



August 28, 2020

Dear Dressage Qualifying Competition Management,

The FEI updated the [FEI Children Dressage Tests](#) earlier this year. Now that we are beginning a new qualifying period for the 2021 USEF Children Dressage National Championship, we want to ensure a level playing field is maintained and that all tests are judged in accordance with the FEI protocols (please see links to FEI resources at the end).

**Effective immediately, all USEF Qualifying Competitions (Level 3) must offer the FEI Childrens Test as follows:**

- 1) For Qualifying classes for the USEF Children Dressage National Championship, the Technical Test and Quality Marking will be scored by two 'S' Senior judges (two 'S' Senior Judges are required to officiate this test per the Qualifying Requirements). The Technical Component score and the Quality Marking will be averaged and the average will serve as the final score.
  - **If two judges are officiating:** judge at C only scores the Technical Marking Sheet. The Judge at B or E only scores the Quality Marking Sheet;
  - **If there are three judges officiating:** judge at C only scores the Technical Marking Sheet; two judges (sitting together) at B or E use only the Quality Marking Sheet;
- 2) For CDI-Ch events within the qualifying period, the average of the Technical Component score and the Quality Marking will count for the USEF Children Dressage National Championship, pending the submission of the CDI & championship report form per the Qualifying Requirements for this Championship;
- 3) All other qualifying requirements will remain the same for this division.

**For national level competitions offering non-qualifying FEI children test(s), competitions may use one, two, or three judges for the FEI Children Tests:**

- 1) **If there is one judge officiating:** judge at C only scores the Technical Marking component. The Quality Marking will not be used or filled out by the judge.
- 2) **If two judges are officiating:** judge at C only scores the Technical Marking Sheet. The Judge at B or E only scores the Quality Marking Sheet;
- 3) **If there are three judges officiating:** judge at C only scores the Technical Marking Sheet; two judges (sitting together) at B or E use only the Quality Marking Sheet;
- 4) To include this test as an **FEI Test of Choice (TOC) class** where only one judged presides, **ONLY** the Technical Test can be used. If two or three judges preside, the FEI Children Tests must be offered in a separate division of the TOC class that is limited to FEI Children Tests (i.e., separate placing and awards must be offered due to different judging conditions).

**Note:** If two or more judges officiate for USEF Qualifying or non-qualifying classes, the technical percentage score and the quality marking percentage score shall be weighted each with 50% towards the final score (both percentage scores added and divided by two);

*Please note that one single judge will not complete both the technical or quality marking components of the FEI Children tests for either National or CDI-Ch competition. If only one judge, he/she must be at "C" and use only the Technical Marking Sheet. The Quality Marking Sheet will only be used if one or two judges also officiate at B or E.*



Directives for FEI International Dressage Competitions for Children:

<https://inside.fei.org/system/files/FEI%20Directives%20for%20Dressage%20Competitions%20for%20Children%20Final.pdf>

Guidelines for Judging the “Quality of Riding” Mark in Children Competitions:

<https://inside.fei.org/system/files/Criteria%20for%20judging%20Children%204%20FEI%20v1%200.pdf>



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