

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2023	2/26/2023	

## Rule Change Intent

DR 129.9 was rewritten to clarify the minimum qualifying scores required to ride national level musical freestyles.

A minimum score of 60% is currently required to ride an FEI freestyle at the declared or higher FEI level. People were using the 60% in an FEI test as a qualifying score to ride a national level freestyle. This was particularly a problem at Fourth Level where people were using a 60% at PSG to qualifying for a Fourth Level freestyle. In addition, certain FEI tests, such as the FEI Pony Rider, FEI Junior, and FEI Young Rider can be used as a qualifier for their equivalent level national level freestyle, and there was some confusion whether 60% or 63% was the minimum qualifying score. This revision makes it clear that a 63% is the required minimum score to ride any national level freestyle, regardless of the test being ridden as a qualifier. The section was also divided into sub-paragraphs for greater clarity.

## Proponent Details

USDF

## Contact Information

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## Linked Rules

## Comments

## Committee Actions

## **DR129.9 Musical Freestyle Ride**

9. ***a. With the exceptions noted below***, ~~Except for USEF/USDF Championship classes and for FEI Pony Riders, FEI Junior and FEI Young Rider Freestyles~~, in order to enter a freestyle class at any level, a horse/rider combination must have received a minimum score of 63% for Training through Fourth levels ***in the highest test of the declared freestyle level or any test of a higher level.*** and ***For the FEI levels, a horse/rider combination must have received a minimum score of 60% for FEI levels in at the highest test of the declared freestyle level or any test of at a higher level. Scores must be received*** at a Federation /USDF Licensed Dressage Competition or FEI recognized Dressage Competition or “open” Dressage class (i.e. open to all breeds) at a Federation Licensed Competition held prior to the competition where the horse/rider combination is entered to ride a freestyle class. ***The 63% minimum qualifying score applies to all Training through Fourth level Freestyles, even if an FEI test is being ridden as a qualifier. For example, a horse/rider combination competing in PSG or the FEI Young Rider test must obtain a score of 63% or higher in order to ride a Fourth Level Freestyle and a horse/rider combination riding the FEI Pony Rider test must obtain a minimum score of 63% to enter a Second Level Freestyle.***

***b.*** To enter an FEI Para Dressage Freestyle class, a horse/rider combination must have received a minimum score of 60% in any FEI Para Dressage test (Para Novice Test, Para Intermediate Test or Para Grand Prix Test), at the rider’s classified Grade. This score may ***must*** be earned at a USEF/USDF licensed Dressage Competition or FEI recognized Dressage Competition or “open” Dressage class (i.e., open to all breeds) at a Federation Licensed Competition held prior to the competition where the horse/rider combination is entered to ride a freestyle class.

***c. A copy of the USDF score verification*** ~~or A a photocopy of the test verifying eligibility, or copy of the USDF score verification,~~ must be submitted with the entry for a freestyle class, ***except to enter USEF/USDF Musical Freestyle Championship classes. Qualification of those entries will be verified by USDF.***

***d.*** All FEI Pony Rider Tests are equivalent to Second Level; all FEI Junior Tests are equivalent to Third Level; all FEI Young Rider Tests are equivalent to PSG; and the USEF Brentina Cup (Young Adult) Test and FEI Young Rider Grand Prix 16-25 Tests are equivalent to Intermediate II. For purposes of freestyle qualification, all are considered equivalent to the highest test of that level and may be used to enter a freestyle at that level or a level below, ***as long as the appropriate score is earned.*** Young Horse and FEI Children Tests cannot be used for freestyle qualifications at any level.

***e. A qualifying score is not required to enter FEI Pony Rider, FEI Junior, and FEI Young Rider Freestyles.***