2027 USEF Grand Prix Dressage National Championship Qualifying Requirements

Approved by the USEF Board of Directors Executive Committee on November 17, 2026.

These 2027 USEF Grand Prix Dressage National Championship ("Championship") Qualifying Requirements are effective on November 17, 2026 and are subject to change.

The 2027 USEF Grand Prix Dressage National Championship will take place on May 12-16, 2027, at the World Equestrian Center in Ocala, FL, and the Championship Format will be available on the USEF website here by March 4, 2027.

The United States Equestrian Federation, Inc. ("USEF") assumes no liability for errors or omissions in these Qualifying Requirements. It is the athlete's responsibility to ensure that all applications, application fees, and scores have been received by USEF by the published deadlines.

For questions concerning these Qualifying Requirements, please contact the USEF Dressage Department at kbrett@usef.org. Unless otherwise provided herein, the USEF Rulebook will apply to the Championship and these Qualifying Requirements.

I. USEF Membership Requirements for Qualifying Competitions and Championship:

For this Championship, qualification goes with the athlete/horse combination. Athletes are permitted to compete with only those horses named on the final ranking list (i.e., athlete/horse combination or combination).

Athlete: Athletes must be a U.S. Citizen and Competing member in good standing with USEF through the conclusion of the Championship, and for the combination to earn scores towards the ranking list.

Athletes are eligible to earn scores towards the ranking list and compete in this Championship from the beginning of the calendar year in which they reach the age of sixteen (16) per FEI Dressage Rules.

Horse: The horse must be recorded with USEF pursuant to USEF GR1102, and in good standing through the conclusion of the Championship, and for the combination to earn a score towards the ranking list. Horse Identification (HID) Numbers DO NOT fulfill the above requirements.

Horses must be a minimum of eight (8) years old to compete in this Championship per FEI Dressage Rules.

Ponies and mules are not permitted to qualify for or compete in this Championship.

Horse Owner(s): Owners must be Competing members in good standing with USEF through the conclusion of the Championship, and for the combination to earn scores towards the ranking list.

Ownership may change during the qualifying period and up to the close of entries for the Championship, as long as the new owner(s) meets all the above criteria.

All the above owner requirements apply to all listed owners on file with USEF, including all owners of a partnership, farm, company, corporation, etc. if a horse is recorded as owned by that type of entity.

II. FEI Requirements for Qualifying Competitions and Championship.

Combinations must meet the FEI General Regulations and Dressage Rules when competing in a CDI and must be in good standing with USEF and the FEI to earn scores towards the ranking list, at the time of invitation, and through the conclusion of this Championship.

Athletes must be registered with the FEI and have designated the USA as their sport nationality with the FEI to earn scores towards the ranking list and to compete in this Championship.

Horses must have an FEI Passport and be registered with the FEI to earn scores towards the ranking list and to compete in this Championship.

III. Qualifying Specifics.

Qualifying Period: The qualifying period shall begin on August 26, 2026, and is scheduled to end April 26, 2027, unless otherwise noted by USEF by no later than February 4, 2027.

Qualifying Competitions: Combinations are required to earn scores at FEI events to qualify for this Championship. Qualifying Competitions include all U.S. and foreign CDI3*, CDI4*, CDI5*, CDIO, CDI-Am and CDI-W events within the qualifying period. The US Open Dressage Final scheduled on November 13-14, 2026, and the FEI World Cup Final scheduled on March 24-28, 2027, in Gothenburg (SWE) are considered qualifying competitions. Scores from the 2026 USEF Grand Prix Dressage National Championship are not permitted to be used towards qualifying for the 2027 USEF Grand Prix Dressage National Championship.

Dress and Saddlery: All FEI Dressage, Veterinary Rules and General Regulations must be followed.

Qualifying Tests and Minimum Overall Average: Combinations must achieve a minimum overall average of 67% on the final ranking list in order to receive an invitation to this Championship by earning at least two (2) scores in the current edition of the FEI Grand Prix Test. A minimum of one (1) score in the FEI Grand Prix Test must be completed at a Qualifying Competition after January 1, 2027.

Combinations will be required to complete the FEI Grand Prix Test, FEI Grand Prix Special Test, and the FEI Grand Prix Freestyle Test at this Championship.

Calculation of the Overall Average on the Ranking List: The USEF Dressage Grand Prix 8-Month Ranking List (found here) will be utilized for this Championship between August 26, 2026 and April 26, 2027.

USEF will automatically track scores for combinations which are earned at Qualifying Competitions. Percentages are carried out to the third decimal point with numbers of five (5) and above rounded up (63.4555% = 63.456%).

Submission of score sheets to USEF is not necessary for this Championship unless requested by the USEF Dressage Department. Scratches, eliminations, and withdrawals will not be penalized on the final ranking list with the following exception: *In the case of a combination is disqualified by USEF or the FEI for a medication rule violation from a sample collected in connection with a Qualifying Competition, that score will be marked as E (Elimination) on the final ranking list but will not be counted in the overall average.*

USEF is not responsible for inaccurately reported scores. It is the sole responsibility of the athlete to ensure that all CDI scores for this Championship are accurate. If errors are detected, athletes are encouraged to contact the USEF Dressage Department at kbrett@usef.org immediately.

