand Prix Freestyle class, FEI Intermediate Freestyle class, or an FEI Freestyle Test of Choice. These classes must NOT be offered as USEF Qualifying.

Additional Class Requirements:

FEI Children, Pony Rider, Junior and Young Rider Team Tests: The Team Test must be scheduled PRIOR to the Individual and Freestyle Tests. Freestyle Tests may be offered before Individual Tests. Team and Individual qualifying tests must be offered on separate days.

FEI Grand Prix, Intermediaire I, Developing Horse, Young Horse, and U25 Tests:

- The Grand Prix and Grand Prix Special Tests must be offered on separate days.
- The Intermediate I and Prix St. Georges Tests must be offered on separate days.
- The Prix St. Georges and the Developing PSG Tests must be offered on separate days.
- The Intermediate II and Grand Prix 16-25 Tests must be offered on separate days.
- The Intermediate II and Developing GP Tests must be offered on separate days.

FEI Children Preliminary B Test: Combinations wishing to earn an invitation to the 2025 NAYC will be required to earn a minimum of one (1) score in the FEI Children Preliminary B Test. This test must be completed in a FEI Children Preliminary B class or an FEI Test of Choice class. These classes must NOT be offered as USEF/NAYC Qualifying. Please see page 20 for the placement of judges.

24 Hour Rule: For purposes of this rule, the competition starts when the horse and athlete arrive on the show grounds. For Federation and NAYC **qualifying** for Children, Pony Rider, Junior, Young Rider, Grand Prix, Intermediaire I, Developing Horse and U25 (Brentina Cup and NAYC), within 24 hours prior and at no time during the competition, may any horse entered in a USEF Qualifying class be ridden by anyone other than the athlete entered in that class on that horse, under penalty of disqualification from the class for USEF championship qualifying purposes. Exception: grooms riding on a loose rein.

Dress: Please refer to DR120-121 for Dress and Saddlery rules for national level competition qualifiers. For a CDI event, all FEI Dressage and General Regulations must be followed.

Equipment:

- Whips are permitted in national USEF/NAYC qualifying classes.
- Junior and Young Rider – Snaffle or double bridle is permitted for USEF/NAYC qualifying classes held at a national competition or CDI.
- Brentina Cup, Grand Prix and Intermediaire I – Snaffle or double bridle is permitted for qualifying classes held at a national competition. FEI Rules are followed at a CDI.
- Developing Horse – Snaffle or double bridle is permitted for qualifying classes held at a national competition. FEI Rules are followed at a CDI.

Continued...

[USEF Dressage Rules](#)[USEF General Rules](#)

Prize List Review Procedure

Competition Management is required to submit their prize list no later than 30 days prior to the competition per normal USEF and USDF procedures. It is strongly recommended for competitions to submit their prize list via email (festival@usef.org) for review prior to submission to USEF and USDF.

Additionally, all qualifying classes must have “Q” in the class number (example, class 101Q) and all combinations entered in USEF/NAYC qualifying classes should be clearly indicated in the results.

Please note: Any requested changes to your prize list from the comments received by USEF and/or USDF must be received by both Federations within 10 days from the date of the comments. In addition, per GR904, if the Prize List must be changed after it has been distributed to potential exhibitors, notification of specific changes to a prize list must be made in accordance with GR904. However, requested updates not made by a competition may be reported to the USEF Regulation Department to determine whether a rule violation has occurred.

[Click Here for USEF Dressage Level 3, 4, & 5 Prize List Requirements.](#)

Reporting Results

Per DR 128.4, qualifying scores for NAYC, USEF National Championships, including Para Dressage, Children, Pony Rider, Junior, Young Rider, Brentina Cup, Young and Developing Horse, Intermediate I and Grand Prix, must be submitted by Competition Management to USDF and USEF within 48 hours after the competition. Exception: Competitions held at the end of a qualifying period require submission of results within 24 hours after the competition. Results must be submitted to USDF via the USDF Electronic Results Submissions Standard format and electronically to USEF through the Competition Dashboard.

Section Codes

USEF/NAYC Dressage Qualifying competitions **must** use proper result reporting per the below section code guide pictured below. Submission of results without correct section codes may impact the approval to the USEF/NAYC Qualifying Calendar in the future.

