



SELECTION PROCEDURES FOR

2012 USEF NATIONAL DEVELOPING HORSE

DRESSAGE CHAMPIONSHIP

GRAND PRIX DIVISION

Lamplight Equestrian Center, Wayne, IL
August 24-26, 2012

The United States Equestrian Federation, Inc. (USEF) is the National Governing Body (NGB) for equestrian sport. The USEF Dressage Committee will oversee the selection process, which process subsequently shall be reviewed and approved by the USEF Executive Committee. Any member of the USEF Dressage Committee who has a conflict of interest or a substantial appearance of a conflict of interest as defined in the USEF Code of Ethics and Conflict of Interest Policy must recuse himself/herself and not participate in the selection process.

The USEF National Developing Horse Dressage Championship Grand Prix Division (the “Championship”) will be conducted under USEF Rules

I. APPLICATION:

1. In order to be considered for the 2012 USEF National Developing Horse Dressage Championship – Grand Prix Division, an **Application of Intent** must be completed and submitted to USEF **no later than April 30, 2012**. Applications will be available on the USEF website after January 1, 2012. No applications will be accepted after April 30, 2012.
2. It is the responsibility of the owners and riders of horses to ensure that they know and understand the USEF Rules.
3. Qualification is based upon horse/rider combination.

II. ELIGIBILITY:

FOR RIDER:

1. Must be a minimum of 16 years of age as of January 1, 2012.
2. Must be a United States citizen.
3. Must be an Active Member in good standing with USEF at all times when competing under these procedures.
4. No rider may qualify more than two (2) horses per division for the Championship.

FOR OWNER(S):

1. Must be a United States citizen(s);
2. Must be an Active Member(s) in good standing with USEF at the time all qualifying scores are earned and during the Championship;
3. Must be willing to pay for all expenses incurred for the inclusion of the horse/rider combination in this competition, including but not limited to, transportation.
4. Qualification goes with the horse/rider combination; ownership may change during the qualifying period and for the Championship as long as the new owner(s) meet all of the above criteria.
5. All of the above "Owner" requirements apply to all listed owners on file with USEF, including all owners of a partnership, farm, company, corporation, etc. if a horse is recorded as owned by that type of entity.

FOR HORSE:

1. Must have a current **Annual or Life Recording with USEF** at the time all qualifying scores are earned and during the Championship (**Horse Identification [HID] Numbers DO NOT fulfill this requirement**);
2. Must fit into one of the following age categories for competition (*refer to DR119.9**):
 - A. Become eight (8) years of age in 2012; or
 - B. Become nine (9) years of age in 2012; or
 - C. Become ten (10) years of age in 2012.
3. This Championship will be held as part of a USEF-Licensed Competition (not a CDI); therefore, an **FEI passport will NOT be required for this Championship**.
4. Mules will not be allowed to qualify for or compete in this Championship.

**Rule DR119.9 states: "The horse's age is counted from January 1 of the year of birth to January 1 of the current competition year."*

III. QUALIFYING PROCEDURES:

1. **QUALIFYING PERIOD:** The qualifying period shall begin **January 1, 2012** and end **August 1, 2012**.
2. **QUALIFYING COMPETITIONS:** A series of competitions throughout the U.S. have been designated as Qualifying Competitions for the USEF Developing Dressage Programs (named as "USEF/NAJYRC Qualifiers"). A list of these Qualifying Competitions is available on the Federation website www.usef.org. *Please note:* for these qualification purposes, competition(s) held over the course of more than one day counts as a single qualifying competition (even if each day has a separate license number). Qualifying scores for the USEF National Developing Horse Dressage Championship – Grand Prix Division may only be earned at these designated Qualifying Competitions. Each horse/rider combination must earn a **minimum of two (2) scores earned in at least two (2) different Qualifying Competitions**.
3. **TESTS:** The **USEF Developing Grand Prix Test** (2012 edition) must be used for qualification. These tests must be held as individual classes which are specifically designated as USEF qualifying ("Test of Choice" classes will not count). **For scores obtained within a CDI competition only, the FEI Intermediaire II Test or Grand Prix Test may be used** (see #4, below).
4. **CDI QUALIFICATION:** Horse/rider combinations competing in U.S. CDI competitions may use the FEI Intermediaire II or Grand Prix Test. As CDI scores are not automatically tracked by USEF for purposes of the Developing Horse Program, notification of scores being counted towards qualification must be received in writing (via e-mail or fax) by the USEF Dressage Department no later than seventy-two (72) hours after the conclusion of the competition. Scores submitted for qualification after this deadline will not be accepted. It is the sole responsibility of the competitor to

ensure that all qualifying CDI scores for this program have been presented to USEF on time and are accurate.

