



“HOW TO GUIDE” FOR LITE LICENSED COMPETITION

The US Equestrian Federation welcomes you in hosting and/or participating in a Lite Licensed competition. The USEF Lite Competition Program was developed as an accessible competition product for organizers who wish to “test drive” hosting a USEF licensed competition. This program provides access to equestrians who are interested in competing under the framework of organized equestrian sport, involving rules and policies that support the safety and welfare of equestrians and their horses and offer a fair and level playing field.

This *How to Guide* will aid in helping you understand what a Lite licensed competition has to offer. Within this guide you will find quick links for information, a reference chart for Lite specific competitions, USEF staff contact information, and more.

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REFERENCE CHART FOR LITE COMPETITION

MAIN AREAS OF REQUIREMENT	USEF LITE LICENSE
<p>License Requirements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Licensee Registration is required before applying for a license. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Required annually for show management • License Agreement Applications must be submitted thirty (30) days prior to the event • A show may run with a Lite license if it is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ a first-time competition ◇ if the competition has only run under a Lite license within the past three (3) years ◇ or if the competition has not been USEF licensed within the past three (3) years. • Competitions that do not meet the above requirements may request for an exception which will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by the CEO. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ To submit an exception, please email your reasoning for the exception to dates@usef.org <p>Competitions may only run under a Lite license for three (3) consecutive years</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exception - "A competition that meets the criteria listed on the Federation website." - GR310.7(1)(a)(4) - Horse Entry Thresholds <p>*Note – All previously licensed USEF Lite competitions, prior to 2023, will be considered new USEF Lite competitions and will be able to operate for three (3) consecutive years.*</p>
<p>USEF Membership Requirements</p>	<p>A Competing Membership is only required for athletes seeking HOTY points or those signing the entry blank as the trainer/coach (see below).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Owners of horses seeking HOTY points must be competing members and the horse must have a recording. <p>Trainer or coach must be a Competing Member and sign the entry blank.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth competing without a trainer or coach will have a parent sign as trainer or coach and the parent must be a Competing Member. • Those competing without a trainer or coach will be required to sign the entry blank as the trainer/coach, therefore must have a Competing Membership. (GR404.4) <p>Show Passes are not required.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All participants in a USEF Lite competition agree to becoming a USEF Fan as a condition of participation in the competition (at no cost to the participant).
<p>Drug Fees and Federation Fees</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No fee collected (Regularly - \$25 - \$15 Drugs/Medications Fee & \$10 Federation Fee) • All horses can be tested • Medication forms need to be filed electronically • With the exception of no fee collection, all rules in Chapter 4 apply
<p>USEF Safe Sport Requirements</p>	<p>Non-Federation members, Competing Members under the age of eighteen (18), Subscriber members, and Fans are not required to complete the SafeSport Training.</p> <p>Exceptions - SafeSport Training is required for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any individual signing an entry blank as Trainer or Coach (including anyone competing without a trainer/coach), must have completed the SafeSport Training prior to the first day of competition. • Youth competing without a trainer or coach will have a parent sign as trainer or coach and the parent must be a competing member and have completed the SafeSport training • Competition Manager(s), Secretary, and any person acting in the role of a licensed official are bound by all requirements of the USEF Safe Sport Policy. • Any Competing Federation Member eighteen (18) years of age or older must have completed the SafeSport Training prior to the first day of competition. <p>Participants in a Lite competition will be under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Center for SafeSport and will be subject to the U.S. Center of SafeSport Code and USEF Safe Sport Policy and afforded all related protections.</p>

