



MEMORANDUM

To: Potential Applicants for the 2026 USEF Grand Prix Dressage National Championship

Date: April 28, 2025

From: Kristen Brett, Director, Dressage Special Events

Copy: Hallye Griffin
Laura Roberts

Re: Information on the 2026 USEF Grand Prix Dressage National Championship

This preliminary information is being provided to assist you with your competition planning and may be subject to change. Please remember that this information is based upon the recommendations of the USEF Dressage Sport Committee and the final qualifying requirements are subject to approval by the USEF Board of Directors or the USEF Executive Committee.

The purpose of this memo is to advise all dressage competitors that the 2026 USEF Grand Prix Dressage National Championship ("Championship") will not be part of the 2026 U.S. Dressage Festival of Champions. It is anticipated that this Championship may serve as an Observation Event for the 2026 U.S. FEI Dressage World Championship Team.

Please be advised that the following is anticipated concerning the qualifying requirements for this Championship:

- The Championship will be held over one weekend. The date and location of the Championship will be announced by December 1, 2025.
- The qualifying period for this Championship will begin on September 1, 2025.
- The online application for this Championship will be available beginning on December 1, 2025. Combinations applying for the 2026 FEI Dressage World Championship are not required to submit a separate application for this Championship.
- All combinations wishing to compete in this Championship must meet the FEI qualification criteria in accordance with the current edition of the FEI Dressage Rules, Articles 429 and 433. The rules can be found on the FEI website [here](#).
- Combinations will be required to earn scores at FEI events only to qualify for this Championship. Qualifying competitions include all U.S. and foreign CDI3*, CDI4*, CDI5*, CDIIO, CDI-Am and CDI-W events within the qualifying period. The FEI World Cup Final scheduled on April 8-12, 2026 in Fort Worth, TX is considered a qualifying competition.
- A ranking list for this Championship will be published.
- The FEI Dressage and Equine Anti-Doping and Control Medication Regulations ([found here](#)) will be used for this Championship. This may include the FEI Veterinary Regulations for secured stabling and accreditation.

Information regarding selection for the 2026 U.S. FEI Dressage World Championship Team will be published in the relevant Selection Procedures in the Fall of 2025. Please be advised that all applicant athletes and horses are subject to drug testing both in and out of competition. If you have any questions regarding the development of the Selection Procedures, please do not hesitate to contact Laura Roberts at lroberts@usef.org.

More information on the qualifying requirements, application process, ranking list and Championship Format are anticipated to be published in due time. If you have any questions regarding the development of the qualifying requirements for this Championship, please do not hesitate to contact Kristen Brett at festival@usef.org.