Para Dressage Criteria to Compete in Foreign CPEDIs
Revised January, 2020

Athletes wishing to be considered for any CPEDI event outside of the U.S., including Canada, and Mexico, must submit an online application to the United States Equestrian Federation, Inc., (USEF) pursuant to Chapter 8, GR828 of the USEF Rulebook. Applications submitted 14 days or less from the start of the competition may be subject to an additional late fee.

In order to receive permission from the USEF to compete in foreign CPEDIs, the following eligibility requirements must be met:

1. **ELIGIBILITY OF THE ATHLETE, OWNER, HORSE**

   **A. The Athlete**
   
   ✓ Must be a U.S. citizen and designated the U.S. as sport nationality with the FEI General Regulations, Article 119.
   
   ✓ International Events are open to Athletes from the year in which they reach their 14th birthday. Athletes in Major Championships may only compete from the year in which they reach their 16th birthday in accordance with the FEI Para Dressage Rules, 3rd edition, 1 January 2011, updates effective January 1, 2020, Article 8422.3.
   
   ✓ Must be a current member of the USEF, and current on the USEF Safe Sport Policy.
   
   ✓ Must be eligible to compete at respective Grade, as designated by the FEI Classification, in accordance with the FEI Para Dressage Rules, 3rd edition, 1 January 2011, updates effective January 1, 2020, Article 8422.1. and 8422.2.
   
   ✓ Must be an Active Member and in good standing of USEF at the time of application and until the conclusion of the Event.
   
   ✓ Must have a current FEI Rider Registration and be in good standing with the FEI at the time of application and until the conclusion of the competition.

   **B. Owner:**

   ✓ Must be an active member in good standing with USEF or his/her National Federation at the time of application and through the conclusion of the competition and have proof, in English, of membership in good standing of his/her National Federation.

   **C. Horse:**

   ✓ Must be eligible to compete at its respective level under current FEI Para Dressage Rules
Horses must be a minimum of six (6) years of age. The age is counted from the 1st January of the year of birth (1st August for the Southern Hemisphere) in accordance with the FEI Para Dressage Rules, 3rd edition, 1 January 2011, updates effective January 1, 2020, Article 8422.7.1.

Must be registered with FEI, have a valid FEI Passport, and in good standing with the FEI, USEF, and/or the owner’s National Federation at the time of the application through the conclusion of the event.

2. MINIMUM CRITERIA AT THE TIME OF APPLICATION TO COMPETE

Copies of complete results/score with Judges may be requested by USEF Athlete Services (cbarnett@usef.org).

FOREIGN CPEDI's

Athlete and Horse:
Athlete and Horse must have achieved a 62% or higher from one (1) Team and one (1) Individual test (minimum two tests) Tests must be from a USEF recognized show and/or a CPEDI3*, one (1) test may be from the USEF Virtual Judging program. Both tests must be from within six (6) months of the start date of the event.

3. WAIVERS

If an athlete or horse does not meet the criteria noted above, under extraordinary circumstances, the USEF Para Dressage Sport Committee, or its designees, may grant a waiver to the above criteria to compete at foreign CPEDI's. Athletes must submit the Waiver Request found at [link].

The following criteria will be used to evaluate Waiver Applications:

- Previous international experience of the horse and/or athlete.
- The impact that the event may have on the success at a future Games or Championship event,
- The impact the event may have on the development of the athlete, the horse, or the combination.
- Applicant provides competition records that demonstrate they have an upward trajectory of scores, and the potential of achieving over 70% at athlete’s grade.
- Veterinary or Medical circumstances that may have prohibited the athlete and/or horse from competing (additional information may be requested to verify these circumstances).
- Athlete and/or horse have relocated, or are currently training in an area outside of the US.

If a waiver is approved the combination or horse must receive a score greater than or equal to the minimum eligibility score or average (ie. 62% or above) to participate in another event of the same level without resubmitting a waiver request.

Note: Athlete is responsible for all the competition related expenses for the athlete, horse
and support personnel including groom, PCA (personal care assistant) and/or coach. It is the athlete’s responsibility to secure necessary support personnel.

4. OVERSUBSCRIPTION AT CPEDI EVENTS
Should there be an oversubscription of athlete applications, over the number of invitations received, 14 days before the deadline of Nominated entries for CPEDI Events outside of the U.S., the Para-Equestrian Dressage Technical Advisor, and the USEF Para Equestrian Sport Committee may select which combinations shall be nominated based on their record of results.

In addition, USEF Elite athletes may receive priority over other athletes for CPEDI3* outside of the U.S. when general invitations are issued to USEF, and may receive approval to compete in at least two (2) CPEDIs depending upon the circumstances.

5. APPLICATION TO COMPETE IN FOREIGN COMPETITIONS

a. Applications to compete outside of the U.S. are found by:
   1. Sign-in to the Athlete’s USEF Account HERE.
   2. Scroll down to: FEI Competition Entry & Competing Abroad
   3. Open Online Application to Compete Abroad

b. Application Fees (Non-refundable):
   i. $75 application fee for each competition
   ii. $200 waiver request fee (if applicable)
   iii. $750 Prepaid annual application fee (optional): this fee is due when submitting the first application for the competition year. This fee applies to the first ten (10) FEI competitions held outside of the U.S. Athletes competing less than 10 competitions do not receive a refund, credit, or partial credit for the prepaid application fee.
   iv. $75 late fee: An athlete who submits an application 14 days or less from the start of the competition may be subject to an additional late fee. The late fee may be applied even if an athlete provides payment for the prepaid annual application fee.

6. WITHDRAWAL FROM CPEDI EVENTS
Once an athlete has submitted an application to compete and should you need to withdraw, the following steps are to be taken immediately:

REMINDER: USEF fees are non-refundable regardless if you compete or withdraw.

a. Withdrawing from competition before an entry has been submitted on your behalf or before the Organizing Committee has confirmed an invitation:
   i. Send an email to USEF Athlete Services (cbarnett@usef.org) and include the reason for the withdrawal.

b. Withdrawing from a competition after an entry has been submitted on your
behalf and/or after the Organizing Committee has confirmed your invitation:
   i. Concurrently email USEF Athlete Services (cbarnett@usef.org) and the
      Organizing Committee. The email is to state the reason for the withdrawal and
      an apology to the Organizing Committee for any inconvenience your withdrawal
      may have caused. The Organizing Committee’s contact information can be
      found in the schedule for that particular event.

**ATHLETE SERVICES CONTACT INFORMATION FEI**

**APPLICATIONS, INVITATIONS AND ENTRIES**
Courtney Barnett: cbarnett@usef.org or 859.225.2059

**NATIONAL PERMISSION, RESULTS, HORSE & RIDER REGISTRATION**
Kristin Richards: krichards@usef.org or 859 225 6989