



**2020–2021 Dressage Addendum**  
to the  
**Rules and Regulations of Membership**  
As of April 23, 2020

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## **DRESSAGE ADDENDUM**

### **Rule 1000: General**

A. This addendum shall provide rules and guidelines to accompany the current IEA Rules and Regulations in relation to the Dressage Discipline. Any reference in this addendum relating to a Rule will be referring to the *2020-2021 IEA Rules and Regulations*.

B. Rules and Guidelines for the Dressage Discipline shall be governed by the 2020-2021 IEA Rules and Regulations with the exception of guidelines listed within this addendum

C. The 2020-2021 IEA Rules and Regulations shall take precedence over all other rules and regulations of other similarly situated organizations. However, if a topic is not covered by the 2020-2021 IEA Rules and Regulations, first the rules and regulations of the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association [“IHSA”] and then, if not resolved, the United States Equestrian Federation, Inc. [“USEF”], United States Dressage Federation (USDF), and the Intercollegiate Dressage Association (IDA) may be used as a reference for guidance in making an equitable decision under the circumstances.

### **Rule 2000: Membership**

A. Previous year participation in the Dressage Pilot Program will require hosting or co-hosting a competition in accordance with Rule 2302.

B. Dressage teams shall be placed in a single zone with multiple regions. The list of dressage regions, and the states which comprise each region may be found in the Dressage Zone Guidelines posted online:

<https://www.rideiea.org/dressage/>

### **Rule 3000: Disciplines, Classes and Tests: Rider Placement and Eligibility**

A. Dressage is a discipline offered by the IEA in addition to hunt seat and western.

B. Recognized Competitions: In addition to those associations listed in the 2019-2020 IEA Rules and Regulations: United States Pony Clubs, Inc. (USPC), and the International Federation for Equestrian Sports (FEI).

C. Initial placement of Dressage riders must be based upon the class descriptions in Rule 3.J. of the IEA Dressage Addendum.

D. All initial placements in each division must be within the same class eligibility level. Competing on two different levels is permitted only when a rider points-out in the Dressage Seat Equitation Class.

E. Riders without experience performing a dressage test should be assessed according to their ability to perform flatwork tests, as listed in Rule 3.L.

F. Crossover Riders: Open or Intermediate riders may not be placed lower than Novice in any crossover division. Once initially placed, riders will progress independently in each discipline per advancement criteria outlined in section 3200 of the IEA Rulebook with particular attention to Rule 3201.5.

~~Riders competing in multiple disciplines can be placed one division lower in their crossover division than their primary discipline placement. Returning Open or Intermediate hunt seat and western riders should be placed no lower than the Novice Dressage Seat Equitation division.~~

G. Riders crossing over into the hunt seat or western division should have a minimum of one-year of professional instruction over fences or reining before competing in an Open or Intermediate level division.

H. Riders who advance in the Dressage Test class through voluntary advancement, two-year participation, pointing out, or qualifying for Nationals must also advance in the Dressage Seat Equitation class.

I. Riders may not show in more than five (5) regular season point shows per class per year.

### **J. Dressage Discipline Class Descriptions**

**Upper School Class Descriptions - Varsity and Junior Varsity**

**Class 1. Varsity Open Dressage Test**

**Test: IEA Open Rider Test**

Open to riders in grades 9-12 who are not other eligible for the Varsity Intermediate, or lower, divisions. Riders must be able to walk, trot, canter & halt in a group class. These riders should be capable of performing Dressage Seat Equitation Tests 1-14.

**Class 2. Varsity Open Dressage Seat Equitation**

Open to riders in grades 9-12. Riders must be able to walk, trot, canter & halt in a group class. These riders should be capable of performing Dressage Seat Equitation Tests 1-14.

