

# How Do You Qualify for an FEI Competition in 2012?

(Last Updated January 19, 2012)

In 2010, Article 506 of the FEI Eventing was revised and for 2009 Appendix 3 of the USEF Rules for Eventing was revised and both include changes pertaining to qualifications for FEI Competitions. **Please read these rules in their entirety.**

It is imperative that you know the qualifications and determine if you and the horse (s) you'll be riding are qualified before entering a CCI or CIC. It is the rider's responsibility to determine his/her qualifications. If you are unsure about your qualifications please call Shealagh Costello at 859.225.6923 or Sharon Gallagher at 703.779.0440 ext. 3005.

**Please note: You and your horse must be registered with the FEI for the current calendar year prior to entering an FEI competition. The FEI will disqualify horse/rider combinations if either the horse or rider, begin an FEI Competition prior to FEI registration.**

## How do I qualify for the different levels of events?

The 2012 qualifying requirements are outlined in the attached tables. These standards became effective December 1, 2008 (USEF Rules) and April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009 (FEI Rules) respectively. Article 506 and Appendix 3 provide for exemptions from the qualifying standard as noted at the end of this discussion.

## When do I have to achieve a qualifying result? *(revised for 2012)*

### For CIC's & CCI's:

For 2012, the qualifying period begins on January 1, 2010. **Note: effective December 1, 2008 per USEF Eventing Appendix 3, in all instances one Qualifying Result must have been obtained in the current or preceding calendar year.** For qualifying results obtained at CICs or CNCs they must be completed 10 days prior to the competition for which you are qualifying. For qualifying results obtained at CCIs they must be completed 24 days prior to the Cross-Country test of the event for which you are qualifying. Earlier qualifying dates may be specified in the individual shows' schedule.

### For FEI Championships:

For 2012, the qualifying period begins on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011 and ends on the date of Nominated Entries (approximately 4 weeks prior to the first day of dressage of the competition.

## What is a qualifying result?

In 2011, the FEI revised Article 506 of the FEI Eventing Rules changing the term Qualifying Result (QR) to Minimum Eligibility Requirements (MER). For the purpose of this article we will use the term Qualifying Result (QR) when referencing results attained at both FEI and National Eventing Competitions which are being used to move up to the next level of competition.

*A qualifying result (QR) is achieved by completing the following:*

### Qualifying result for dressage tests:

FEI Dressage Tests: Not more than 75 penalty points.

USEF Dressage tests: Not more than 50 penalty points.

### Qualifying result for cross-country: FEI and National competitions.

\*Not more than 20 penalties at obstacles (see exception below).

Not more than 90 seconds exceeding the optimum time. (36 time penalties)

At the CCI\*\*\*\* level – Not more than 120 seconds exceeding the optimum time.

**\*When qualifying results attained at the CIC level are being used to move up a level, results must be clear on Cross-Country (no XC obstacle penalties).** Qualifying results attained at the CNC\* (National Preliminary Horse Trial) level which are being used to enter a CIC\* or CCI\* competition must be clear on Cross-Country (no XC obstacle penalties)

Qualifying result for show jumping: FEI and National competitions.

Not more than 16 penalties at obstacles.

**Except where noted in the charts below, qualifications for horse and rider may be achieved separately. Qualifications for FEI Championships must be attained by the horse/rider as a pair.**

Attached you will find information outlining the qualifications to compete in the various formats at the various levels. Competitors are strongly encouraged to read Article 506 of the FEI Rules and Appendix 3 of the USEF Rules for Eventing together with these explanations. Article 506 can be found in its entirety on the FEI Web site: ([www.horsesport.org](http://www.horsesport.org)), Appendix 3 may be found in its entirety on the USEF Web site: ([www.usef.org](http://www.usef.org))

### **Maintaining Your Qualifications (revised for 2012)**

#### **What is the Permanent Athlete-Qualification? (FEI Article 506.8)**

Beginning with competitions from January 1, 2002, when a rider has achieved 5(five) qualifying results at a 4 or 3 star international Event he or she can compete at that type/level (or lower) for life without the need for further qualifying results. CCIs will count toward permanent qualification for CICs of the same level, but CICs do not count towards permanent qualification for CCIs of the same level.

Exception: Championships were MER must be achieved as a combination.

Note: The horse ridden by a permanently qualified rider must still fulfill the qualifying standards. A horse *never* obtains a Permanent Qualification.