MAIN AREAS OF REQUIREMENT	USEF LITE LICENSE
Horse Microchip Requirements	<p>Any competing horse must be microchipped in accordance with GR1101.10 and the microchip recorded with the Federation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For questions, reference the Microchip FAQ.
Steward/TD	<p>A person enrolled in pursuing a Federation Steward/TD license who has completed the Designated Applicant Training or a Federation Licensed Steward/TD.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Steward/TD does not need to be of the appropriate breed/discipline to officiate <p>A Federation measurement card is not required for entry into height restricted classes at Lite Competitions. (Exception: Hunter/Jumper Competitions, Shetland, Welsh)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a Lite Competition has hired a fully licensed Steward/TD with the applicable measurement certification, measurements may be performed at the competition for any exhibitors wishing to use the competition to obtain a Federation Measurement Card. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ * Please note, applicant Stewards/TDs are not certified to measure.*
Judge	A Federation Licensed judge with appropriate card
License and Horse Fee	<p>\$50 License Fee only</p> <p><i>*USEF has waived the application fee for the 2026 competition year*</i></p> <p>The \$1.50/horse fee is not collected (post comp report still needs to be submitted within ten (10) days of the competition's conclusion)</p>
Medical Personnel (See Chapter 8)	<p>Qualified medical personnel with no other duties and with appropriate medical equipment, as required by their certifying State or EMS Region, must be present during all scheduled performances at all competitions and during all paid scheduled schooling sessions over fences. An ambulance must be on the competition grounds or on call (on-call requires a contract with an ambulance service, calling 911 is not considered on-call) during all scheduled performances at all competitions and during all paid scheduled schooling sessions over fences.</p>
Mileage Boundaries	Yes, fifty (50) radial miles
Results Ten Days After Show	<p>Yes; full results must be received by USEF within ten (10) days of the competition's completion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full results include all exhibitors regardless of if they are USEF members or not • USEF requires all owner and rider emails be included on the results
HOTY Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For HOTY points associated with the horse. Lite Competitions will award half- value points to all USEF Recorded horses, whose owner is a Federation Competing Member and meets any applicable breed/discipline required memberships. • For HOTY points associated with the rider. Lite Competitions will award half- value points to all riders who are Federation Competing Members and meet any applicable breed/discipline required memberships. <p><i>EXCEPTION: No Federation National or USHJA Zone HOTY points will be awarded at Hunter and/or Jumper Lite competitions.</i></p>
Post-show required documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steward/TD Report • Isolation Plan & Accident Preparedness Plan • Post Competition Report • Results
Prize List submitted to USEF for review	<p>Prize Lists are required to include the statements listed under GR901. Exceptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 901.9 (bold statement regarding membership for participation) • 901.12 (Federation fee) <p>Prize List Template available here</p>

LINKS TO KEY COMPONENTS NEEDED TO HOST A LITE COMPETITION

COMPETITION INFORMATION

USEF Safe Sport Information for Competition Management

usef.org/safe-sport/competition-organizers

Federation Entry Agreement

usef.org/forms-pubs/vWUaPIGuq0Q/usef-lite-entry-agreement---fillable

Lite Licensed Competition Prize List Check List Requirements

usef.org/forms-pubs/u6K7HcGhDZA/2023-checklist-for-lite-competitions

Membership Statement (for a Prize List)

usef.org/forms-pubs/CoGGskaV6AA/membership-statement

Motorized Vehicle Statement (for a Prize List)

usef.org/forms-pubs/cbaw91FyJac/motorized-vehicle-statement

Post Competition Report

usef.org/compete/resources-forms/competition-management/post-competition-reporting

Waiver and Release of Liability

usef.org/compete/resources-forms/competition-management/competition-prize-lists/state-waivers

GENERAL INFORMATION

Application for a Licensed Agreement (National Breeds/Discipline Competition)

TO BE COMPLETED ON YOUR COMPETITION DASHBOARD

usef.org/forms-pubs/yi4N7X07LnY/2023-usef-lite-license-application

Insurance FAQ Document

usef.org/forms-pubs/LSUyRkOBF8U/insurance-faq-sample-coi

Lite Licensed competition rules (GR310.6)

usef.org/forms-pubs/_wkXxv2A1WA/gr3-competition-licensing

Confidential Competition/Licensed Officials Evaluation

usef.org/compete/competition-evaluation/select-competition

RESULTS INFORMATION

Section Code Spreadsheet

usef.org/compete/resources-forms/competition-management/competition-results

Submission guidelines

usef.org/forms-pubs/bwWVV5IWQ5U/results-criteria

Universal Results Template

usef.org/forms-pubs/lqXC170dNME/2024-results-template

USEF CONTACT INFORMATION

The Competition Management page on the Federation website is a great resource for managers and licensed officials to utilize at all stages of hosting a competition.