**Class 3. Varsity Intermediate Dressage Test**

**Test: IEA Intermediate Rider Test**

Open to riders in grades 9-12. This division is open to all riders who have not competed in a recognized or schooling dressage competition at Second level or higher. Riders must be able to walk, trot, canter & halt in a group class. Riders may not have competed in the FEI 5 year old test or above. Riders may not have been rated B or higher by the United States Pony Clubs, Inc. Riders who have won 10 or more blue ribbons in jumping events at 3'3" or higher must be placed in the Open Varsity Division. These riders should be capable of performing Dressage Seat Equitation Tests 1-11.

**Class 4. Varsity Intermediate Dressage Seat Equitation**

Open to riders in grades 9-12. Riders must be able to walk, trot, canter & halt in a group class. These riders should be capable of performing Dressage Seat Equitation Tests 1-11.

**Class 5. JV Novice Dressage Test**

**Test: IEA Novice Rider Test**

Open to riders in grades 9-12. This division is open to all riders who have not competed in 6 or more first level tests or competed at a level higher than first level in any recognized or schooling dressage competition guidelines on equivalent FEI and foreign federation tests. Riders may not have competed in the FEI 4 year old test or above. Riders may not have been rated C+, C-3 or higher by the United States Pony Clubs, Inc. Riders must be able to walk, trot, canter & halt in a group class. These riders should be capable of performing Dressage Seat Equitation Tests 1-7.

**Class 6. JV Novice Dressage Seat Equitation**

Open to riders in grades 9-12. Riders must be able to walk, trot, canter & halt in a group class. These riders should be capable of performing Dressage Seat Equitation Tests 1-7.

**Class 7. JV Beginner Dressage Seat Equitation - Walk/Trot/Canter**

Open to riders in grades 9-12. This division is open to any rider that has not competed in 6 training level test or competed at a level higher than training, in any recognized or schooling dressage competition; including those recognized by USDF, USEF or USEA. Riders may not have been rated C-2 or above by the United States Pony Clubs, Inc. Riders must be experienced enough to canter on an unfamiliar animal in a group. To be eligible for Class 7, a rider must have had at least one year continuous professional instruction, must demonstrate proficiency at the trot and canter, and be capable of competing on a variety of unfamiliar horses. These riders should be capable of performing Dressage Seat Equitation Tests 1-6. **Riders may not enter cross-enter into class Class 8 Walk/Trot.**

**Class 8. JV Beginner Dressage Seat Equitation - Walk/Trot**

Open to riders in grades 9-12 who meet the criteria for Class 7 but are not yet ready to compete on an unfamiliar horse at the canter. **To be eligible for Class 8, riders must have at least six months continuous professional instruction, must demonstrate proficiency at a trot, and must be capable of competing on a variety of unfamiliar horses.** These riders should be capable of performing Dressage Seat Equitation Tests 1-5. Individual points will be tracked in Class 8 Walk/Trot for post season qualification. No team points will be awarded in Class 8 Walk/Trot during regular or post season shows. **Riders may not cross-enter Class 7 Walk/Trot/Canter.**

**Middle School Class Descriptions - Future**

**Class 9. Future Intermediate Dressage Test**

**Test: IEA Intermediate Rider Test**

Open to riders in grades 4 - 8. This division is open to all riders who have not competed in a recognized or schooling dressage competition at Second level or higher. Riders may not have competed in the FEI 5 year old test or above. Riders may not have been rated B or higher by the United States Pony Clubs, Inc. Riders must be able to walk, trot, canter & halt in a group class. These riders should be capable of performing Dressage Seat Equitation Tests 1-11.

**Class 10. Future Intermediate Dressage Seat Equitation**

Open to riders in grades 4 - 8. Riders must be able to walk, trot, canter & halt in a group class. These riders should be capable of performing Dressage Seat Equitation Tests 1-11.

**Class 11 - Future Novice Dressage Test**

**Test: IEA Novice Rider Test**

Open to riders in grades 4 - 8. This division is open to all riders who have not competed in 6 or more first level tests or competed at a level higher than first level in any recognized or schooling dressage competition (guidelines on equivalent FEI and foreign federation tests are in the appendix of the rules). Riders may not have competed in the FEI 4 year old test or above. Riders may not have been rated C+, C-3 or higher by the United States Pony Clubs, Inc. Riders must be able to walk, trot, canter & halt in a group class. These riders should be capable of performing Dressage Seat Equitation Tests 1-7.