#### **What is Establishment of Minimum Eligibility? (FEI Article 506.9)**

When the rider and horse obtain a qualifying result at a level of competition then rider and horse are “established” (qualified to compete) at this level. For example when a horse and rider obtain a qualifying result at a CCI\*\* they are “established” at the CCI\*\* level. This establishment lasts for the remainder of the calendar year in which it was obtained and 2 additional calendar years (e.g. a qualifying result attained in June of 2011 is good through the through the 2013 competition year).

#### **How can I extend my Establishment? (FEI Article 506.10)**

At the CCI and CIC level an Establishment may be extended by obtaining qualifying results at other events of the same type and level within the two year period granted above. This qualifying result will then maintain the establishment for the remainder of the year in which it was obtained and two additional years.

### **FOR CCI LEVELS**

If an extension is not achieved as described above, it may be renewed at any time, even 2 to 3 years after the establishment has expired. This may be done by obtaining two qualifying results, clear of penalties at obstacles, at either CICs or CNCs if the same level within 12 months before the event you would like to attend. **Should your Establishment expire for a CIC it may not be renewed.**

*A type/level of qualification can apply to horses, riders, or combinations of horse and rider. Same “type” is a horse trial versus a three day event, e.g. a CIC is not the same type as a CCI. “Level is the star assigned to delineate degree of difficulty.*

IMPORTANT! Carefully read this page as incomplete paperwork will not be accepted.

DO NOT return this page with your paperwork. Form begins on the next page.

Exemptions from Qualifying Standards

(updated May 24, 2011)

PLEASE READ THOROUGHLY BEFORE APPLYING FOR SPECIAL PERMISSION AND/OR FEI EXEMPTION :

There are 2 types of special permission (aka exemption) requests:

1. When a combination meets all the FEI qualifications but is lacking an additional qualification imposed by the USEF. This type of request only needs to be approved by the USEF Credentials Committee. When reviewing special permission requests it should be noted that the Credentials Committee will take into consideration whether or not the rider has exhausted all opportunities to meet the qualifications (i.e. are there upcoming events where the rider could compete in order to fulfill the requirements).
2. When a rider is fully qualified but their horse lacks an FEI qualification. The FEI will only consider exemption requests for unqualified horses, RIDERS MUST BE QUALIFIED. This type of request must be approved by both the USEF Credentials Committee and the FEI. If both approve, the OC must also be in agreement. Riders must meet the below criteria which has been established by the FEI. Exceptions to this criteria are not permitted by the FEI.
  1. Exemptions will only be granted to horses, riders must be qualified.
  2. Reason of request must be stated by the NF and exemptions will only be granted for Championship selection purposes and on events that allow qualification for the level of the specific Championship in the same year in which the championship will be held.
  3. Reason for exemptions: lack of events in region further to cancellations etc. NF will be requested to provide details on reasons.
  4. Requests have to be submitted to the FEI at least 10 days before the beginning of the event to be processed. Late requests will not be accepted.
  5. Request must be accompanied by a detailed summary of both the rider and horse's performance record, including all the horse's competitions at national and international CICs and CCIs during the current and previous year.
  6. NFs must be informed that grant of exemptions is a system for exceptional circumstances and not to be used as a parallel qualifying system.
  7. The Organising Committee of the event in question must agree.

All exemption requests should be submitted to Athlete Services 6 weeks prior to start date of the competition.

Exemptions for the 1 star level will not be granted by the Credentials Committee.

Article 506.7.4: NO exemptions will be given for Championships.

NOTE: in all instances, at least one of the QR's must have been obtained in the current or preceding calendar year (USEF EV Appendix 3). The remaining QR's must have been attained in the current or two preceding years.

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- Your membership account will be invoiced a **NON-REFUNDABLE** Special Permission Request processing fee (*\$75 for events in the US, \$200 for events outside the US*) and you will receive an email on how to make payment.
  - In addition to this processing fee, athletes who submit a request 14 days or less from the start date of a competition will also be charged a non-refundable urgency fee as stated in the Urgency Fees (posted on the website) effective on the date the application is received.
  - The fees are **NON-REFUNDABLE** whether or not you are granted an exemption. Athletes are expected to make payment without delay.
  - Your request will be reviewed by the Eventing Credentials Committee and we will notify you by email when they reach a decision. If approved, we will then send an exemption request to the FEI (if applicable). It should be noted that the organizing committee must also be in agreement with your exemption.
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If you have questions about Eventing Qualifications, Eventing Special Permission Requests or FEI Eventing Exemptions please contact Shealagh Costello at (859) 225-6923 or [scostello@usef.org](mailto:scostello@usef.org) .

# Everything you need to compete in a CIC 1\*

## Membership, Registration & Passport Requirements

### **A rider must have:**

- USEA Membership
- USEF Membership
- FEI Registration before beginning the first Competition of the season.

