

# General Information about USEF/USDF/ODS-Recognized Shows

*The information below is a brief synopsis of some of the rules found in the U.S. Equestrian Federation Rule Book. It is by no means an exhaustive list. Competitors are responsible for familiarizing themselves with and being in compliance with all current USEF rules. A current rule book may be ordered from the U.S. Equestrian Federation, (859) 258-2472, or downloaded from their website, [www.usef.org](http://www.usef.org).*

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Shows listed in this yellow section are all recognized by the U.S. Equestrian Federation (USEF), the U.S. Dressage Federation (USDF) and the Oregon Dressage Society (ODS). They may also be recognized by other organizations.

*The following information applies to all shows listed in this section. We hope you'll find it useful, especially when filling out your entry.*

## **General information about entering a USEF/USDF/ODS-recognized show**

- A completed entry is required for every horse brought onto the show grounds. (Horses not entered in the show may not be brought onto the show grounds without prior permission of show management.)
- In the Dressage division, each horse/rider combination is considered a separate entry, and is issued a separate number. Therefore, a completed entry form is required for *each horse/rider combination*.
- *An entry is not complete* without full payment, proper signatures, and proof of all required memberships and horse enrollments. No entry is valid without full payment; additionally, competitions have the right to refuse entries that are in any way incomplete.
- Be sure to use the 2008 USEF/USDF/ODS-RECOGNIZED SHOW ENTRY FORM for all shows listed in this section. Read each prize list carefully to ensure that the show does not have its own required form (such as for the USDF Region 6 Championship Show). Photocopy the master entry form at the back of this *Omnibus*, or download the appropriate form from the ODS website, [www.oregondressage.com/entryforms.html](http://www.oregondressage.com/entryforms.html).
- Resist the temptation to sign the master form before photocopying. Only original signatures, in ink, are valid.

- Separate signatures are required for Rider, Owner and Trainer. Even if it's all the same person, three signatures are required.
- Entries will be processed in postmark order unless otherwise stated. When all ride times have been filled, *even if before closing date*, remaining entries will be placed on a waiting list.
- Phoned, faxed or hand-delivered entries will not be accepted unless otherwise stated.
- Early entries — entries postmarked before the published opening date — may be penalized by being considered to be postmarked up to three days after opening date, at the discretion of show management.

#### **Class splits and rider divisions**

Classes at these recognized shows may be split by division — Open, Junior, Young Rider, Adult Amateur, or any combination — at the discretion of show management. Be sure to indicate rider's division on entry, or you will be put into the Open section by default. Eligibility for the various divisions is specified in the *U.S. Equestrian Rule Book*, which is available online at [www.usef.org](http://www.usef.org). See rule DR119.3 for Juniors and Young Riders; GR808 & 809 for Amateur.

- Riders are **Juniors (JR)** until the end of the calendar year in which they turn 18. *They must provide their birthdate on the entry form as proof of age.*
- Riders are **Young Riders (YR)** from the beginning of the calendar year in which they turn 16 until the end of the calendar year in which they turn 21. *They also must provide their birthdate on the entry form as proof of age.*
- For the shows in this section, adults are **Amateurs (Am or AA)** only if the USEF has certified them as such. Please be aware that, per the adult amateur definition in the dressage rules, a rider cannot compete as an adult amateur until they are over the age of 21. USEF members who apply for amateur certification will find the word **AMATEUR** printed on their membership cards. *A photocopy of this card is required as proof of eligibility for Amateur classes.*  
Adult riders who are not members of USEF may apply for a USEF Non-Member Amateur Certificate. *Again, a photocopy of this card is required as proof of eligibility for Amateur classes.*
- Riders who do not fit into any of the above categories must compete in the **Open** division.

#### **Entry rules for horses**

- A horse must be 36 months of age (from foaling date) to compete under saddle in the Dressage division. It must be at least 6 years old (January 1 of foaling year to January 1 of competition year) to compete above Fourth Level, and 7 years old to compete at Grand Prix.
- A horse may be entered in a class only once. It may compete in a maximum of three dressage tests per day at Fourth Level and below, or two tests above Fourth Level. Freestyles are included in these counts; equitation and materiale classes are not.