Email addresses for questions regarding specific topics of hosting a competition can be seen below.

USEF LITE INFORMATION: USEFLITE@USEF.ORG

USEF SAFE SPORT QUESTIONS OR NEEDING TO REPORT A USEF SAFE SPORT VIOLATION: SAFESPORT@USEF.ORG

- General USEF Safe Sport Policy questions regarding training requirements and Minor Athlete Abuse Protection Policies
- Reporting a USEF Safe Sport violation and misconduct at a competition

AMATEUR STATUS OR RULES: AMATEURINQUIRY@USEF.ORG

COMPETITION LICENSING AND CHANGES TO LICENSES: DATES@USEF.ORG

- For new licenses, date or name changes, manager & secretary updates, and license renewal questions. (Changes must be submitted in writing)

COMPETITION SAFETY: SAFETY@USEF.ORG

- Accident/Injury reports will be submitted to this email as well by the Steward

DRUG FEES: MEDEQUESTRIAN@AOL.COM OR CALL 800-633-2472

- Questions about drug fee requirements, testers, drug/medication questions and inquires

HEALTH & BIOSECURITY QUESTIONS: EQUINEHEALTH@USEF.ORG OR CALL 859-225-6991

LICENSED OFFICIALS: LOINQUIRY@USEF.ORG

MEMBERSHIP: CUSTOMERCARE@USEF.ORG

- Questions regarding current memberships, membership options, and competing membership requirements

PRIZE LIST REQUIREMENTS: PRIZELIST@USEF.ORG

- For assistance on Prize Lists, new forms, waiver questions, and final prize list submissions

HORSE SERVICES DEPARTMENT: HORSESERVICES@USEF.ORG

- For microchipping, horse ID, and any questions dealing with the equine

Emails for Competition Document submissions:

- insurance@usef.org – Insurance submissions (14 days prior to competition)
- prizelist@usef.org – Prize List submissions (30 days prior to competition)
- results@usef.org – Results submissions (10 days post competition)
- dates@usef.org – Lite Exception submissions
 - send an email with your reasoning for wanting an exception to license your competition as Lite

BREED AND DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC POINTS OF CONTACTS

Questions regarding Breed and Discipline rules, HOTY points, and Exhibitor or Horse eligibility please email the point of contact from the National Breeds & Disciplines Department:

- **Karen Brown** – khbrown@usef.org
 - » Welsh
 - » Second Contact – Emily McSweeney: emcsweeney@usef.org

- **Jennifer Day** – jday@usef.org
 - » Hunter
 - » Second Contact – Karen Brown: khbrown@usef.org

- **Jennifer Haydon** – jhaydon@usef.org
 - » Jumper

- **Haley Dickinson** – hdickinson@usef.org
 - » Combined Driving

- **Nicole Zerbee** – nzerbee@usef.org
 - » Endurance

- **Emily McSweeney** – emcsweeney@usef.org
 - » American Saddlebreds, Hackney Ponies, Roadster, Saddle Seat Equitation
 - » Second Contact – Karen Homer Brown: khbrown@usef.org

- **Ashton Street** – astreet@usef.org
 - » Andalusian/Lusitano, Arabian, Friesian, Morgan, National Show Horse, Paso Fino
 - » Second Contact – Emily McSweeney: emcsweeney@usef.org

- **Lexie Stovel** – lstovel@usef.org
 - » Carriage Pleasure Driving, Shetland, Western, Western Dressage, Western Seat Equitation
 - » Second Contact – Ashton Street: astreet@usef.org

- **Ashleigh Russo** – arusso@usef.org
 - » Connemara
 - » Second Contact – Ashton Street: astreet@usef.org