



DRESSAGE CHAMPIONSHIP RULES

I. Dressage Awards

- Divisions are defined as Junior/Young Rider (Jr/YR), Open and Adult Amateur
- Applicants may only compete in one Division per competition season.
- A Horse of The Year award will be awarded one for each of the following divisions Training – First level; Second – Fourth level; FEI levels.
- Levels are defined as In-Hand, Musical Freestyle, Materiale, Young Horse Tests, Rider Tests and Intro through Grand Prix.
 - A. A Junior/Young Rider (Jr/YR) is anyone that has not reached his/her 22nd birthday by January 1st of the award year.
 - B. Adult Amateurs must have an US Equestrian Federation (USEF) Amateur card or sign a WDCTA amateur affidavit. The card or affidavit must be included with the entry. If you enter as an Amateur but do not include the necessary proof of amateur status, you will be entered in the Open division.
 - C. A champion and reserve champion will be named for each division at each level of competition -- Introductory through FEI.
 - D. Maiden awards are only open to those HORSES in their first year of showing at Introductory (Intro) Level through Grand Prix. Only one award will be given at each level for all divisions combined.
 - E. One Champion and one Reserve Champion Musical Freestyle award will be given for First through FEI levels combined.

II. In-Hand Sport Horse Breed Awards

- A. A young horse is filly, colt or gelding 3 years of age or younger.
- B. A mature horse is a mare or stallion 4 years of age or older.
- C. Amateur Handler Award
- D. A Champion and Reserve Champion will be named for Young Horse Filly, Young Horse Colt/Gelding, Amateur Handler, Mature Horse Mare and Mature Horse Stallion.

III. Registration and Eligibility

- A. The rider and owner of the horse must be members in good standing of WDCTA at the time scores are earned.
- B. For in-hand classes, the handler does not need to be a WDCTA member, nor is it necessary to have the same handler for each class in order to qualify for year-end awards.
- C. A horse and rider combination may win an award or championship at any given level more than once. For In-hand Sport Horse Awards, Mature Horse (Mare/Stallion) may win more than once.
- D. Championship registration for each horse and rider combination must be postmarked at least 1 day prior to the first show from which they plan to submit scores.
- E. A fee of \$25.00 for each level must be paid for each horse and rider combination to be eligible for championships. If competing for a Maiden award at any level, an additional fee of \$25 must be paid. Only one award is given for all divisions at that level for maiden even if there are two riders competing the horse. There is no fee for the Horse of The Year award. (Note: if entering via PayPal, there is an additional cost.
- F. The Awards Chair must be notified in writing and fees paid if adding a level later in the year and prior to scores earned at that additional level.
- G. All registrations are for the show year December 1 through November 30.
- H. Registration is not necessary for the Horse of The Year award. Winning horses will be chosen from the eligible entries. To qualify for the Horse of The Year award, **ALL SCORES MUST BE EARNED AT USDF/USEF-RECOGNIZED SHOWS.**

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IV. Qualification for Dressage Championships

- A. The horse/rider combination must have three qualifying scores from three different judges from two different shows. At least two of the qualifying scores submitted must come from USEF/USDF-recognized competitions. Only one may be from a schooling show. Remember, scores from “L” candidates and “r” judges are accepted through 2nd level. Scores from “R” judges are accepted through 4th level, and scores from “S” judges are accepted through Grand Prix.
- B. Scores must be: minimum of 60% at Intro through 4th level and minimum of 58% at PSG and above.
- C. Scores must be from USEF, FEI or USDF tests. The scores will be averaged.
- D. Scores must be earned at USEF/USDF-recognized shows, open to all breeds. At least one qualifying score submitted must be from a USEF/USDF-recognized show held in Wisconsin. One test score must be from the highest test for the level (e.g. Training Level Test 4).
- E. Scores for the Maiden award may be from any test for the level.
- F. If scores from a Regional Championship class are submitted, where more than one judge scored the ride, all scores must be averaged and will count as only one score.
- G. Scores from Junior or Young Rider Team Tests will be accepted as long as the Team Test exactly matches the level test for which the Team Test is being submitted.
- H. When a clinic is run in conjunction with a schooling show, using the show's judge as the clinician, the show must be held BEFORE the clinic in order for the rider's scores to qualify for year-end awards.
- I. The rider must send to the Awards Chair either the horse's USDF Score Sheet with their three chosen scores highlighted or a “GOOD QUALITY” photocopy of the original test for each qualifying score. Photocopy must clearly state the show name, horse and rider, class, date, judge, score and judges signature. Photocopy does not have to include individual movement scores and comments.
- J. Scores must be postmarked on or before November 30. Scores may be submitted via email; a reply will be sent indicating your results were received. Scores may also be sent through the U.S. Postal Service. If you want notification that the awards chair received your scores when sent through the postal service, please include a self-addressed, stamped postcard with your score sheets.
- K. For the Horse of the Year award, all of the above qualifications must be met, PLUS ALL SCORES MUST BE EARNED AT USDF/USEF-RECOGNIZED SHOWS.

V. Qualification For In Hand Sport Horse and Amateur Handler Championships

- A. The horse/handler must have two qualifying scores from two different judges, at two different shows. Both judges must have an USEF Sport Horse Judge license.
- B. Scores must be earned from USEF/USDF-recognized shows, open to all breeds. At least one qualifying score submitted must be from a USEF/USDF-recognized show held in Wisconsin.
- C. Scores may be from Sport Horse Prospect In-Hand classes and/or Breeding stock In-Hand classes. Scores will be averaged.
- D. The owner must send to the Awards Chair either the horse's USEF/USDF Score Sheet with their two chosen scores highlighted or a good quality photocopy of the original score sheet for each qualifying score. Photocopy must clearly state show name, horse and rider, class, date, judge, score and judge's signature. Photocopy does not have to include individual movement scores and comments.
- E. **Postmark must be on or before November 30.** Email will also be accepted.
- F. Send self-addressed stamped postcard with score sheets; Awards Chair will return postcard when results are received. This will be the only notification that results were received.

NOTE: No refunds after the awards application and payment are submitted.

Show managers: *If you want your show listed on the WDCTA website and in its monthly newsletter, please send your show information (date, name of show, show location, judge's name, show secretary's name and contact information) to newsletter@wdcta.org.*