<p>EVERY CLASS OFFERED AT ANY SHOW LISTED IN THIS SECTION WHICH IS COVERED BY THE RULES AND SPECIFICATIONS OF THE CURRENT FEDERATION RULE BOOK WILL BE CONDUCTED AND JUDGED IN ACCORDANCE THEREWITH.</p>
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- A horse may be entered in no more than two consecutive levels at any one competition. (*Exception: Pas de Deux.*)

### **Documentation that must be included with your entry**

Some show offices don't have photocopiers, and some show secretaries will return your entry as incomplete if you don't include proof of required memberships. That said, yes, it is perfectly legal to apply for any of these memberships at the show. However, it is far preferable to do it (1) well in advance of the show and (2) on-line, so that you can print out proof of application to use while you wait for your cards to arrive in the mail.

*Always send photocopies of the following documents with your entry, or as soon thereafter as possible; it will help you avoid long lines when you check in at the show.*

Again, you'll find more information at [www.usef.org](http://www.usef.org), [www.usdf.org](http://www.usdf.org), and [www.oregondressage.com](http://www.oregondressage.com).

### **Documentation for the Rider/Handler**

**USEF:** copy of current individual junior or senior active membership card.

Card must say **AMATEUR** to be eligible for Adult Amateur division.

Adult card must show **LIFE, PLATINUM, OR DRESSAGE** endorsement, or pay \$5 *discipline fee*. (Juniors are exempt from discipline fees.)

*USEF non-members* pay \$20 fee; adults also pay \$5 discipline fee.

*USDF Qualifying classes* require proof that rider is a USEF Junior, Senior, or Life member. Rider must also be a U.S. citizen.

*Exempt from USEF membership requirement and non-member fees:*

riders competing only in USDF Introductory (walk/trot), Pas de Deux

### **What is a Qualifying ride?**

This confuses everyone! Scores earned at USEF/USDF/ODS-recognized shows can be used to qualify for two different championships — the ODS Championship Show and the GAIG/USDF Region 6 Championship Show. When we talk about Qualifying rides, Qualifying fees, and memberships required for Qualifying classes, we're talking about the GAIG/USDF Regional Championship Show, sponsored by the Great American Insurance Group (GAIG).

**If your goal is to ride in the ODS Championship Show**, it's up to you to keep track of your qualifying scores, which can be earned at any tests of the level. You don't have to declare anything at the qualifying show; just be an ODS member at the time you earn the scores. *To learn more about the ODS Championship Show, see the show listing and visit the Oregon Dressage Society Championship Show website, [www.odschampionshipshow.com](http://www.odschampionshipshow.com).*

**If your goal is to Qualify for the GAIG/USDF Regional Championship Show**, carefully read the membership requirements specified in "Documentation that must be included with your entry", above. *To learn more about the Great American Insurance Group/USDF Region 6 Championship Show, visit the USDF Region 6 website, [www.region6.org](http://www.region6.org).*

*Documentation for the Rider/Handler (continued)*

and Quadrille classes and assistant handlers in Dressage Sport Horse Breeding (in-hand) classes. See also page R-8 regarding non US Citizens who are members in good standing of their own national federation.

**USDF:** copy of current membership card or Non-Member ID.

Effective 10/1/2007: For each USDF Non-Member (NM) owner/lessee and USDF NM rider, there will be a USDF NM fee of \$20 per competition that must be collected by the show secretary. In addition, a \$5 affidavit fee must be collected if the person cannot provide a copy of their USDF NM card.

Exception: Riders and owners/lessees competing only in classes which are exempt from the USDF HID requirements are also exempt from the USDF non-member ID requirements and fees. These classes include Individual Breed Classes (IBC) at DSHB competitions; breed restricted dressage or DSHB classes at Regular Competitions (e.g. all Arabian, all Friesian, or all Morgan classes); USDF Introductory Level, Pas de Deux, or Quadrille classes; FEI ParaEquestrian classes; or leadline, exhibitions, games and races, classes for 4-H members, walk-trot and academy classes. Also exempt are Handlers of horses competing in DSHB In-Hand or Group classes.