### **A horse must have:**

- USEF Life Recording
- FEI Registration
- USEA Full Recording
- Valid National Passport (may be used for domestic competitions only)
- or
- Valid FEI Passport (required for competitions outside of the United States).

## Qualifying Requirements

One Qualifying Result must be obtained in the current or preceding year while the balance must be obtained in the current or \*2 preceding calendar years.

*\*for FEI Championships (including NAJYRC) all QR's must be obtained in the current or preceding calendar year*

Effective December 1, 2008 Appendix 3 of the USEF Rules for Eventing was amended to include qualifying requirements (QRs) for US Horses and Riders entering FEI Level Competitions supplemental to those required by the FEI.

## FEI Requirements

Qualifying requirements for CIC 1\* competitions are determined by the NF (USEF) per FEI Article 506.5

## USEF Requirements

Three (3) Qualifying Results clear of cross-country jump penalties (no XC obstacle penalties) from either of the following:

- \*3 National Preliminary Horse Trials (CNC 1\*) or 3 National One Star Three-Day Events (CCN 1\*) or a combination of both for a total of three (3) Qualifying Results.

# Everything you need to compete in a CIC 2\*

## Membership, Registration & Passport Requirements

### A rider must have:

- USEA Membership
- USEF Membership
- FEI Registration before beginning the first Competition of the season.

### A horse must have:

- USEF Life Recording
- FEI Registration
- USEA Full Recording
- Valid National Passport (may be used for domestic competitions only)
- or
- Valid FEI Passport (required for competitions outside of the United States).

## Qualifying Requirements

One Qualifying Result must be obtained in the current or preceding year while the balance must be obtained in the current or \*2 preceding calendar years.

*\*for FEI Championships (including NAJYRC) all QR's must be obtained in the current or preceding calendar year*

Effective December 1, 2008 Appendix 3 of the USEF Rules for Eventing was amended to include qualifying requirements (QRs) for US Horses and Riders entering FEI Level Competitions supplemental to those required by the FEI.

### FEI Requirements

One (1) qualifying result from any of the following:

- ❑ National Intermediate Horse Trials (CNC2\*)
- ❑ International One Star Horse Trial (CIC1\*)

### USEF Requirements

Having satisfied the FEI Requirements above – both horse and rider, though not necessarily as a combination, must have achieved **Two (2) QR's at a CNC 2\* or higher:**

- ❑ Two (2) National Intermediate Horse Trials (CNC2\*'s)

For example, if a horse/rider combination achieve a QR at a CNC 2\* they must achieve one additional QR at a CNC 2\* or higher in order to meet the requirements of both the FEI and the USEF).

# Everything you need to compete in a CIC 3\*

## Membership, Registration & Passport Requirements

### A rider must have:

- USEA Membership
- USEF Membership
- FEI Registration (this is an annual renewal) before beginning the first Competition of the season.

### A horse must have:

- USEF Life Recording
- FEI Registration
- USEA Full Recording
- Valid FEI Passport

## Qualifying Requirements

One Qualifying Result must be obtained in the current or preceding year while the balance must be obtained in the current or \*2 preceding calendar years.

*\*for FEI Championships (including NAJYRC) all QR's must be obtained in the current or preceding calendar year*

Effective December 1, 2008 Appendix 3 of the USEF Rules for Eventing was amended to include qualifying requirements (QRs) for US Horses and Riders entering FEI Level Competitions supplemental to those required by the FEI.

## FEI Requirements

You must have achieved Qualifying Results as follows:

- 1 CIC 2\* and 1 CNC 3\* (National Advanced Horse Trial)

OR

- 3 CIC 2\*

## USEF Requirements

Having satisfied the FEI Requirements above – both horse and rider, though not necessarily as a combination, must have achieved **Two (2) Qualifying Results at a CNC 3\* or higher:**

- Two (2) National Advanced Horse Trials (CNC 3\*'s)

For example, if a horse and rider achieve a QR at 1 CIC 2\* and 1 CNC 3\* (category 1 above) they must achieve One (1) additional Qualifying Result at a CNC 3\*.

# Everything you need to compete in a CCI 1\*

## Membership, Registration & Passport Requirements

### A rider must have:

- USEA Membership
- USEF Membership
- FEI Registration before beginning the first Competition of the season.

### A horse must have:

- USEF Life Recording
- FEI Registration
- USEA Full Recording
- Valid National Passport (may be used for domestic competitions only)
- or
- Valid FEI Passport (required for competitions outside of the United States).

## Qualifying Requirements

One Qualifying Result must be obtained in the current or preceding year while the balance must be obtained in the current or \*2 preceding calendar years.