<u>Section Code</u>	<u>Test Name</u>	<u>Program/Division</u>
1551	USEF Dressage Test for 4-Year-Old Horses	4-Year-Old Young Horse
1542	FEI Dressage Test for 5-Year-Old Horses - Final	5-Year-Old Young Horse
1581	FEI Dressage Test for 5-Year-Old Horses – Preliminary	5-Year-Old Young Horse
1543	FEI Dressage Test for 6-Year-Old Horses - Final	6-Year-Old Young Horse
1582	FEI Dressage Test for 6-Year-Old Horses - Preliminary	6-Year-Old Young Horse
1562	FEI Dressage Test for 7-Year-Old Horses - Final	7-Year-Old Young Horse
1583	FEI Dressage Test for 7-Year-Old Horses - Preliminary	7-Year-Old Young Horse
1584	USEF Developing Prix St. Georges	Developing Horse Prix St. Georges
1585	USEF Developing Grand Prix	Developing Horse Grand Prix

Continued...

1555	FEI Grand Prix 16-25	Brentina Cup
1535	FEI Intermediate II	Brentina Cup & Developing Horse Grand Prix
1575	FEI Junior Team Test	Junior
1576	FEI Junior Individual Test	Junior
1577	FEI Young Rider Team Test	Young Rider
1578	FEI Young Rider Individual Test	Young Rider
1579	FEI Children Team Test	Children
1580	FEI Children Individual Test	Children
9980	FEI Children Preliminary B Test	Children
1573	FEI Pony Team Test	Pony
1574	FEI Pony Individual Test	Pony
1557	Grand Prix Open	Grand Prix (For National and CDI competitions)
1558	Grand Prix Special	Grand Prix (For National and CDI competitions)
1559	Grand Prix Freestyle	Grand Prix (For National and CDI competitions)
1557	CDI-AM FEI Grand Prix	Grand Prix - Am (For CDI competitions)
1531	FEI Prix St. Georges	Intermediaire I (For CDI and National competitions)
1533	Intermediate I	Intermediaire I (For CDI and National competitions)
1534	Intermediate I Freestyle	Intermediaire I (For CDI and National competitions)
1531	FEI Prix St. Georges for Amateur CDIAm	Intermediaire I - Am (For CDI competitions)
1533	FEI Intermediate I for Amateur CDIAm	Intermediaire I - Am (For CDI competitions)
1534	Intermediate I Freestyle - CDIAm	Intermediaire I - Am (For CDI competitions)
1590	FEI Para Grand Prix A Test	Para Dressage
1591	FEI Para Grand Prix B Test	Para Dressage
1592	FEI Para Grand Prix Freestyle	Para Dressage
1593	Para-Equestrian Dressage	Para Dressage
9968	FEI Para Intermediate A Test	Para Dressage
9969	FEI Para Intermediate B Test	Para Dressage
9970	FEI Para Intermediate Test Freestyle	Para Dressage

Continued...

Guide to Hosting Para Dressage Qualifying Test

All approved Qualifying Competitions are required to host Para Dressage Qualifying Tests.

Dispensation or Classification Certificate:

Athletes must provide Competition Management a copy of their Federation Dispensation/Classification Certificate with their entry. A copy of their Federation Dispensation/Classification Certificate must be attached to the Athlete's test for the Judge's reference.

Copies of these certificates must be attached to the judge's test copy and provided to the Technical Delegate. The ring steward should check the saddlery of one-third of the horses in each class immediately after the horse leaves the arena, in compliance with DR126.2.i.1. Any discrepancy will be reported to the Judge at C and may entail elimination. Management must provide a copy of each Athlete's Federation Dispensation/Classification Certificate to the ring stewards for all Para Athletes. See DR308.9 and DR119.12-DR119.1

FEI Para Dressage Tests:

- FEI Para Dressage Tests are found [here](#) on the FEI website. Please note: the test names have been updated, effective January 1, 2023.
- FEI Para Dressage Tests must be ridden from memory unless an exemption is listed on the athlete's Dispensation/Classification Certificate. In all tests, movements must follow the order laid down in the test. See DR122.1, DR122.4 and DR310.