Note: when you join ODS, you automatically become a Group member of USDF. *You will receive a different membership card and different membership number in each organization.*

*USDF Qualifying classes* require proof that the rider is a USDF *Participating* member. A Group membership is not sufficient.

**ODS:** copy of current membership card.

Check individual prize list for non-member fees. Non-member riders' scores will not count toward ODS year-end awards or championship qualifications.

***Documentation for the Owner***

**USEF:** copy of current individual junior or senior active membership card. If the horse is owned by a Farm or Business, send copies of USDF Farm/Business recording certificate and one owner's active membership card.

Adult card must show **LIFE, PLATINUM, OR DRESSAGE** endorsement, or pay \$5 *discipline fee*. (Juniors are exempt from discipline fees.)

*USEF non-members* pay \$20 fee; adults also pay \$5 discipline fee.

*USDF Qualifying classes* require proof that owner is a USEF Junior, Senior, or Life member.

**USDF:** copy of current membership card or Non-Member ID.

Effective 10/1/2007: For each USDF Non-Member (NM) owner/lessee and USDF NM rider, there will be a USDF NM fee of \$20 per competition that must be collected by the show secretary. In addition, a \$5 affidavit fee must be collected if the person cannot provide a copy of their USDF NM card.

Exception: Riders and owners/lessees competing only in classes which

are exempt from the USDF HID requirements are also exempt from the USDF non-member ID requirements and fees. These classes include Individual Breed Classes (IBC) at DSHB competitions; breed restricted dressage or DSHB classes at Regular Competitions (e.g. all Arabian, all Friesian, or all Morgan classes); USDF Introductory Level, Pas de Deux, or Quadrille classes; FEI ParaEquestrian classes; or leadline, exhibitions, games and races, classes for 4-H members, walk-trot and academy classes. Also exempt are Handlers of horses competing in DSHB In-Hand or Group classes.

*USDF Qualifying classes* require proof that the owner is a USDF *Participating* or *Business* member.

**ODS:** There is no membership requirement for owners of dressage horses; however, *owners of Dressage Sport Horse Breeding horses must be members of ODS or scores will not count toward ODS year-end awards.*

#### **Documentation for the Horse**

**USEF:** If your horse has a USEF Horse ID or annual or lifetime registration, you must provide that number.

*Horses not in the USEF database* may use their USDF Horse ID number.

*USDF Qualifying classes* require proof that the horse has current annual or lifetime recording with USEF (Horse ID number not sufficient).

**USDF:** All horses competing in a USEF/USDF/ODS-recognized show must have at least a USDF Horse ID number unless only competing in classes on the HID exception list. USEF Horse ID cannot be substituted.

*USDF Qualifying classes* require proof that the horse is *USDF lifetime registered* (Horse ID number not sufficient).

**ODS:** There is no horse registration program. However, several shows offer breed awards. It's always a good idea to include a copy of your horses's breed registration papers with your entry.

#### **Documentation for the Trainer**

*Trainer* means the adult who is responsible for the horse while it is on the show grounds. In the case of a minor, the parent or another adult must assume the responsibilities of "trainer." Therefore, every horse does indeed have a trainer, and that person must sign the entry and provide the following:

**USEF:** copy of current individual senior active membership card.

Card must show **LIFE, PLATINUM, OR DRESSAGE** endorsement, or pay \$5 *discipline fee*.

*USEF non-members* pay \$20 fee + \$5 discipline fee.

*Exempt from this requirement:* parent signing as responsible party for a junior exhibitor's horse.

