

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2024	2/1/2024	

Rule Change Intent

The intent of the opportunity class is to allow emerging athletes an opportunity to compete without paying the high show entry fees with the hope of attracting more para athletes to the sport by making it more affordable. To make showing more affordable for riders who are just starting out in para dressage, many of the para riders start out on borrowed horses and this gives them a chance to experience licensed competition without additional fees, giving us an opportunity to grow our program from the grass roots. By offering para dressage classes as opportunity classes, more riders will have exposure to the licensed competition environment.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
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ParaEquestrian

Laureen Johnson

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Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions

Competition Management

Draft 1: Recommends Disapproval 01/08/2024

Draft 1: **The committee approves this proposal in principal but it needs to state that they must present the Federation dispensation certificate.**

Dressage

Draft 1: Recommends Disapproval 12/01/2023

Draft 1: **Needs clarification that competitions may offer up to 2 classes per day, and riders must have a USEF dispensation certificate vs FEI classification, indicating their National (Federation) classification status as currently required in DR119.**

USDF

Draft 1: Recommends Disapproval 12/18/2023

Draft 1: **We agree in principle with this RCP; however, we recommend that the language of the RCP be amended to be consistent with the other sections on dressage opportunity classes, that is, "may offer two Para Test of Choice opportunity classes per day." In addition, to be consistent and in compliance with DR305, the rule must require riders in these classes to have a Federation Dispensation/Classification Certificate.**

GR821 Opportunity Classes.

2. Opportunity Classes:

e. Dressage classes may be offered as Opportunity classes at Dressage Competitions or Regular/Local Competitions with "Open" Dressage classes as described below:

1. Classes are limited to the following competition levels and dressage tests:

a. Level 1 competitions may offer three tests and only three classes per level per day at Introductory - Fourth Level.

b. Level 2 competitions may offer three tests and only three classes per level per day at Introductory - Third Level.

c. Level 3 competitions may offer three tests and only three classes per level per day at Introductory - Second Level.

d. Level 1, 2, and 3 competitions may offer two Eventing Test of Choice classes per day in addition to the tests, classes, and levels listed above in Section 1.a – 1.c.

e. Level 1, 2, and 3 competitions may also offer two dressage seat equitation classes per day in addition to the tests, classes, and levels listed above in Section 1.a – 1.c.

f. Level 1, 2, and 3 competitions may offer up to two para dressage test of choice classes per day in addition to the tests, classes, and levels listed above in Section 1.a – 1.c. The rider must have a national dispensation/classification certificate or FEI classification on file with the Federation. Riders are prohibited from riding above or below their classified grade.

g. Level 4 and Level 5 competitions may not offer Opportunity classes.