Facility and Arena Requirements for Para Team, Para Individual, and Para Freestyle TOC classes:

- For designated national qualifying competitions, all tests for Grades I – III must be ridden in a small arena (20m x 40m). See DR303.4.
- For designated national qualifying competitions, all tests for Grades IV - V must be ridden in a standard size arena. See DR303.4.
- Restroom – it is encouraged but not required to provide a minimum of one (1) accessible port-a john if onsite facilities do not have an accessible restroom.
- It is encouraged but not required to provide wheelchair accessible mounting equipment.

Scheduling of Tests:

When preparing your time schedule, consider ending the day with your Para classes in order to begin the next day with Para. This way you only need to change the arena size once a day. Most often, the support staff and families of the athletes are willing to help make any ring adjustments so do not hesitate to ask for help.

If you find that you need both the small and standard-size arenas for athletes in the same class, there are two (2) options:

1. Update your prize list to offer two separate FEI Para TOC classes.
2. Or create two separate divisions of the class.

Divisions or sections of a class are considered to be a separate "class" only if listed as such in the prize list. Divisions or sections of a class may be held in different rings and judged by different judges. When divisions or sections are held under different conditions (i.e., different ring or judges), separate awards must be given (DR126.2.3). Don't forget to send in your updated prize list to USEF! See GR904.

Continued...

Dress, Saddlery, Equipment & Compensating Aids:

- Please refer to DR120.12 and DR121 for rules not specifically covered under DR306 - DR308.
- Athletes must use snaffle or double bridles (DR308.1) when competing in any FEI Para Dressage Test class. However, when athletes enter an able-bodied class/test, they must provide their Dispensation/Classification Certificate in order to use their compensating aids during the test.
- Due to the complex nature of the saddlery used by some Para athletes, refer to the FEI Para Dressage Rules for any additional requirements for bits and bridles not covered in DR121. See Article 8428 of the FEI Para Dressage Rules.

The aim of the above information is to provide Competition Management a brief outline of what to expect when offering the Para Dressage Tests. It is strongly recommended for Competition Management hosting the USEF/NAYC Qualifying Tests to familiarize themselves with all USEF General and Dressage Rules.

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Level of Competition and Licensing

Competitions approved as USEF/NAYC qualifiers must be licensed as **Level 3 or higher competitions**. A competition and all associated officials and staff must fully comply with the requirements of a Level 3 competition (and/or above). In addition, the correct qualifying classes must be offered. Please refer to the Required Classes and Judge Requirements section. The Level 3 competition cannot be immediately preceded by a competition of a lower level (i.e., it is not permitted to hold a Level 2 competition on a Friday and then the qualifier on Saturday and Sunday.)

- All competitions must retain current and correct USEF licenses and USDF recognition.
- Competitions held over the course of a weekend are considered one qualifying opportunity, even if they have separate license/recognition numbers.

License Agreement

Competitions that are approved as USEF/NAYC qualifiers should ensure they select the correct classes when completing the USEF/USDF License Agreement.

For example, between January 1, 2025, and July 22, 2025, approved qualifying competitions would select the following:



USEF/USDF JOINT APPLICATION FOR LICENSE AGREEMENT

COMPETITION CONTACT/SECRETARY

Deadline for receipt of applications for new licenses in United States Equestrian Federation office:
 - Dressage, Breed-Restricted, Multi-Breed - 60 days prior to date(s) requested
 - Local - 30 days prior to date(s) requested



Office Use Only
Competition ID: _____

Receipt of this application shall not be construed as a guarantee that a license will be granted (GR302). In applying for the below dates the licensee agrees to abide by the rules of the Federation and understands that failure to do so constitutes a breach of the license agreement and may constitute a violation of the rules which may subject the licensee to penalty under the provisions of GR706. Incomplete license applications and applications submitted without a completed licensee registration or accompanying fees will not be accepted.

Competitions (Open to all breeds) are the **ONLY** competition Series and USEF Championship qualifying classes for the above-listed programs.

Is this a Dressage, Regular or Local Competition? Dressage only Regular Local

If Regular or Local, is the Dressage division breed restricted? Yes No

If yes, what breed(s) _____

Indicate level of competition (Dressage competitions only). Please refer to Dressage Levels Chart in the Rule Book for Specifications.

National Classes Level 1 Level 2 Level 3 Level 4 Level 5

FEI/HP Classes Level 4 Level 5
 (if applicable)

What classes will be offered?