**Class 12. Future Novice Dressage Seat Equitation**

Open to riders in grades 4 - 8. Riders must be able to walk, trot, canter & halt in a group class. These riders should be capable of performing Dressage Seat Equitation Tests 1-7.

**Class 13. Future Beginner Dressage Seat Equitation - Walk/Trot/Canter**

Open to riders in grades 4 - 8 who meet the eligibility requirements for Class 7. These riders should be capable of performing Dressage Seat Equitation Tests 1-6. **Riders may not cross enter into Class 14 Walk/Trot.**

**Class 14. Future Beginner Dressage Seat Equitation - Walk/Trot**

Open to riders in grades 4 - 8 who meet the criteria for Class 8. **To be eligible for Class 14, riders must have at least six months continuous professional instruction, must demonstrate proficiency at a trot, and must be capable of competing on a variety of unfamiliar horses.** These riders should be capable of performing Dressage Seat Equitation Tests 1-5. Individual points will be tracked in Class 14 Walk/Trot for post season qualification. No team points will be awarded in Class 14 Walk/Trot during regular or post season shows. **Riders may not cross-enter Class 13 Walk/Trot/Canter.**

**K. Champion Dressage Award**

This is an award issued to the high point rider based on the highest test score earned in the Individual Varsity Open Dressage Test class. In case of a tie, the judge(s) may require a ride off, the type of which to be determined by each judge.

**L. Dressage Rider Tests for DSE Classes and Class Placement**

A rider must be prepared to perform the tests appropriate for the Dressage Seat Equitation class in which the rider is participating. Riders may be requested to perform the following tests collectively or individually during a show or competition. A dressage judge may choose from the following list, using tests 1 - 5 for the Beginner Walk/Trot classes, 1 - 6 for the Beginner Walk/Trot/Canter classes, 1 - 7 for the Novice classes, 1 - 11 for the Intermediate classes and 1 - 14 for the Open classes.

1. Ask an appropriate horsemanship question that is tailored to the ability level.
2. Halt
3. Transitions using the walk, rising trot and canter
4. 20m circles
5. Change horses
6. Ride without stirrups at the trot
7. Figure eight or serpentine at the trot demonstrating change of diagonals
8. Ride without stirrups at the canter
9. Figure eight at the canter demonstrating changes of lead through the trot
10. Lengthening at the trot
11. Sitting Trot
12. Lengthening at the canter
13. 10m circles at the trot
14. 15m circles at the canter

**Rule 4000: Regular Season Competitions: Requirements, Procedures and Responsibilities**

A. Only classes listed in Rule 3.L. are covered by this addendum and must comply with the IEA rules, regulations, and required event insurance requirement. IEA is not responsible and will not accept liability for any non-IEA sanctioned classes.

**B. Tie Breaker Rules**

Team Competition: At all competitions, including post-season, for all placings, team ties shall be broken in the following manner:

1. Total number of first (1st) place finishes, then by total number of second (2nd) place finishes, then by total number of third (3rd) place finishes, then by total number of fourth (4th) place finishes, then by total number of fifth (5th) place finishes.
2. If a tie still exists, then it shall be broken by using the HIGHEST FINAL DRESSAGE TEST SCORE earned by a point rider representing the team in question. 3.
3. If a tie still cannot be determined, then it will be decided by a coin toss.

Individual Dressage Test Competition: At all competitions, including post-season, individual ties in the Dressage Test classes will be determined by using the four Collective Marks listed on the IEA Rider Tests in the order they are presented.:

1. Begin by first comparing the *Rider's Position* mark;
2. If there is still a tie, compare the *Rider's Correct and Effective use of the Aids* mark;
3. Then through each of the four collective mark scores in order;
4. If a tie still exists, cannot be determined, then it will be decided by a coin toss. then it will be broken by total number of highest individual movement scores Ex: total number of 10s, 9s, 8s, 7s etc through the test.