5. **ONE RIDER RULE:** Under penalty of disqualification for USEF Championship qualifying purposes, at no time during a competition offering USEF championship qualifying classes, at a USEF Qualifying Competition, may any horse entered in a USEF championship qualifying class be ridden by anyone other than the athlete entered in the USEF championship class on that horse. Exception: grooms riding on a loose rein. For purposes of this rule, the competition starts when horse and athlete arrive on the show grounds of a USEF Qualifying Competition.
6. **NUMBER OF SCORES:** At least two (2) qualifying scores must be earned which meet all qualification requirements outlined herein.
7. **DROP SHOW:** If a horse/rider combination competes in more than two (2) different Qualifying Competitions, the score from the one (1) competition that has the lowest score will be dropped. Only the score from one (1) competition may be dropped. All remaining scores will be used to calculate each horse/rider combination's overall average.
8. **JUDGES:** Qualifying tests must be judged by a panel of at least two (2) FEI or USEF "S" officials. For tests to be counted towards qualification, at least one (1) judge must differ per panel. *Please note: Judges participating as a rider or owner of a horse or coach of a rider competing in the Developing Horse division may NOT officiate for any USEF Developing Horse Qualifying Classes at designated Qualifying Competitions. Scores obtained under these conditions will not be counted, and the judge may be sanctioned.*
9. **MINIMUM AVERAGE:** A minimum overall average of **60%** must be maintained for consideration to this Championship.
10. **SCORE CALCULATION:** USEF will automatically track scores for horse/rider combinations which are earned at designated Qualifying Competitions based upon official results submitted to the USEF office by Competition Secretaries (with the exception of CDI scores – see #4, above).
11. **USEF DEVELOPING HORSE GRAND PRIX SHORT LIST:** Short-listed horses, i.e. horses which are defined as ranked within the top five (5) for the Final 2012 USEF Grand Prix Championship Ranking List, that are within the age range, will be granted an automatic invitation to the 2012 USEF National Developing Horse Grand Prix Dressage Championship. However, an Application of Intent must still be received by USEF in order to secure this invitation (see "Application") by no later than April 30, 2012.
12. **DRESS & SADDLERY:** Tests must be ridden from memory; whips are allowed for qualifying rides, except when the class is run within the CDI competition in accordance with FEI rules. Refer to USEF Rules for complete dress and saddlery requirements (DR 120 – 121). Please note either a snaffle or double bridle may be used for qualification (at CDIs Double Bridles are compulsory **as per FEI Rule 428**).
13. **INTERNATIONAL QUALIFICATION:** Horses that meet all age, registration and ownership qualifications may qualify by competing at either FEI competitions (see www.fei.org) or National Level competitions in a foreign country. The FEI Intermediaire II or Grand Prix Test (current edition) or equivalent National test for the same horse age group and level may be used. All other requirements as outlined above including application, eligibility, qualification period, judges, scores, etc. will apply for this method of qualification. **Copies of entire qualifying score sheet(s) must be submitted to and received by the USEF Dressage Department no later than August 1, 2012 for consideration.**

IV. INVITATION TO THE CHAMPIONSHIPS:

1. All horse/rider combinations that have submitted an Application of Intent as outlined above (see “Application”) and have qualified by the method outlined above (see “Qualifying Procedure”) will be ranked according to scores and be accepted up to the numbers of entries available, not to exceed 15. The number of entries accepted will be limited to fifteen (15) horse/rider combinations.

If an Application of Intent has been received by the USEF Dressage Department in due time as per III.11 above, Short-Listed horses will be awarded automatic invitations to the Championships.

2. No rider may qualify more than two (2) horses per division for the Championship.
3. In the case of a tie, the horse/rider combinations shall remain tied, but shall take up two places so that if tied for first place, the next ranked horse shall be #3. If there is a tie for 15th place, all tied combinations will be invited, thereby increasing the total number of entries accepted (e.g. 16 entries accepted).