Intro Training First Second Third Fourth PSG I1 I2 GP Freestyle (Training-Fourth Level Score Sheets and Rules available from USDF)

Pas de Deux Quadrille (scoresheets and rules available from USDF) Junior/Young Rider Adult Amateur

Dressage Sport Horse Breeding Breeders Championship Series In-hand Classes Materiale classes (scoresheets available from USDF)

ParaEquestrian Classes Dressage Equitation Young Horse

Great American Insurance Group/USDF Regional Championship Qualifying (only offered at USEF-Licensed Dressage Competitions; must follow rules published by USDF and be designated as Great American/USDF Qualifying in Prize List)

USDF Benefit Class (Registration Form Available from USDF)

Check here if this an FEI-recognized competition (i.e., CDI, CDI-W, etc.)?

Do you have questions about organizing this competition and would like to be contacted by the Competition Management Regional Coordinator for advice? Yes No

Continued...

Between **July 22, 2025, and December 31, 2025**, approved qualifying competitions would select the following:

Indicate level of competition (Dressage competitions only). Please refer to Dressage Levels Chart in the Rule Book for Specifications.

National Classes Level 1 Level 2 Level 3 Level 4 Level 5

FEI/HP Classes Level 4 Level 5

(If applicable)

What classes will be offered?

Intro Training First Second Third Fourth PSG I1 I2 GP Freestyle (Training-Fourth Level Score Sheets and Rules available from USDF)

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USDF Benefit Class (Registration Form Available from USDF)

Check here if this an FEI-recognized competition (i.e., CDI, CDI-W, etc.)?

If you have any questions when completing the license agreement, please contact us at dressage@usef.org.

Date and Location Changes

Modifications may be made to approved competitions, however they must be received a minimum of 12 weeks prior to the competition and are subject to approval of the Dressage Calendar Working Group. Exceptions may be made to this rule in extraordinary circumstances.

Modifications include:

- Change of Date(s) from Date(s) submitted on Application.
- Change of Venue/Location from Venue/Location submitted on Application.
- Addition of Date(s) from Date(s) submitted on Application.
- Changes of Manager/Secretary must be submitted to the USEF Competitions Department, however no approval is required as long as Manager/Secretary meet qualification requirements for Level 3 or above competitions.

If modifications do not follow the process outlined in the [Policies and Procedures](#), the competition may be removed as a USEF/NAYC Dressage Qualifying Competition. Notice of modifications must be sent to dressage@usef.org.

Cancellation of a USEF/NAYC Dressage Qualifying Competition – New Procedure

Cancellation of any USEF/NAYC event outside of the regular Open Review period must be received in writing to Lauren Moore (lmoore@usef.org) with specific reasoning concerning the cancellation. The cancellation notification will be included in the file for future applications and could affect eligibility to host a qualifier in future years. Cancellation fees apply unless the cancellation is due to force majeure or an Act of God under GR305.4. See below for breakdown of cancellation fees.

Cancellation Fees

Cancellation Fees apply to an approved USEF/NAYC Dressage Qualifying competition if written notice of a cancellation is received:

Continued...

- o From 180 days and up-to 45 days prior to the first day of competition: Fine up to \$300.
- o Between 45 – 30 days prior to the first day of competition: Fine up to \$500.
- o Less than 30 days prior to the first day of competition: Fine up to \$1000.

All previously paid application fees are not refundable. Please note: Competitions are also subject to the license cancellation fees outlined in GR3.

Qualifying Requirements

Please review the respective Qualifying Requirements found on the USEF website:

[FEI North American Youth Championships](#)

[Festival of Champions](#)

[FEI World Breeding Championships](#)

These Qualifying Requirements are based on the USEF and FEI rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the Qualifying Requirements caused by a change in USEF or FEI rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The Qualifying Requirements are based on the latest information available to USEF. However, the Qualifying Requirements are always subject to unforeseen, intervening circumstances, and realistically may not have accounted for every possible contingency.

USDF Regional Dressage Championships Procedure

Great American/USDF Regional Dressage Championship Competitions may be added to the USEF/NAYC Qualifying Competitions Calendar. These competitions will be required to hold USEF/NAYC Junior/Young Rider Qualifying Classes (Team, Individual, and Freestyles Tests). Regional Championship competitions wishing to offer all national qualifying classes (in addition to the Junior/Young Rider classes) are subject to a twenty-five-dollar (\$25.00) application fee.