*\*for FEI Championships (including NAJYRC) all QR's must be obtained in the current or preceding calendar year*

Effective December 1, 2008 Appendix 3 of the USEF Rules for Eventing was amended to include qualifying requirements (QRs) for US Horses and Riders entering FEI Level Competitions supplemental to those required by the FEI.

### FEI Requirements

Qualifying requirements for CIC 1\* competitions are determined by the NF (USEF) per FEI Article 506.5

### USEF Requirements

**Four (4)** Qualifying Results clear of cross-country jump penalties (no XC obstacle penalties) from either of the following:

- 4 National Preliminary Horse Trials (CNC 1\*) or 4 National One Star Three- Day Events (CCN1\*) or 4 CIC 1\* Events or a combination of both for a total of 4 Qualifying Results.

# Everything you need to compete in a CCI 2\*

## Membership, Registration & Passport Requirements

### A rider must have:

- USEA Membership
- USEF Membership
- FEI Registration before beginning the first Competition of the season.

### A horse must have:

- USEF Life Recording
- FEI Registration
- USEA Full Recording
- Valid National Passport (may be used for domestic competitions only)
- or
- Valid FEI Passport (required for competitions outside of the United States).

## Qualifying Requirements

One Qualifying Result must be obtained in the current or preceding year while the balance must be obtained in the current or \*2 preceding calendar years.

*\*for FEI Championships (including NAJYRC) all QR's must be obtained in the current or preceding calendar year*

Effective December 1, 2008 Appendix 3 of the USEF Rules for Eventing was amended to include qualifying requirements (QRs) for US Horses and Riders entering FEI Level Competitions **supplemental** to those required by the FEI.

## FEI Requirements

You must have a total of at least One (1) qualifying result from each of categories below:

### Category 1

- 1 CCI 1\* or 1 CIC 2\*

### Category 2

- 1 CIC 2\* or 2 CNC 2\* (National Intermediate Horse Trials)

## USEF Requirements

Having satisfied the FEI Requirements above – both horse and rider, though not necessarily as a combination, must have achieved **Three (3) QR's at a CNC 2\* or higher:**

- \*3 CNC 2\*s or higher

For Example, if a horse and rider achieve a QR at a CCI 1\* (Category 1 above) and 1 CIC 2\* they must achieve two (2) additional QR's at a CNC 2\* or higher in order to meet the requirements of both the FEI and the USEF.

# Everything you need to compete in a CCI 3\*

## Membership, Registration & Passport Requirements

A rider must have:

- USEA Membership
- USEF Membership
- FEI Registration before beginning the first Competition of the season.

A horse must have:

- USEF Life Recording
- FEI Registration
- USEA Full Recording
- Valid FEI Passport

## Qualifying Requirements

One Qualifying Result must be obtained in the current or preceding year while the balance must be obtained in the current or \*2 preceding calendar years.

*\*for FEI Championships (including NAJYRC) all QR's must be obtained in the current or preceding calendar year*

Effective December 1, 2008 Appendix 3 of the USEF Rules for Eventing was amended to include qualifying requirements (QRs) for US Horses and Riders entering FEI Level Competitions **supplemental** to those required by the FEI.

## FEI Requirements

You must have a total of at least 1 qualifying results from each of the categories below:

### Category 1

- 1 CCI 2\*

### Category 2

- 1 CIC 3\*

### Category 3

- 1CIC 3\* or 1 CNC 3\* (National Advanced Horse Trial)

## USEF Requirements

**No Additional USEF Requirements**

# Everything you need to compete in a CCI4\*

## Membership, Registration & Passport Requirements

### A rider must have:

- USEA Membership
- USEF Membership
- FEI Registration (this is an annual renewal) before beginning the first Competition of the season

### A horse must have:

- USEF Life Recording
- FEI Registration
- USEA Full Recording
- Valid FEI Passport

## Qualifying Requirements

One Qualifying Result must be obtained in the current or preceding year while the balance must be obtained in the current or \*2 preceding calendar years.

*\*for FEI Championships (including NAJYRC) all QR's must be obtained in the current or preceding calendar year*

Effective December 1, 2008 Appendix 3 of the USEF Rules for Eventing was amended to include qualifying requirements (QRs) for US Horses and Riders entering FEI Level Competitions **supplemental** to those required by the FEI.

