



USEF/USDF DRESSAGE SEAT MEDAL CLASS SCORE SHEET
(FOR ALL SEMI-FINALS AND FINALS MEDAL CLASSES)

Effective 12/1/2022 – 11/30/2026

Class:

Purpose: To evaluate the dressage rider’s correct position, seat and use of aids. See back of score sheet for rules and additional specifications.

Judge's Directives: Judges must officiate together for Semi Finals and Finals classes, using one score sheet. They should gather initial impressions of the class by standing in various locations in or around the arena while the class works as a group, but they must consult prior to arriving at the scores. For individual workouts, the judges sit together in the place best suited to observe the pattern. For Dressage Seat Medal Semi Finals and Finals classes, a final percentage score for EACH rider must be posted at the conclusion of the class. At their discretion, judges may use a numerical or other system of their choice, to arrive at a final score. Preliminary scores/marks are NOT required.

****ONLY the “TOTAL SCORE” and “PLACE” columns are REQUIRED to be marked for EACH rider.****

Rider No.	Walk		Trot		Canter		Additional Tests (Notes)	Total Score (%)	Place
	LEFT	RIGHT	LEFT	RIGHT	LEFT	RIGHT			

Name

Name

Name

Judge’s Signature

Judge’s Signature

Judge’s Signature

RULES AND SPECIFICATIONS

USEF/USDF DRESSAGE SEAT MEDAL CLASSES

Stallions may not be ridden in Dressage Seat Equitation classes. USEF/USDF Dressage Seat Medal class score sheets must be used for Dressage Seat Medal Semi-Finals and Finals classes. The final score for each rider in a Semi-Finals and Finals class must be posted at the conclusion of the class. Tied scores in a USDF Dressage Seat Medal Semi-Final and USEF Dressage Seat Medal Final class will be broken by requiring riders to perform an additional independent test, which will be scored by all judges together. The higher score on the additional independent test will receive the higher placing.

Dressage Division rules will apply, in particular:

- 1 – Saddlery, Equipment and Dress as required for First Level per USEF DR120, DR121, and DR133
- 2 – Unauthorized Assistance as defined in DR122.10 is prohibited.
- 3 – Use of voice will be penalized.
- 4 – Horses may be disqualified for lameness, as defined in DR122.6.
- 5 – Elimination, as defined in DR124.1, except for DR124.1e, DR124.1h and DR124.1m.

Saddlery, Equipment and Dress:

Please review USEF DR133 for all saddlery, equipment, and dress requirements.

Class Specifications:

The rider’s position, seat and use and effect of the aids will be judged as outlined in DR117. Movements shall be performed by the exhibitors simultaneously; however, the judges may ask for independent execution of certain workouts. All instructions must be publicly announced.

Riders must be judged at the medium walk, working trot (sitting and rising), and working canter in both directions. In judging the position, seat and use of aids, judges may include the following movements and exercises as required at Training and First Level:

May be ridden as a group:

- 1 – Free walk
- 2 – Transitions from one gait to the next in both directions
- 3 – Transitions from walk to halt and vice versa
- 4 – Change of direction across the diagonal, down the centerline, across the arena, and/or by making a half-circle at the walk or trot

Additional tests from which judges may choose movements and exercises, as required at Training and First Level, to be ridden in small groups or independently:

- 1 – Transitions
- 2 – Leg-yield
- 3 – Changes of lead through trot
- 4 – Serpentine at the trot
- 5 – Shallow loop serpentine in canter, maintaining lead.
- 6 – Trot lengthening and/or canter lengthening

In Semi-Finals classes, it is not required that all riders in a class perform independent tests. The judges may, at their discretion, choose to require independent tests, and they may select any number of riders in the class to perform one or more independent workouts. However, independent workouts must be required of each rider in Finals classes.

No change of horses shall be allowed in Semi Finals or Finals competition. If a class is divided into groups for preliminary judging, the top 3-5 riders in each group will meet together for the Dressage Seat Medal Semi Finals or Finals class in their respective age group.

Competition Ring:

Dressage Seat Medal Semi Finals and Finals classes may be held in an enclosed ring that is larger than a standard dressage arena, if available. If not, an open schooling area is permitted. The maximum size of the group is no more than 25 riders; however classes may be divided into smaller sections at the discretion of the judges for safety and convenience. If Medal Semi-Finals and Finals classes must be held in a dressage arena, it must be 20m x 60m, and no more than 6 horses shall be asked to canter at the same time. If a larger arena is used, it should contain a 20m x 60m dressage arena to be used for the individual tests. This arena may be open on the sides and ends to allow riders to utilize the entire space when working as a group.

Judging Directives

Judges should familiarize themselves with USEF DR117 and the Guidelines for Judging Dressage Seat Equitation Classes, which describe the criteria and methodology for evaluating riders in equitation classes. Judges should keep in mind that the goals of correct riding are the security of the rider, the ability of the rider to positively influence the horse, and the unity of the rider with the horse in motion. To be effective, the rider must have a correct position and weight distribution. The rider’s seat should match the movement of the horse at each gait.

The Equitation judging guidelines are posted on the USDF and USEF websites. **Judges are encouraged to provide verbal comments to riders at the end of the class, but the actual judges’ score sheets must not be posted.**