



## LICENSED OFFICIALS DEPARTMENT



### Licensed Officials Newsletter: January 2023

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Dear Licensed Officials,

I hope all of you have enjoyed a relaxing holiday season and are refreshed to start a new competition year. This is now our third edition of the LO Newsletter; as part of US Equestrian's commitment to ensuring the safety and enjoyment of equine sports, we want to take a moment to provide a summary of information, requirements, and direct links to items you may wish to review prior to completing an application or officiating at a Federation licensed competition.

We continuously accept recommendations for areas of improvement, new tools, or resources we can create for licensed officials. One of our recent additions includes an online anonymous survey for licensed official clinics. If you attended any clinics in 2022, please feel free to reflect and provide any feedback through our new tool. As always, I appreciate your dedication to the sport and ensuring our competitions

are safe for our human and equine athletes.

Best wishes,  
Alina Brazzil, Director of Licensed Officials

### **USEF Vision Statement**

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*To bring the joy of horses to as many people as possible.*

### **USEF Mission Statement**

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*To provide access to and increase participation in equestrian sports at all levels by ensuring fairness, safety, and enjoyment.*

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## **Recent Announcements**

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### **FEI CES Assessment & Officiating Maintenance Requirements:**

All FEI Officials must complete the online Competency-based Evaluation System (CES) online assessment by March 31, 2023, in order to officiate after March 31. Read more about the FEI CES here ([FEI Competency-based Evaluation System \(CES\)](#)). **If a CES assessment is not completed in 2023, the license function will be closed.**

The FEI will review officiating maintenance requirements for the 2025 competition year. Therefore, you must be up to date on any officiating maintenance requirements by December 15, 2024. The FEI will review officiating records within the previous three years (2022, 2023 and 2024). It is an official's responsibility to understand the officiating maintenance requirements and plan to officiate accordingly in 2023 and 2024.

### **2023 Dressage Tests:**

The new Dressage tests for 2023 from Introductory Level through Fourth Level, Developing Horse, and Freestyle are now available. These tests are effective as of December 1, 2022 and are replacing the 2019 tests. The new Dressage tests can be found on the [USDF Website](#).

### **FEI Dressage, Eventing, Jumping, and Vaulting Officials:**

Did you know that you can participate in an official's club for your discipline? [The International Dressage Officials Club \(IDOC\)](#), [International Eventing Officials Club \(IEOC\)](#), [International Jumping Officials Club \(IJOC\)](#), and International Vaulting Officials Club (IVOC) are all [MOU Stakeholders](#) with the FEI. Participation in a club can give a voice to officials with the FEI, provide the opportunity to exchange ideas, and share experiences within the sport.

### **Jumper Judge Mentor Program:**

Do you like to teach? The newly approved Mentor Program for Jumper Judge applicants started December 1, 2022, and USEF is looking for individuals to serve as Mentors. Mentors are responsible for assisting applicants through the application process and apprenticing. 'R' Jumper Judges interested in becoming a Mentor should review and [complete the application](#).

### **LOs in the News:**

- USHJA: [James Arrigon Receives Second Annual Naomi Blumenthal Memorial Training Grant](#)
- *The Chronicle of the Horse*: [Anne Gribbons: Why Would You Want To Become A Dressage Judge?](#)
- *Sidelines magazine*: [Valerie Vizcarrondo Pride: Chasing Dreams, One Step at a Time](#)

## **Rule & Policy Changes**

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### **2023 P&P & LID Updates:**

The 2023 Licensed Official [Policies and Procedures \(P&P\)](#) became effective on December 1, 2022. Please note, the maintenance requirements for the following licenses were updated: C1 Steward, Combined Driving TD, Hackney/Roadster/Saddlebred, Hunter CD, Saddle Seat Equitation, Shetland, and Western. Please be mindful of the changes to the maintenance requirements moving forward as it is an official's responsibility to ensure compliance with the applicable maintenance requirements.