## FEI Requirements

You must have a total of at least 1 qualifying results from each of the categories below:

### Category 1

- 1 CCI 3\*

### Category 2

- 1 CIC 3\* or CCI 3\*

### Category 3

- 1 CIC 3\* or 2 CNC 3\* (National Advanced Horse Trial)

## USEF Requirements

No additional requirements

# Everything you need to compete in a CH1\*

## Membership, Registration & Passport Requirements

### A rider must have:

- USEA Membership
- USEF Membership
- FEI Registration before beginning the first Competition of the season

### A horse must have:

- USEF Life Recording
- FEI Registration
- USEA Full Recording
- Valid FEI Passport

## Qualifying Requirements

One Qualifying Result must be obtained in the current or preceding year while the balance must be obtained in the current or \*2 preceding calendar years.

*\*for FEI Championships (including NAJYRC) all QR's must be obtained in the current or preceding calendar year*

Effective December 1, 2008 Appendix 3 of the USEF Rules for Eventing was amended to include qualifying requirements (QRs) for US Horses and Riders entering FEI Level Competitions **supplemental** to those required by the FEI.

## FEI Requirements

You must have One (1) Qualifying Result as a horse/rider combination from the following:

- CCI 1\*

For FEI Championships (including NAJYRC) all QR's must be obtained in the current or preceding calendar year

*\*Note – for 2011 the FEI has granted an exemption for the North American Junior Championships. As an alternative to the above requirement, Horse/rider combinations wishing to compete at the NAJC may attain two (2) Qualifying Results at a CIC 1\*.*

## USEF Requirements

**No additional USEF Requirements.**

# Everything you need to compete in a CH2\*

## Membership, Registration & Passport Requirements

### A rider must have:

- USEA Membership
- USEF Membership
- FEI Registration (this is an annual renewal) before beginning the first Competition of the season

### A horse must have:

- USEF Life Recording
- FEI Registration
- USEA Full Recording
- Valid FEI Passport

## Qualifying Requirements

One Qualifying Result must be obtained in the current or preceding year while the balance must be obtained in the current or \*2 preceding calendar years.

*\*for FEI Championships (including NAJYRC) all QR's must be obtained in the current or preceding calendar year*

Effective December 1, 2008 Appendix 3 of the USEF Rules for Eventing was amended to include qualifying requirements (QRs) for US Horses and Riders entering FEI Level Competitions **supplemental** to those required by the FEI.

## FEI Requirements

You must have One (1) Qualifying Result as a horse/rider combination from the following:

- CCI 2\*

**\*Note** – for 2011 the FEI has granted an exemption for the North American Young Rider Championships. As an alternative to the above requirement, Horse/rider combinations wishing to compete at the NAYC may attain two (2) Qualifying Results at a CIC 2\*.

## USEF Requirements

FEI Qualifying Requirements must be attained

# Everything you need to compete in a CH3\*

## Membership, Registration & Passport Requirements

### A rider must have:

- USEA Membership
- USEF Membership
- FEI Registration (this is an annual renewal) before beginning the first Competition of the season

### A horse must have:

- USEF Life Recording
- FEI Registration
- USEA Full Recording
- Valid FEI Passport

## Qualifying Requirements

One Qualifying Result must be obtained in the current or preceding year while the balance must be obtained in the current or \*2 preceding calendar years.

*\*for FEI Championships (including NAJYRC) all QR's must be obtained in the current or preceding calendar year*

Effective December 1, 2008 Appendix 3 of the USEF Rules for Eventing was amended to include qualifying requirements (QRs) for US Horses and Riders entering FEI Level Competitions supplemental to those required by the FEI.

## FEI Requirements

You must have One (1) Qualifying Result as a horse/rider combination from the following:

- CCI 3\*

## USEF Requirements

FEI Qualifying Requirements must be attained

# Everything you need to compete in a CH4\*

## Membership, Registration & Passport Requirements

### A rider must have:

- USEA Membership
- USEF Membership
- FEI Registration (this is an annual renewal) before beginning the first Competition of the season

### A horse must have:

- USEF Life Recording
- FEI Registration
- USEA Full Recording
- Valid FEI Passport

## Qualifying Requirements

One Qualifying Result must be obtained in the current or preceding year while the balance must be obtained in the current or \*2 preceding calendar years.

*\*for FEI Championships (including NAJYRC) all QR's must be obtained in the current or preceding calendar year*

Effective December 1, 2008 Appendix 3 of the USEF Rules for Eventing was amended to include qualifying requirements (QRs) for US Horses and Riders entering FEI Level Competitions **supplemental** to those required by the FEI.

## FEI Requirements

You must have Qualifying Results as a horse/rider combination as follows:

1 CCI 4\*

OR

1 CCI3\* and 1 CIC3\*

## USEF Requirements

FEI Qualifying Requirements must be attained