**USDF/ODS:** no membership requirement for Trainer.

### **Documentation for the Coach**

A *coach* is a person who receives remuneration for “instructing, teaching, schooling or advising” the rider. If that person won’t be coaching you on the show grounds, don’t list him/her on the entry. Coaches must sign the entries of all riders they will be coaching at the show, and provide:

**USEF:** copy of current individual senior active membership card.

Card must show **LIFE, PLATINUM, OR DRESSAGE** endorsement,  
or pay \$5 *discipline fee*.

*USEF non-members* pay \$20 fee + \$5 discipline fee.

**USDF/ODS:** no membership requirement for Coach.

### **General rules for USEF/USDF/ODS-recognized shows**

- Management reserves the right to cancel, combine or reorder classes, add or substitute judges, or make any other changes required.
- Management reserves the right to refuse or require withdrawal of an entry for cause deemed sufficient by show management.
- Classes with no entries by closing date may be canceled. Classes with fewer than three entries may be combined.
- If schooling is allowed in the competition arenas, hours will be posted and announced in advance.
- Minors who do not have a valid drivers' license which allows them to operate a motorized vehicle in the state in which they reside will not be permitted to operate a motorized vehicle of any kind including, but not limited to golf carts, motorcycles, scooters or farm utility vehicles on the competition grounds. Minors who have a valid temporary license may operate the above described motorized vehicles as long as they are accommodated by an adult with a valid license. Violations of this rule will be cause for sanctions against the parent(s), guardian(s) and/or trainer(s) who are responsible for the child committing the offense. Penalties may include exclusion of the child, parent(s), guardian(s) and/or trainer(s) from the competition grounds for the remainder of the competition and charges being filed against any of the above individuals in accordance with USEF Rule 6. Wheelchairs and other mobility assistance devices for individuals are exempt from this rule [USEF GR1401.29].
- No one is permitted on foot in the warm up arena.

### **General rules for riders**

- Competitors are allowed in and around the competition arena only during their scheduled ride times and during posted **schooling hours**.
- If a mathematical error on the **scoresheet** is discovered, it must be brought to the attention of competition management within one hour of the official posting of the scores from the last class of that competition day.
- Classes may be scheduled out of order. **It is the competitor’s responsibility to find out his or her ride times**, and to immediately notify show management of any time conflicts that escaped the scheduler’s notice. *Failure to enter the competition arena at the assigned time will result in elimination.*

### **ODS Awards for Riders in Recognized (Licensed) Shows**

**ODS Plates / 60% Award:** A small brass plate will be awarded to each ODS member in good standing who earns a score of 60% or better at Training Level or above, including Musical Freestyles, in a single show season. (Shows must be approved by USEF, USDF and ODS.) Recipients will continue to receive plates every year thereafter if they receive a 60% or higher score. The plate is engraved with the horse's name, level of competition and number of 60% or higher scores in that show season. A personalized wall plaque is available for purchase for mounting the plates.

#### *Eligibility Requirements*

1. Awards must be earned at ODS/USEF/USDF recognized competitions during the *current membership year* of November 1 to October 31 (ODS League shows and practice shows do not count).
2. Only *current* members of ODS in good standing shall be eligible to receive ODS awards.
3. Horses must be ridden by a current member of ODS in good standing at the time scores are earned. Owner need not be an ODS member.
4. Only scores earned from *current USEF or FEI tests* will apply towards awards.
5. Competitors are *not required* to submit award report forms in order to be eligible for year-end awards.

### **USDF Rider Awards**

Read the *USDF Directory* for a complete and detailed explanation of all awards. The *USDF Directory* is mailed automatically to all USDF Participating Members; if you are not a USDF Participating member and you wish to purchase a copy of the *USDF Directory*, please contact USDF at (859) 971-2277.

**General Requirements:** The following explanations are condensed.

Riders must be members of USDF (Group, Participating or Intercollegiate/Interscholastic) at the time their scores are received. ODS membership includes a USDF *Group* membership. A USDF *Participating* membership costs an additional \$62. *It is the rider's responsibility to know which USDF membership level is required for awards.*

Scores are cumulative and need not be earned in one year. Any number of horses may be used. Only scores from USEF/USDF licensed competitions, riding current USEF or FEI tests, will be counted. If two or more judges score one ride, the average of their scores will count as one. Riders are personally responsible for notifying USDF of scores for rider awards, using official rider award report forms available from USDF.



