



MEMORANDUM

To: 2027 FEI North American Youth Championships

Date: June 3, 2026

From: Sarah Hollander, Director of Dressage Development & Emerging Programs

Re: Qualifying Dates & Competitions for 2027 FEI North American Youth Championships, Children

Dear Potential 2027 FEI North American Youth Championships Applicants:

This preliminary information is being provided to assist you with your competition planning. Please remember that this information is based on the recommendations of the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) Dressage Sport Committee and United States Dressage Federation (USDF) Executive Board and is subject to approval by the USEF Board of Directors and, therefore, subject to change.

Selection Process Summary: Ranking lists of athlete/horse combinations will be maintained, and selection will be based on the final rankings of each Region (see more details below). The 2027 FEI North American Youth Championships (NAYC) is scheduled to take place on August 2nd – 8th, 2027, in Traverse City, Michigan.

1. Qualifying Period

The proposed qualifying period for NAYC begins July 28, 2026, and is anticipated to end at least ten days prior to the Nominated Entry date (TBD).

2. Qualifying Competitions

It is anticipated that athlete/horse combinations will be required to complete at least two Qualifying Competitions during the qualifying period. Qualifying Competitions include:

- Competitions listed on the USEF/NAYC Qualifying Competitions (Qualifying Competitions) Calendar: Scores earned at these competitions within the qualifying period will be automatically included in the Ranking List calculations. USEF/NAYC Qualifying Competitions can be found [HERE](#). Please check the calendar(s) frequently for updates.
- CDI-Ch Events: Scores earned at CDI-Ch may be included, at the option of the athlete, and will only be included in the Ranking List calculations upon receipt of a CDI & Championship Report Form within the specified deadline stated on the form (form can be found at www.usdf.org). Changes to a submitted CDI & Championship Report Form will not be accepted following the specified deadline stated on the form. The 2026 and 2027 FEI Calendars can be found on the FEI website [HERE](#) (Please note that the FEI 2027 calendar is approved by the FEI no later than December 31, 2026). Please check the Calendar(s) frequently for updates. NOTE: Scores from the 2026 NAYC will not be counted.
- 2026 USEF Children Dressage National Championship: Scores earned at this National Championship may be included, at the option of the athlete, and will only be computed into the Ranking List upon receipt of a CDI & Championship Report Form within the specified deadline stated on the form.



3. **Tests Required**

It is anticipated that athlete/horse combinations will be required to achieve **two (2)** scores in the current edition of the FEI Children Team Test and **two (2)** scores in the current edition of the FEI Children Individual Test at USEF/NAYC Qualifying Competitions in USEF/NAYC designated Qualifying Classes.

- The Technical Test scoresheet and Quality Marking sheet will be averaged, and the average will serve as the final score on the Ranking List.
- Athlete/horse combinations that achieve more than two (2) scores in the team or individual test may drop the lowest score earned in the Team Test and the Individual Test, regardless of whether these scores were earned in the same Qualifying Competition.
- Athletes wishing to qualify for the Children Championship must qualify with FEI Children Tests.
- In addition to these tests, athlete/horse combinations will be required to complete the FEI Children Preliminary B Test at one (1) USEF/NAYC designated Qualifying Competition.
- Hors de Concours entries are not permitted in USEF/NAYC Qualifying Classes.

4. **Certificate of Capability**

- Each athlete/horse combination must earn a minimum overall average of 62.000% or greater on the final Ranking List. It is anticipated this will be calculated by scores earned from the FEI Children Team Test and FEI Children Individual Test at two (2) different USEF/NAYC Qualifying Competitions from a panel of two (2) or more USEF 'S' or FEI Judges, in order to be named to the Nominated and Definite Entries.
- Only scores earned at USEF/NAYC Qualifying Competitions in USEF/NAYC designated Qualifying Classes will count towards the Certificate of Capability.
- In addition to these tests, athlete/horse combinations will be required to earn one (1) score of 62.000% or higher in the FEI Children Preliminary B Test at a USEF/NAYC designated Qualifying Competition.
- The FEI Children Preliminary B Test must be earned in an FEI Children Preliminary B class or an FEI Test of Choice class. The class must be judged by a minimum of one (1) judge. For the placement of judges for the FEI Children Tests, please review the memo [here](#).

Additional Information

Anti-Doping: Athletes must adhere to all USOPC, IOC, USEF, FEI, USADA, and WADA anti-doping protocols, policies, and procedures, and may be subject to drug testing. Please contact Christy Hawkins, Special Project Management Analyst, with any questions at (859) 300 3045 / cbhawkins@usef.org.

Grievances: Athletes wishing to file a grievance challenging a denial or threatened denial to participate in competition, please see the Athlete's Guide to Filing a Grievance Regarding Opportunity to Participate and Grievance [Form](#). For procedural guidance for filing a grievance, please contact Emily Pratt at epratt@usef.org.

Equipment: Per [DR121](#), only snaffle bridles will be permitted for FEI Tests for Children. If you are competing in a CDI and/or NAYC, FEI Rules apply.

Horse Requirements: Horses and ponies are both eligible to compete in the FEI Children's Championship.

QUESTIONS

If you have any questions regarding the above Qualifying Competitions or the development of the Selection Procedures for the 2027 FEI North American Youth Championships, please do not hesitate to contact Sarah Hollander at (859) 225-6914 or shollander@usef.org.