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- If a tie can still not be broken in an **individual class**, the riders will remain tied in points / title / qualification.
- If a tie can still not be broken in a **team class**, the tie remains and points will be awarded to both riders.
- In both individual and team classes, if a tie remains after steps 1-3 are completed, a coin toss will be used to determine who retains what prizes. The winner of the toss takes all prizes for the higher level, and the other rider gets the prizes designated for the next lower award level. When riders remain tied, the next placing skips a spot and then resumes. (e.g., Tie for 2nd cant' be broken. Riders remain tied so no one is placed 3rd. The next placing awarded is 4th)

Dressage Test score reporting sheets must be posted before class placings are announced. Any ties that are broken must be listed in the comment section.

### C. Arena Requirements

1. The arena intended for riders to perform a test will be either a small arena: 20 meters x 40 meters or a large arena: 20 meters x 60 meters, and contain all necessary letter markers.
2. The boundary of the arena shall be no lower than .3 meters (approx 12 inches) and shall be fully enclosed except with the entrance at A. The boundary shall not be comprised of unbreakable materials to eliminate the chance the horse will become entangled. If the arena being used has a permanent boundary (outside arena fencing or indoor walls) that meet arena size requirements than no boundary is necessary.
3. Show hosts that anticipate having an issue providing a large or small arena for competition should contact the Zone Administrator for discussion. If the size of the arena is called into question the day of the competition, Show Steward discretion is acceptable.
4. **DSE classes may run in a dressage arena or in a larger arena with the letters placed on the rail.**

D. Schooling - Dressage horses may be schooled in the manner that best prepares them for the class

E. Dressage Seat Equitation classes must be split at twelve (12) riders.

F. Dressage Test classes may be split at twelve (12) riders.

### G. Rider Warm-Up

Riders participating in Dressage Test classes will be allowed a minimum of a two (2) minute warm-up prior to the bell, either in the show square, or in a designated warm up area. Show hosts may expand this time as long as each rider is allowed the same amount of time for warm-up.

H. Dressage Test participants may use a reader during their test during the regular season. Readers are not allowed in post-season competitions.

### I. Tack and Aids

1. **Dressage saddles are required for all Open, Intermediate, and Novice classes. All Purpose saddles may be used for Beginner classes. Close contact saddles are not permitted. If the type of saddle comes into question, the final decision is at the discretion of the Show Steward. Dressage saddles are preferred, but all-purpose saddles are acceptable.**
2. A plain snaffle bridle with a regular cavesson, a dropped noseband or a flash noseband is required.
3. Bits must comply with the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) Rulebook for Second Level and below.
4. Martingales are not permitted.

### J. Whip and Spurs

1. Spurs are not permitted in Beginner Divisions.
2. Spurs may be no longer than 1 inch, must be blunt/smooth and provided by the horse provider.
3. The whip **including the lash** may be no longer than **120cm (47.2 inches)** ~~76 cm (approx. 30 inches)~~. When a horse provider deems a whip longer than **47.2 inches** ~~30 inches~~ should be used on a particular mount, the horse provider must supply that whip for the competition and note it within the horse description.
4. Adjustable whips are not permitted at any time.

### K. Dress and Headgear – Proper Show Attire

1. It is the tradition of the show ring that riders are correctly attired for the class in question and horses properly presented. Show management may, at its discretion, bar any entry or person from entering the ring if not suitably presented to appear before an audience and must bar riders without protective headgear.

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2. At all times while mounted, riders in all classes must wear a harnessed and fully fastened protective ASTM/SEI approved safety helmet for equestrian use. The IEA will follow the guidelines of USEF in the matter of what constitutes a safety helmet. Riders whose headgear becomes lost or unfastened while in the show ring will be disqualified and immediately excused from the ring. Helmets and chin straps must be fitted properly according to manufacturer's instructions.
3. Dressage Attire - It is mandatory for all riders to use appropriate Dressage tack and Dressage attire while showing. This would include a short coat with tie, choker, stock tie or stand-up collar, white or tan breeches/jodhpurs, boots, a safety helmet compliant with Rule 4508.2.