V. CHAMPIONSHIP COMPETITION:

1. The 2012 USEF National Developing Horse Dressage Championship – Grand Prix Division shall be held at Lamplight Equestrian Center, Wayne, IL, 24-26 August, 2012. USEF Championship Rules will be followed.
2. The number of entries accepted for this Championship competition will be limited to fifteen (15) horse/rider combinations.
3. Horses will be examined for soundness. A jog will be scheduled prior to the Championship classes, at which time all horses must be presented to the treating veterinarian and a member of the judging panel for examination.
4. Tests shall be ridden from memory and **WHIPS ARE FORBIDDEN**. Please refer to USEF Dressage Division Rules for complete dress and saddlery requirements DR 120-121. As per FEI Rule 428, **Double bridles are mandatory**.
5. Starting order shall be determined by an open draw.

VI. CHAMPIONSHIP FORMAT:

1. **DAY 1 – QUALIFYING CLASS:** All entries in the Championship will compete in Day 1’s Qualifying Class. The FEI Intermediaire II Test (current edition) will be used. This test will count towards **40%** of overall average. Starting order will be determined by open draw. This test will be judged by **three (3) U.S. FEI Judges**.
2. **DAY 2 – CHAMPIONSHIP CLASS:** All entries will compete in Day 2’s Championship Class. The USEF Developing Grand Prix Test (2012 edition) will be used. This test will count towards **60%** of overall average. Starting order will be determined by draw in three (3) groups of five (5) horses, based upon “Qualifying Class” scores; the highest-placing group will draw for the third set of class ride times. If fewer than fifteen (15) horses participate, the draw will be conducted in two (2) groups. This test will be **judged by three (3) U.S. FEI Judges** (at least one (1) of which must differ from those judging the “Qualifying Class”). ***Placings, including National Champion and Reserve Champion, will be determined based upon overall average: Qualifying Class – 40%, Championship Class – 60%.***
3. **TIES:** Horses will be ranked in order of their scores in each test. Breaking of ties for individual classes will be in accordance with DR127.8.
 - a) In the case of a tie for National Champion or Reserve Champion, the United States bred horse shall prevail (U.S. bred is defined as a horse that is foaled in the U.S.).
 - b) Breaking of ties for horses placed 3 and above will be at the judging panel’s discretion if tied horses are non-U.S. bred or are U.S. bred.

c) Breaking of ties will be at the judging panel's discretion if the tied horses are both/all non-U.S. bred or U.S. bred, i.e. 2 or more U.S. -bred horses tied for the same placing or 2 or more non U.S.-bred horses tied for the same placing.

VII. CODE OF CONDUCT: Riders, horse owners and trainers may be required to sign and abide by the USEF Code of Conduct prior to entry into the Championship.

VIII. DRUG TESTING: All horses shall be subject to drug testing at the Championship, and the horse must meet all Federation drug and medication rules. Blood and/or urine samples may be collected at any time during the competition. Samples collected from horses will be tested for the presence of all substances forbidden and/or controlled by USEF. The amount of this substance will be quantified and reported to the USEF. Any horse whose sample contains a prohibited substance or a restricted substance in a concentration greater than Federation limits shall be subject to sanctions in accordance with Federation Rules

IX. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST: No person involved in the Selection Process, including but not limited to judges, veterinarians, members of the Dressage Committee, and the Executive Committee, shall have had, during the entire Selection Process, any financial or other interest, including as coach, trainer, or otherwise, in an applicant horse, or have had financial dealings with the rider or owner or members of their families, nor be a member of the family of an applicant rider or owner. If within the entire Selection Process an individual has had any financial or other interest as outlined above, he/she shall excuse himself/herself from the selection process. Further, each decision maker in the selection process shall be required to fill out a conflict of interest statement, disclosing any potential conflicts with any of the applicants. Potential conflicts as disclosed will be reviewed by the Dressage Committee or by the Executive Committee if involving a member of the Dressage Committee, and a decision will be made as to whether or not the stated conflict is deemed disqualifying.

FOR QUESTIONS CONCERNING THESE PROCEDURES PLEASE CONTACT:

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