### The 2008 USDF/Dover Saddlery Adult Amateur Medal Program

The USDF/Dover Saddlery Adult Amateur Medal Program is designed specifically to recognize and encourage adult amateurs riding at Second Level.

#### Awards

1. Dover Medal Class Winner

The eligible rider with the highest score of 58% or better in the designated Second Level Test Three Class or applicable test of choice USDF/Dover Adult Medal class at a participating competition will receive a handcrafted USDF/Dover pewter medal and neck ribbon. **Note: new for the 2008 USDF competition year the rider must ride Second Level Test Three.** Winners will receive a \$20 Dover Saddlery Gift Certificate for each of the first three USDF/Dover Adult Medals they win during the 2008 competition season.

2. The USDF/Dover National Merit Award

A USDF/Dover National Merit Award will be awarded to riders winning three USDF/Dover Medals in the same competition year.

3. Year End Awards

The USDF/Dover Medal National Champion and Reserve Champion are determined by the average of the top three winning ride scores during the competition year. The Champion receives a \$1000 Dover Saddlery gift certificate and a Jaguar dressage saddle. The Reserve Champion receives a \$500 Dover Saddlery gift certificate and a Jaguar dressage bridle.

#### Rider Eligibility

To be eligible, a rider must meet the following criteria:

1. Rider must be a current USDF group, participating, or intercollegiate/interscholastic member at the time of the competition.
2. Rider must ride Second Level Test Three.
3. Rider must be an adult amateur in accordance with Article GR808 of the USEF rules and be registered with USEF as an adult amateur as of the competition date.

#### Additional Information

For additional information and an updated list of competitions offering the USDF/Dover Adult Amateur Medal program please visit [www.usdf.org/Programs/DoverAdultAmateurMedal.asp](http://www.usdf.org/Programs/DoverAdultAmateurMedal.asp).

***USDF Awards for Riders (continued from page R-9)***

***RIDER PERFORMANCE AWARD:*** awarded at each level: Training, First and Second. Requires four scores of 60% or higher at respective level from at least two different competitions, from four different judges and from four different rides. Patch and certificate are awarded when final scores are reported.

***BRONZE MEDAL:*** requires six scores of 60% or higher, from two different judges for two different rides, at First Level, Second Level, and Third Level (two scores at each level), with a score equivalent of FEI Junior Preliminary Test = Third Level. USDF Bronze Medal presented at Annual Convention.

***SILVER MEDAL:*** requires four scores of 60% or higher, from two different judges for two different rides, at Fourth Level and Prix St. Georges (two scores at each level), with score equivalent of FEI Junior Team and Individual Tests; FEI Young Rider Preliminary, Consolation and Team tests = Fourth Level and FEI Young Rider Individual Test = Prix St. Georges. USDF Silver Medal presented at Annual Convention.

***GOLD MEDAL:*** requires four scores of 60% or higher, from two different judges for two different rides, at Intermediate I and/or II and Grand Prix (two scores at each level). USDF Gold Medal presented at Annual Convention.

***MASTERS CHALLENGE AWARD:*** Competitor must be 60 years of age or older. At Training, First and Second Levels, four scores of 60% or higher are required. Scores must be from four different judges for four different rides. At Third, Fourth and FEI Levels, three scores of 55% or higher are required. These scores must be from three different judges for three different rides.

***PAS DE DEUX AWARD:*** Several levels of this team award are available. Minimum of two scores at the same level from two different judges from two different competitions with a median score of 60% or higher to qualify. The top three teams at each level will be presented with a certificate for each team member.

***QUADRILLE TEAM AWARD:*** Several levels of this team award are available. Minimum of four scores: from either compulsory or freestyle, with at least one score from compulsory, from three different judges, from three different competitions with a median score of 58% or higher to qualify. The top three teams at each level will be presented with a certificate for each team member.