

**CRITERIA TO DETERMINE ELIGIBILITY TO COMPETE**  
**2020 USEF PARA DRESSAGE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP SPONSORED BY**  
**ADEQUAN**  
**Tryon International Equestrian Center (TIEC), Mill Spring, NC**  
**October 22-25, 2020**

The USEF Para Dressage National Championship will be presented to the riders, as qualified in accordance with the procedures below:

**I. APPLICATION OF INTENT:**

1. In order to be considered for the 2020 USEF Para Dressage National Championship being held at Tryon International Equestrian Center, October 22-25, 2020 (the “Event”) an **Application of Intent** must be completed and submitted to the USEF no later than October 15, 2020. Applications of Intent may be found at [www.usef.org](http://www.usef.org). Competition entry forms will be available from the show organizer.
2. It is the responsibility of the athletes and owners of horses to ensure that they know and understand the USEF and FEI Rules for Para-Equestrian Events, USEF Rules, Selection Procedures, USEF Code of Conduct, and USEF Safe Sport Policy (see [https://www.usef.org/\\_Iframes/safety/general.aspx](https://www.usef.org/_Iframes/safety/general.aspx)).
3. Qualifying scores may be earned prior to submission of Application of Intent, as long as earned within the stated qualifying period.
4. USEF is not responsible for any late, lost, delayed, misdirected, or stolen correspondence either electronic, postal, commercially shipped, or voice activated. It is the athlete’s responsibility to ensure that all applications have been received by the published deadline.

**II. ELIGIBILITY:**

**For Athletes:**

1. Athletes must be a U.S. citizen and have designated the U.S. as their sport nationality as of January 1, 2020 to be considered for the National Championship Awards.
2. Athletes must be Active Competing Members in good standing with the USEF at the time the qualifying scores are achieved, the time of application, the time of selection, and until the conclusion of the Event.
3. Athletes must be at least thirteen (13) years old as of December 1, 2019.
4. Athletes must meet the entry requirements for the Event.
5. Athletes must have a USEF National and/or a FEI International Para Equestrian Dressage classification and be assigned a Grade I - V with a confirmed or review, with a fixed review date (FRD), status prior to the start of the Event.
6. Athletes must ride independently.
7. Athletes must ride at their classified Grade.

**For Horse Owners:**

1. Owners must be Active Competing Members in good standing with the USEF at the time of application, selection, and until the conclusion of the Event.
2. Ownership may change during the qualifying period for the Event, as long as the new owner(s) meet all of the above criteria.

**For Horse:**

1. Horses must be at least six years or older, born on or before December 31, 2014 to compete in the Event.
2. Horses entered must be Annual or Life Recorded with the USEF at the time of application, selection, and until the conclusion of the Event. Horse Identification (HID) Numbers DO NOT fulfill this requirement.

This Event will be held as a USEF Licensed Competition (not a CPEDI3\*); therefore, an **FEI passport will NOT be required for this Event**. Athletes are reminded that horses must abide by the USEF vaccination rules GR845 found at [https://www.usef.org/forms-pubs/34VQYitZ\\_Zk/gr8-conduct-of-licensed-competitions](https://www.usef.org/forms-pubs/34VQYitZ_Zk/gr8-conduct-of-licensed-competitions).

**III. CHAMPIONSHIP FORMAT:**

The Event will be conducted in accordance with the USEF Dressage/Para Equestrian Rules with the **exception that the FEI Para Equestrian Dressage rules regarding saddlery, dress, and schooling will supercede USEF rules**.

The Event will consist of the total scores from the FEI Team, Individual, and Freestyles tests. FEI Para Dressage tests may be found at <https://inside.fei.org/fei/your-role/organisers/p-e-dressage/tests>. Athletes may compete on a maximum of two horses. Athlete/horse combinations must complete all three tests to be eligible for the Championship Awards.

**IV. QUALIFYING PROCEDURES:**

1. **Qualifying Period:** All athlete/horse combination scores must be achieved from January 1, 2020 through October 15, 2020.
2. **Qualifying Competitions:** Qualifying competitions are considered any CPEDI3\* both within and outside of the USA. The CPEDI3\* Calendar is available on the FEI website at <https://data.fei.org/Calendar/Search.aspx>.
3. Scores may also be obtained from any USEF recognized competitions offering FEI Para Dressage Tests, which include Para Test of Choice classes, or through the USEF Para Dressage Video Judging program, details may be found [here](#).
4. **Tests:** The FEI Para Dressage Team test (current editions must be used), FEI Para Individual test, and FEI Para Dressage Freestyle test will be used. FEI Para Equestrian Dressage Tests may be found on the FEI website: <https://inside.fei.org/fei/your-role/organisers/p-e-dressage/tests>.
5. **Score Requirements:** Scores shall be achieved at the athlete's Grade level in which athlete has been classified and qualified. The qualifying horse/athlete scores can be earned as follows:
  - a) Three (3) scores total of a 62% or higher from a CPEDI3\*:  
One (1) for each of the following tests: FEI Para Dressage Individual test, FEI Para Dressage Team test, and FEI Para Dressage Freestyle test.