Applicable Rules

Designated qualifying competitions must comply with all of the outlined requirements in this manual, as well as the USEF Dressage Rules, USEF General Rules, and Qualifying Requirements that apply to these competitions. Failure to comply may result in investigation, penalties, and sanctions and will affect a competition's future status as a qualifier. If you determine that your competition is unable or unwilling to comply with these requirements and would like to be removed from the official qualifying competition list, contact dressage@usef.org immediately.

[FEI Rules](#)

Judge Requirements

A panel of at least two (2) FEI and/or USEF "S" judges (or at least one (1) FEI Judge and one (1) USEF 'S' Judge) must officiate all:

- FEI Children Tests
- FEI Pony Rider Tests
- FEI Junior and Young Rider Tests
- FEI Grand Prix 16-25 Test
- FEI Intermediate II Test
- FEI Grand Prix Test
- FEI Grand Prix Special Test
- FEI Prix St. Georges Test

Continued...

- FEI Intermediate I Test
- FEI Para Dressage Grand Prix A Test
- FEI Para Dressage Grand Prix B Test
- FEI Para Dressage Intermediate A Test
- FEI Para Dressage Intermediate B Test
- USEF Developing Horse Prix St. Georges and Grand Prix Tests
- USEF Four-Year-Old Test, FEI Young Horse Preliminary and Final Tests for Five-, Six- and Seven-Year Olds*

**Note: For all FEI Young Horse Tests and the USEF Four-Year-Old Test, all judges assigned to these qualifying tests must have USEF or FEI Young Horse Judging Designation. The designations are listed on the online rosters on the USEF and FEI websites.*

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FEI Children's Tests

Please review the information below in its entirety.

All USEF/NAYC Qualifying Competitions (Level 3, 4 or 5) must offer the FEI Children Tests as follows:

1. The FEI Children Team and Individual Tests must be judged by a panel of at least two (2) USEF S and/or FEI Judges (or at least one (1) FEI Judge and USEF S Judge).
 - **Two Judges:** Judge at C uses only the Technical Marking Sheet. Judge at B or E uses only the Quality Marking Sheet. The technical score and the quality score shall be weighted each with 50% towards the final score.
 - **Three Judges:** Judge at C uses only the Technical Marking Sheet; two judges sitting together at either B or E use only the Quality Marking Sheet. The technical score and the quality score shall be weighted each with 50% towards the final score.
 - For CDI-Ch events within the qualifying period, the average of the technical score and the quality score will count towards Festival and/or NAYC, pending the submission of the USEF CDI & Championship report form per the Qualifying Requirements/Selection Procedures for these Championships.
2. The FEI Children Preliminary B Test must be earned in an FEI Children Preliminary B class or in an FEI Test of Choice class. These classes may be judged by one judge who is placed at C. See below for the placement of judges.
3. All other qualifying requirements will remain the same for this division.

Placement of Judges for the FEI Children Preliminary B Test and for national level competitions offering a non-qualifying FEI Children Test(s), competitions may use one, two, or three judges:

- 1) **One Judge:** Judge at C uses the Technical Marking Sheet. The Quality Marking Sheet will not be used or filled out by the judge.
- 2) **Two Judges:** Judge at C uses the Technical Marking Sheet. The Judge at B or E uses only the Quality Marking Sheet. The technical score and the quality score shall be weighted each with 50% towards the final score.
- 3) **Three Judges:** Judge at C uses only the Technical Marking Sheet; two judges sitting together at B or E use only the Quality Marking Sheet. The technical score and the quality score shall be weighted each with 50% towards the final score.
- 4) To include this test as an FEI Test of Choice (TOC) class where only one judge presides, **ONLY** the Technical Marking Sheet can be used. If two or three judges preside over the FEI Children Tests, they must be offered separately in TOC class that is limited to FEI Children Tests (i.e., separate placing and awards must be offered due to different judging conditions).

Please note that one single judge will not complete both the technical and quality marking components of the FEI Children tests for either National or CDI-Ch competition. When only one judge, they must be at C and use only the Technical Marking Sheet. The Quality Marking Sheet will only be used when one or two judges also officiate at B or E.