



MEMORANDUM

To: 2018 Dressage National Championship Youth Athletes

Date: July 28, 2017

From: Hannah Niebielski, Director of Dressage, National Programs

Re: Qualifying Dates and Competitions for 2018 Dressage National Championships

Dear Potential 2018 Dressage National Championships Applicants:

The following information pertains to the Dressage National Championships as listed below:

- USEF Children Dressage National Championship
- USEF Pony Rider Dressage National Championship
- AGCO/USEF Junior Rider Dressage National Championship
- AGCO/USEF Young Rider Dressage National Championship

MEMBERSHIPS: Please be advised that athletes must be US Citizens in order to earn qualifying scores and compete in the Championship. If the athlete has an FEI Registration, they must have designated the USA as their Sport Nationality with the FEI at the time of application, selection, and until the conclusion of the Championship. Athletes must be Active Competing members in good standing of USEF to earn qualifying scores and to compete in the Championship.

Horses/Ponies must be Annual or Life Recorded with USEF in order for qualifying scores to count as well as at the time of application, selection, and until the conclusion of the Championship. Horse Identification (HID) Numbers DO NOT fulfill this requirement.

Owners must be an Active Competing member in good standing with USEF or his/her National Federation (and have proof in English) in order for the athlete/horse combinations' scores to count towards qualifying and to compete in the National Championships. Qualification goes with the athlete/horse or athlete/pony combination; ownership may change during the qualifying period and for the Championship as long as the new owner(s) meet all of the above criteria.

QUALIFYING PERIOD: Please be advised that the proposed qualifying period for the 2018 Dressage National Championships outlined above will begin on August 1, 2017 and end July 30, 2018 unless otherwise determined no later than February 1, 2018.

QUALIFYING COMPETITIONS/TESTS: Qualification is based upon athlete/horse or athlete/pony combination. Athlete/horse combinations must complete in NAJYRC/USEF Qualifying Competitions to be eligible for an invitation to the Championships. Qualifying Competitions include all competitions beginning after August 1, 2017 on the NAJYRC/USEF Qualifying Competitions



Calendar. USEF Qualifying Competitions scheduled to take place beginning August 1, 2017 and December 31, 2017 can be found [HERE](#). The 2018 NAJYRC/USEF Qualifying Competitions Calendar will be posted on the above link by November 1, 2017.

Athletes may also earn qualifying scores at any CDI/Ch/P/J/Y, held within the United States or any other country that offers the applicable FEI tests within the designated qualifying period. CDI/Ch/P/J/Y scores are calculable at the option of the athlete and will only be computed into the athlete/horse's overall average upon receipt of a CDI/Ch/P/J/Y Report Form within the specified deadline stated on the form (Form can be found [HERE](#)).

It is anticipated that athlete/horse combinations must complete the respective FEI division tests at least three USEF Qualifying Competitions for Pony Rider, Junior, and Young Rider Championships. It is anticipated that athlete/horse combinations must complete the respective FEI division tests at least two NAJYRC/USEF Qualifying Competitions for the Children Championships.

1. Children
 - a. A minimum overall average of 58% must be maintained for consideration to this Championship.
 - b. At least two (2) scores must be earned in the current editions of the FEI Children Team Test and at least two (2) scores must be earned in the FEI Children Individual Test.
2. Pony Rider
 - a. A minimum overall average of 58% must be maintained for consideration to this Championship.
 - b. At least three (3) scores must be earned in the current editions of the FEI Pony Team Test and at least three (3) scores must be earned in the FEI Pony Individual Test
3. Junior Rider
 - a. A minimum overall average of 62% must be maintained for consideration to this Championship.
 - b. At least three (3) qualifying scores must be earned in the current editions of the FEI Junior Team Test and at least three (3) scores must be earned in the FEI Junior Individual Test.
4. Young Rider
 - a. A minimum overall average of 62% must be maintained for consideration to this Championship.
 - b. At least three (3) qualifying scores must be earned in the current editions of the FEI Young Rider Team Test and at least three (3) qualifying scores must be earned in the FEI Young Rider Individual Test.



SCORES: For the Pony, Junior, and Young Rider Division, if an athlete/horse combination competes in four (4) or more different designated USEF/NAJYRC Qualifying Competitions, the lowest score earned in Team Test and the lowest score earned in the Individual Test will be dropped regardless whether or not these scores were earned in the same competition. All remaining scores will be used to calculate each horse/rider combination's overall average.

For the Children Division, if an athlete/horse combination competes in three (3) or more different designated USEF/NAJYRC Qualifying Competitions, the lowest score earned in Team Test and the lowest score earned in the Individual Test will be dropped regardless whether or not these scores were earned in the same competition. All remaining scores will be used to calculate each horse/rider combination's overall average.

USEF will automatically track scores for athlete/horse combinations which are earned at designated USEF/NAJYRC Qualifying Competitions. Submission of score sheets to USEF is not necessary for this Championship unless requested by USEF staff. As stated above, CDI scores must be reported to the USEF by the deadline as indicated on the form in order to be counted.

Qualifying scores may be earned prior to submission of Application of Intent. However, **Scores will not show on the applicable division ranking list until an application of intent is submitted.**

EQUIPMENT RULE: Per DR121.4, snaffle bridles will be permitted for qualifying USEF Junior qualifying classes and USEF Young Rider qualifying classes. Double bridles will still be mandatory for NAJYRC and USEF Junior and Young Rider championships. **If you are competing in a CDI, FEI Rules apply.**

APPLICATION OF INTENT: An Application of Intent is required to be submitted in order to be eligible for an invitation to these Championships. An application is considered to be submitted once the email acknowledgement has been received. The Application of Intent will be available at www.usef.org no later than January 1, 2018. Qualifying scores may be earned prior to submission of Application of Intent.

QUESTIONS:

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 US Equestrian Dressage Sport Committee and is subject to approval by the USEF Board of Directors and therefore subject to change.

If you have any questions regarding the above Qualifying Competitions or the development of the Selection Procedures for the 2018 Dressage National Championships, please do not hesitate to contact Hannah Niebielski at (859) 225-6918 or hniebielski@usef.org.