### **Rule 5000: Prize List, Entry Blank, Entry Fees and Program**

#### A. Entry fees

1. Regular Season - Dressage seat equitation classes will be \$40 each. Dressage test classes will be \$50.
2. Post-Season - Dressage seat equitation classes will be \$50 each. Dressage test classes will be \$60

### **Rule 6000: Officials, Judges and Stewards**

#### A. Judge

To officiate an IEA dressage competition, the judge must be USDF licensed ("L" is permitted) or USEF registered "r" or recorded "R" in dressage.

Post season judges must be USDF (excluding "L") or USEF ("r" or "R" Dressage)

USDF "L" judges are also permitted.

#### B. Steward

In addition to qualifications listed in the IEA Rules and Regulations, IDA member coach or IDA Board Member, in good standing, who is not otherwise participating in the competition may steward an IEA dressage competition.

### **Rule 7000: Judging Requirements**

A. In dressage seat equitation classes, only the rider is being judged, therefore, no penalty should be assessed because of the horse's conformation, color or way of going.

B. Judges should not feel it necessary to test

C. Riders will be judged on seat, hands, ability to control and show horse.

D. Results as shown by performance of the horse are NOT necessarily to be considered more important than the method used by the rider in obtaining them.

E. A rider must be prepared to perform the tests appropriate for the class in which the rider is participating.

#### F. Dressage Discipline – Hands and Seat

1. The rider should be well-balanced, elastic, sitting deep in the center of the saddle, smoothly absorbing the movement of the horse with his loins and hips, supple thighs with the legs steady and stretched well down.
2. The heels should be the lowest point.
3. The upper part of the body should be tall and supple. The contact should be independent from the rider's seat. The hands should be carried steadily close together, with the thumb as the highest point and a straight line from the supple elbow through the hand to the horse's mouth. The elbows should be close to the body.

#### G. Dressage Class Routine

##### 1. Dressage Test

- a. Rider may enter the arena upon the final salute of the previous competitor.
- b. Rider may warm up for a minimum of one minute or upon the bell for their round.
- c. Rider enters center line at A, halting at X to begin test.
- d. At final salute, rider will walk up center line towards C and may stop and talk with the judge.

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2. Dressage Seat Equitation
  - a. Riders must enter the ring collectively on the rail and show collectively at all required gaits in both directions prior to any individual testing.
  - b. Riders must be judged at the medium walk, working trot (sitting and rising), and working canter in both directions (except for W/T classes).
  - c. A judge may, *but is not required*, to choose to request that all riders perform movements listed below on the rail as a group:
    - i. Free walk
    - ii. Transitions from one gait to the next in both direction
    - iii. Transitions from walk to halt and vice versa
    - iv. Change of direction across the diagonal, down the centerline, across the arena, and/or by making a half circle.
    - v. Half-circle at the walk or trot
3. Following required rail work, a judge may, *but is not required*, to also choose to do additional testing to be ridden in small groups or independently using the appropriate tests listed in Rule 3.N: Dressage Seat Equitation Rider Tests.
4. Post Season

DSE classes will choose from the USEF Dressage Seat Equitation Individual Workouts Easy and Short 1-4 for each class. Chosen Workouts will be published in each prize list.

### **Rule 8000: Points, Scoring and Post Season Qualification**

- A. Riders must have participated in a minimum of two (2) regular season point shows in their assigned class(es) if they are to be designated as a point rider in said class(es) for their team in post season competitions.
- B. Points
  1. Teams qualify for Regional Finals by accumulating twenty (20) points during the competition year.
  2. Riders will qualify for Region Finals by accumulating a minimum of fifteen (15) points in that class during the competition year.
- C. See annual Zone Requirements and Split Guidelines on the IEA website for post season allotments. All post season allotments that are based upon membership population will use statistics as of December 1st of the current season. See 2019 – 2020 Dressage Split Guidelines for Dressage National Finals allotments.