The [FEI Licensing Information Document \(LID\)](#) was updated on November 29, 2022. **Any U.S. official interested in applying for FEI licensure must complete the U.S. requirements within the LID in addition to the FEI's requirements.**

### **Rule Changes:**

The 2023 Rulebook is posted, and a variety of rule changes went into effect December 1, 2022. Please review the Rulebook for accuracy before officiating during the 2023 competition year. **For more details regarding the Rulebook or other rule changes click [here](#). Review the 2023 Rulebook [here](#).**

### **COVID-19 Action Plan:**

A new edition of the USEF COVID-19 Action Plan went into effect December 9, 2022. The updated version now defers to state, local, and CDC guidelines for any

recommendations to protect competition participants from COVID-19, although competition management may implement additional protocols if they desire. You can view the Action Plan [here](#) and additional resources [here](#). Please note that a [Presidential Modification for dressage rules](#) related to COVID-19 adjustments was approved for the 2023 competition year.

## Clinic Information

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New clinics are being added on a regular basis for the 2023 competition year. We encourage all LOs to review the [Upcoming Clinic Schedule](#) page on a regular basis to check availability for your respective USEF and/or FEI licenses. As a reminder, you can review when you are due for a clinic or certification/designation by clicking the Clinic History tile on your Licensed Officials Dashboard.

***To See the Full USEF & FEI Calendar Click [Here](#).***

Please note all clinics are Tentative- Subject to Change

## Tools to Use

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### **Steward & TD Reports:**

To collect detailed information with regards to facilities, footing, stabling and competition safety, the Federation amended questions included in the section "Standards for Management and Facilities." Steward and TD reports are an integral part of the evaluation of each competition. Updates made to all 2023 Reports and worksheets can be viewed, downloaded, or printed [here](#). Please review the report prior to officiating, and contact the Competition Reports Coordinator at [reports@usef.org](mailto:reports@usef.org) with any questions.

### **Name Badge Order Form:**

National Stewards and Technical Delegates may order additional USEF Steward or TD Name Badges by filling out the [Name Badge Order Form](#). Newly licensed Stewards and TDs will continue to automatically receive one set of badges for free. No order form is required.

Completed order forms should be physically mailed to the LO Department at: **4001 Wing Commander Way, Lexington, KY 40511** or sent via our secure fax line at (859) 231-6662. *To protect your security, the Federation cannot accept documents with credit card information via email. Email is not secure, and we do not want to jeopardize your credit card information.*

### **LO Library:**

The following items have been added to the LO Library to assist you:

- [C1 Steward Checklist – Before & At the Competition form](#)
- [C2 Steward Checklist – Before & At the Competition form](#)

- [Dressage TD License Maintenance Program Webinar Recording](#)
- [How to Search a PDF Guide](#)
- [Steward and Technical Delegate Accident Reporting Guide](#)
- [DTD Measurement Field Guide](#)

## LO Applications

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All National and FEI applicants must start an online licensed official application checklist before starting the licensing process. If you complete any National requirements prior to starting an online application those requirements will not count.

### **Would you like to become a USEF licensed official?**

Please review the [US Equestrian Licensed Officials Policies and Procedures](#) document for detailed licensing requirements before starting any application requirements.

### **Would you like to become an FEI Licensed Official?**

Please review the [FEI Licensing Information Document](#) as well as the [FEI Official's Page](#) for each discipline's specific licensing requirements.

**If you are ready to start the application process for either a National or FEI License:**

1. Login to your My USEF account.
2. Select the Licensed Officials Dashboard tile.
3. Select the Licensed Officials Application tile.
4. Click the "Start New Checklist" button.
5. Your eligibility requirements will be confirmed by USEF and/or the respective Affiliate.
6. Once your eligibility requirements are confirmed, check back on the status of your application by following steps 1-3.

***If you have any questions regarding any portion of this newsletter, please contact the Licensed Officials Department at [loinquiry@usef.org](mailto:loinquiry@usef.org).***



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