Withdrawals: Withdrawals must be submitted in writing to kbrett@usef.org. Withdrawals received prior to the end of the qualifying period, will be noted as WD on the final ranking list.

IV. Anti-Doping Requirements:

1. Human Anti-Doping: Athletes must adhere to all USOPC, IOC, USEF, FEI, USADA and WADA anti-doping protocols, policies, and procedures, and may be drug tested. Please contact Christy Hawkins, Special Project Management Analyst, with any questions at (859) 300 3045 / cbhawkins@usef.org.
2. Equine Anti-Doping: All Horses are subject to drug testing both in competition and out of competition.
    a. In-Competition. All Horses entered to compete in any FEI or USEF event are subject to drug testing at any time from when the event begins until the event ends or beginning when the Horse arrives for the event until

the event ends, whichever beginning occurs first. Blood and/or urine samples may be collected and tested for substances prohibited or forbidden under the subject event rules. National events may invoke GR409 whereby samples will be tested for FEI prohibited substances, including metabolites and markers.

b. Positive Finding. At any time during the qualifying period that the presence of a prohibited or forbidden substance, or a metabolite or marker, is detected in the sample collected in-Event, the results, including the level detected for controlled medications, will be reported to the USEF Chief Executive Officer and General Counsel.

c. They will notify the Director of FEI Sport or the Discipline Director for dissemination of information as appropriate. In such instances, the positive finding may result in the elimination of the Horse and/or Athlete from the Selection Process.

d. Before elimination occurs, the Owner and Athlete will be afforded a hearing by a panel ("Selection Hearing Panel") comprised of at least one disinterested member of the applicable discipline Sport Committee along with at least two disinterested members of the Hearing Committee, one of which must be an Athlete Representative.

e. The Chairman of the USEF Veterinary Committee, or his designee, may serve Ex Officio and a member of the Veterinary Panel selected for the Championship may serve Ex Officio.

3. Out-of-Competition. Blood and/or urine samples may be collected out-of-competition at any time throughout the selection period, which is defined as commencing on the start date of the USEF Qualifying Period following notification to the Athlete at least 24 hours prior to collection of samples. Samples collected from Horses out-of-competition will be tested for the presence of substances prohibited by the FEI, including metabolites and markers. Failure to make the Horse available for collection of samples may result in the elimination of the Horse and/or Athlete from the Selection Process. Before elimination occurs, the Owner and Athlete will be afforded a hearing by the Selection Hearing Panel.

   a. Positive Finding. At any time during the selection period that the presence of a prohibited or forbidden substance, or a metabolite marker, in the sample, the results, including the level detected for controlled medications, will be reported to the USEF Chief Executive Officer and General Counsel, who will notify the Director of Sport Programs or the Discipline Director for dissemination of information as appropriate.

   b. In such instances, the positive finding may result in the elimination of the Horse and/or Athlete from the Selection Process unless the Veterinary Panel appointed for the Selection of the Event certifies that the substance detected has been approved or is legitimate and appropriate under the circumstances. Before elimination occurs, the Owner and Athlete will be afforded a hearing by the Selection Hearing Panel.

4. These provisions do not abrogate the enforcement of applicable Equine anti-doping rules at Federation licensed Events, including Events where GR409 is invoked whereby samples will be tested for FEI prohibited substances, including metabolites and markers.

USEF GR409.2 Equine Drugs and Medications, Prohibited Substance Provisions: No Horse and/or pony competing in a Breed or Discipline designated as (or part of) a No Prohibited Substance Group is to be shown in any class at an Event licensed by the Federation if it has been administered in any manner or otherwise contained in its tissues, body fluids or excreta a prohibited substance as defined in the FEI Horse Anti-Doping and Controlled Medication Regulations, which can be found at www.fei.org.

V. Additional Rules and Requirements.

Conflict of Interest: Judging Panels at CDI Events: Refer to FEI Dressage Regulations for Judge Requirements and Codex for Judges.

Judging Panels at USEF National Licensed Competitions: Refer to USEF Chapter 13, GR1304.

Selectors must comply with the USEF's Conflict of Interest and Gifts & Entertainment Policy including completing and submitting a disclosure form for review by the USEF Legal Department and USEF Audit Committee prior to convening the committee. Any committee member who has an actual, possible, or perceived conflict of interest must disclose it to the USEF Legal Department and USEF Audit Committee prior to the start of the selection process and/or recuse oneself from the review process and/or voting. A conflict of interest exists when a personal, family, financial, professional, club, team or business interest of the committee member poses a direct or indirect relationship, connection, or affiliation, past or present, with an Athlete or Horse in contention for the applicable team selection that could compromise the committee members'