OR

- b) Five (5) scores total of a 64% or higher from two different USEF recognized shows and judged by a USEF “S” rated Dressage judge or above or by any FEI Dressage or FEI Para recognized judges. Competition one and two **must not** be judged by the same judge. Scores may be earned from FEI Para Dressage tests, which include Test of Choice classes and from the USEF Virtual Judging program. (Maximum of 2 scores from USEF Virtual Judging program).  
Two (2) for each of the following tests:
  - ✓ FEI Para Dressage Individual test,
  - ✓ FEI Para Dressage Team test, andOne (1) of the
  - ✓ FEI Para Dressage Freestyle test.Athlete/horse combinations are not required to complete the Team or Individual Test at the same competition.
- 6. **Score Reporting Requirements:** Athletes are required to report their scores on the Official 2020 USEF Para Dressage Score Report Form found at [www.usef.org](http://www.usef.org). Score Report forms must be filled in their entirety with the required signatures in order to be accepted and calculated into the Athlete/Horse combination overall average. Score Report forms must be submitted within ten days after the last date of competition to Laureen Johnson, Director of Para Equestrian at [lkjohnson@usef.org](mailto:lkjohnson@usef.org).

#### **V. USEF PARA DRESSAGE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP COMPETITION:**

- 1. **Event Dates:** The Event will be held over one weekend, October 22-25, 2020
- 2. **Multiple Entries:** Athletes may compete on a maximum of two (2) horses in the competition.
- 3. **Grade:** Athletes must compete at the Grade for which they are qualified. In the event an athlete’s classification changes during the qualification period prior to the Event, athlete must requalify at the new Grade.
- 4. **Callers:** Tests shall be ridden from memory if not stated differently on the USEF and/or FEI Classification Master List.
- 5. **CHAMPIONSHIP Score Calculation:** Overall scores will be determined by the sum of:
  - a) FEI Para Dressage Team Test – 40%
  - b) FEI Para Dressage Individual Test – 40%
  - c) FEI Para Dressage Freestyle - 20%*Athlete/horse combinations must complete all three tests at the Event.*
- 6. **Score Ties:** If there is a tie in the final placing of any Awards, the tie will be broken based upon the test scores earned by athlete / horse combinations in the FEI Para Dressage Team Test of the division. If a tie remains thereafter, it will be broken based upon the individual test scores earned by athlete / horse combinations in the Individual Test of the division. If a tie still remains thereafter it will be broken based upon the score of the President of the Ground Jury using first the scores from the Team Test and then the score of the Individual Test.
- 7. **Awards:**
  - a) The Champion and Reserve Champion Award will be given to the highest overall placing US athlete/horse combination & second highest overall respectively, regardless of grade.

- b) The Awards will be given through tenth place, regardless of grade.
8. **General:**
- It is the responsibility of the owners and athletes of horses/ponies to ensure that they know and understand the USEF rules and Qualifying Requirements, USEF Code of Conduct, and USEF Safe Sport Policy.
  - Athletes, horse owners and trainers will be required to sign and abide by the USEF Code of Conduct with entry to the Championships.
  - All athletes, horse owners, and trainers are required to follow the USEF Safe Sport Policy, which includes the USEF Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies.
  - USEF is not responsible for any late, lost, delayed, misdirected, or stolen correspondence either electronic, postal, commercially shipped, or voice activated. It is the athlete's responsibility to ensure that all application, application fees, and qualifying competition scores have been received by published deadlines.

**CLEAN SPORT:**

- Equine Anti-Doping:** All horses/ponies shall be subject to drug and medication testing during qualifying and at the Championship and the horse must meet all Federation drug and medication rules. Blood and/or urine samples may be collected at any time during the competition. Samples collected from horses/ponies will be tested for the presence of all substances forbidden and/or controlled by USEF. Any horse/pony whose sample contains a prohibited substance or a restricted substance in a concentration greater than USEF limits shall be subject to sanctions in accordance with USEF Rules.
- Human Anti-Doping:** Athletes must adhere to all WADA, FEI, USEF and USADA protocols, policies and procedures. This includes participation in out of competition testing as required by WADA, FEI, USEF, and/or USADA rules, if applicable.

**VI. FORCE MAJEURE:** USEF reserves the right to cancel or relocate the Awards if its occurrence is prevented by weather conditions; changes in the management; insufficient entries; outbreaks or threatened outbreaks of equine illnesses; or any alterations of plans whether within or beyond the USEF's or management's control. USEF reserves the right to relocate the Awards should the Federation deem the facility and competition management did not adequately meet the standards set forth for hosting the Awards.

**REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:** The following documents are required to be properly executed as a condition of acceptance in the Event and are included as attachments:

- Application (Attachment A)
- USEF Code of Conduct (Attachment B)
- USEF Release, Assumption of Risk, Waiver and Indemnification (Attachment C)
- Horse Loan Agreement (Attachment D)

**FOR QUESTIONS CONCERNING THESE PROCEDURES PLEASE CONTACT:**

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**Director of Para Equestrian and Vaulting**  
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