ability to participate in the selection process in an unbiased manner. If a conflict exists, the USEF Legal Department and USEF Audit Committee shall review the conflict and determine the committee member's level of involvement (e.g., whether that committee member must recuse oneself from participating in discussions and/or voting). For example, if it is determined that a committee members must recuse oneself from voting, the Audit Committee may still determine that a Selector who has relevant and necessary information with respect to athlete performance, for example a team coach or high performance director, may, if requested by the committee members, provide such information to the committee members so long as such information is provided in a fair and unbiased manner and so long as the committee member with the conflict of interest does not participate in the deliberation or vote toward the final decision. The committee member must not otherwise influence other committee members in the selection process. Additionally, any person (including any potentially impacted Athlete, owner, or coach of a potentially impacted Athlete or Horse) with a good faith belief that a committee member has a conflict of interest may report the alleged conflict of interest to the USEF General Counsel and/or the USEF Audit Committee. Reports may be made anonymously. No committee member shall retaliate in any way against a person who, in good faith, reports an alleged conflict of interest. Any recused individual shall be replaced in accordance with the USEF selection committee appointment process.

Grievance Procedures: USEF Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found in USEF Bylaws Part VII and in the Supplemental Procedures for Complaints and Grievances. See www.usef.org.

Non-Discrimination Policy: USEF does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), sex, gender identify, gender expression, age, national origin (ancestry), disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status, in any of its activities or operations. Everyone involved in the development of selection procedures and selection process must abide by the Non-Discrimination Policy.

VI. Invitations to the Championship.

Final Ranking List: After the conclusion of the qualifying period (April 26, 2027) and for this Championship, combinations will be ranked according to their overall average and be accepted up to the number of invitations available, not to exceed 15 athletes.

In the case of a tie, the combinations shall remain tied but shall take up two places so that if tied for first place, the next ranked combination shall be ranked third.

If there is a tie for 15th place, all tied combinations will be invited, thereby increasing the total number of entries (i.e., 16 entries accepted).

Combinations ranked on the Final Ranking List will be invited to the Championship up until the close of the entry deadline published in the official prize list and in the invitation to this Championship.

Invitations are anticipated to be sent via email no later than April 30, 2027.

- Up to 15 athletes will be invited to the Championship.
- Combinations will be invited to the Championship in the order of the Final 8-Month Grand Prix Ranking List.
- Athletes are not permitted to compete with more than two (2) horses this Championship. In the case of an athlete qualified with two (2) horses, the athlete will only take the place of one invitation.
- If an athlete qualifies more than two (2) horses for this Championship, the lowest ranked horse(s) may serve as the athlete's direct reserve if the higher ranked horse(s) is unable to compete in this Championship. Substitutions may be made up to two (2) hours before the horse inspection (jog) upon notification to the USEF Dressage Staff and the Show Office in writing via email.
- Once entries close for this Championship, additional combinations shall not be invited to participate.

Wild Card Invitations: In addition to the fifteen (15) athletes who will receive an invitation to compete in the Championship through fulfillment of the criteria in Section III; combinations not qualified through the criteria in Section III but who have completed at least one (1) score in the FEI Grand Prix Test at a Qualifying Competition since January 1, 2027 may request a wild card invitation. The intent of a wild card request is for combinations which have encountered unforeseen circumstances during the qualifying period and were unable to complete the qualifying requirements. Wild cards may not be granted in circumstances where combinations have had the opportunity to fulfill the qualifying

requirements but did not due to improper planning, including but not limited to, targeting other competitions, failure to travel to qualifying opportunities, etc. Wild Card requests must be submitted to kbrett@usef.org no later than 11:59pm, ET on April 26, 2027.

The USEF Dressage Selectors may award up to three (3) Wild Card invitations to this Championship based upon results of the combination, as well as any extenuating circumstances that may have led to the combination not qualifying otherwise.

If the USEF Dressage Selectors do not award all three (3) Wild Card Invitations, additional invitations will be extended based upon the Final Ranking List up to a maximum of 18 athletes competing in this Championship.

The following factors will be considered (in no order of priority):

- Number of requests received. In some circumstances, an athlete may receive a maximum of one wild card invitation.
- Scores earned from tests (FEI Grand Prix Test and/or FEI Grand Prix Special Test) at Qualifying Competitions during the qualifying period.
- Potential of the athlete and/or horse to contribute to a medal winning team in 2027 and/or future teams meaning that consideration may be given to a talented athlete to provide experience for potential future teams.
- The age of the horse and thus the likelihood of the horse contributing to future Championship or Games success.
- International experience of the athlete, horse, or combination.
- The combination's ranking on the ranking list noted as "Pending Final Score Verification."
- The combination's ranking on the Dressage Grand Prix 8-Month Ranking.
- The potential to produce scores above 70% in the FEI Grand Prix Test and/or FEI Grand Prix Special Test, in FEI events.
- The trend in scores if the combination competed in multiple competitions within the qualifying period.
- The trend in scores of the combination over the past 12 months.
- Factors beyond the control of the athlete which led to the combination not earning the required CDI results.

These Qualifying Requirements are based on the USEF and FEI rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the Qualifying Requirements caused by a change in USEF or FEI rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The Qualifying Requirements are based on the latest information available to USEF. However, the Qualifying Requirements are always subject to unforeseen, intervening circumstances, and realistically may not have accounted for every possible contingency. Changes in Qualifying Requirements are subject to approval by USEF.