



2020–2021 Extraordinary Exceptions

Addendum to the
Rules and Regulations of Membership
Revised March 19, 2021

MEMBERSHIP OFFICE
607 North Ave., Door 18 2nd Floor, Wakefield, MA 01880

BUSINESS OFFICE:
P.O. BOX 809, CHAGRIN FALLS, OH 44022

TOLL FREE IEA TELEPHONE NO.: 1-877-RIDEIEA (1-877-743-3432)

WEBSITE ADDRESS: WWW.RIDEIEA.ORG

Due to the extraordinary situations created by the COVID-19 virus concerns, the IEA Board of Directors has made several exceptions to the IEA Rulebook that will be allowed in the 2020-21 IEA Competition Season. These temporary, one-year exceptions to the IEA Rulebook are noted within this Addendum.

1. OPTIONAL EARLY START TO 2020-21 COMPETITION SEASON: AUGUST 1, 2020

It is with utmost optimism that an early start to the 2020-21 competition season has been approved. Given the abrupt end to the 2019-20 show season and members who are eager to be active as soon as possible, membership will open in early May and regular competitions may begin August 1, 2020, as long as events are in compliance with mandates and restrictions relating to COVID-19 at the local, state and national levels. Adjustments to ensure the safety of participants and spectators at IEA competitions are expected and may include changes to time schedules and spectator attendance. Given ongoing restrictions due to COVID-19, the ability to host more competitions during the “outdoor season” is a good option this year in many areas of the country.

Event hosts applying for early competition dates in August must meet the following criteria:

- Plan in May and June for shows taking place in August
- Secure at least two other teams who are willing to attend on the proposed show date to guarantee the competition will occur with a minimum of three teams (rule 4303)
- Gain show date approval from the Zone Administrator (*rule 4204.11*)
- Submit a Show Hosting Application (noting any co-hosts) and Prize-list to the IEA Membership Office not less than forty-five (45) days before the proposed show date (*rule 4204.11*)
- Submit an Equisure Event Insurance application along with the Show Hosting Application (*rules 2302.11 and 4204.12*)
- Complete coach, team, and individual membership applications in a timely manner (*rule section 2300*)

2. EXCEPTIONS TO ADVANCEMENT RULES FOR 2020-21

For the 2020-21 competition season, the following mandatory advancement rules will be waived:

- **Rule 3205.1** - *Riders may not compete in the same division for more than two (2) show seasons.*
- **Rule 3205.2** - *If a rider accumulates twenty-two (22) points in a class in regular season competitions in any single competition year, that rider points out and must, during the next competition year, move up at least one division in order to be eligible to ride in any IEA show.*
- **Rule 3205.4** - *Any rider who has qualified or shown as an individual rider in a given class in their division for the previous season's National Finals must advance to the next class the following season. Riders selected to compete in team classes at the National Finals who do not meet any of the other advancement criteria are not required to advance to the next division the following season.*

Riders who competed in a division for two years, pointed out by earning 22 points, or qualified for National Finals have the option to advance to the next level or remain at the same level at which they competed during the 2019-20 season.

NOTE: Rules 3201.2 and 3201.5 relating to a rider's outside experience still apply in 2020-21.

- **Rule 3201.2** - *The rider's total riding experience, not just riding experience with IEA shows, must be considered for class designations as per Rule 3000.*
- **Rule 3201.5** - *Along with the mandatory advancement rules, riders must be evaluated each year according to class description levels prior to submitting membership application.*

Riders will be required to advance based on outside experience as it relates to class descriptions.

3. SECOND YEAR SENIOR GUIDELINES

Two of IEA's major purposes are to prepare students for collegiate riding and to provide exposure and opportunity to equine athletics. Given the far-reaching effects of the COVID-19 virus and related shutdowns, economic hardships, and constraints on current and future equestrian pursuits, the IEA will offer additional opportunities for 2019-2020 12th graders.

The IEA is hopeful that most 2020 graduates will be able to pursue expectations of attending their chosen colleges and participating on their respective collegiate equestrian teams. However, for 2020 graduates who become restricted in those opportunities, the IEA will allow an additional year of participation with the following guidelines:

- The IEA rider may not be a registered member of a collegiate equestrian team of any type or discipline. A rider may not compete concurrently on an IEA team and a collegiate equestrian team (Rule 2304.3).
- The Coach of a 2020 graduate interested in a second-year senior experience must file a petition with the Zone Ethics Committee to request the rider be allowed to re-join as a 2020-21 IEA team member. The petition form and note should be sent to national.steward@rideiea.org. The petition form can be found on the IEA website in the Library section under Forms or direct link: https://www.rideiea.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/IEA-Petition_Protest-Form-rev.-10.22.19.pdf
- If deemed eligible for participation during the 2020-21 competition season, the rider returning to his/her 2019-20 team will be considered a full IEA member with the ability to accrue individual and team points during regular and post season shows. A rider deemed eligible for participation on a team different than his/her 2019-20 team will be allowed to accrue individual points but will not be eligible to be designated as a team point rider during regular or post season shows. A rider deemed eligible for participation who was not a 2019-20 member will be allowed to join and accrue individual points but will not be eligible to be designated as a team point rider during regular or post season shows.
- Second-year seniors may only compete with their designated IEA team and assigned coach(es). Second-year seniors may not attend competitions using a proxy coach.
- Second-year seniors must be eligible to compete as amateurs or non-pros as defined by USEF, USDA, AQHA, or NRHA.
- If at any point during the academic year a second-year senior's status changes (no longer eligible to compete as an amateur/non-pro or joins a college equestrian team by registering with IHSA, IDA, NCEA, or ANRC), they automatically become ineligible for future participation in IEA. The IEA coach must immediately notify the IEA Membership Office to remove the rider from the team roster. The rider may not compete in any remaining regular season shows nor return to participate in post season competitions.

Violations of the second-year senior guidelines will be reviewed by the Zone Ethics Committee and might result in forfeiture of individual and/or team points per rules 8106.8 and 9502#5.

4. AMENDMENTS TO SHOW HOSTING RULES FOR 2020-21

Event hosts will be expected to follow mandates and restrictions relating to COVID-19 in place at the local, state and national levels when planning and running IEA competitions, and those mandates supersede any IEA rules, guidelines, or suggested protocol. Knowing smaller events will be necessary to ensure safety of participants and spectators through implementation of social distancing and COVID-19 related procedural changes, IEA made COVID-19 amendments to the following show hosting rules:

- **Rule 4106** ~~In zones that are NOT split into regions, the EHC must be prepared to accommodate at least~~ For the 2020-21 competition season, it is recommended that the EHC accommodate a maximum of twelve (12) riders from within the Region in each class offered. ~~In zones that ARE split into regions, the EHC must guarantee at least one entry per class to every team within their region entering before the priority closing date.~~ (See Rule 5313)
- **Rule 4204.5** For the 2020-21 competition season, a competition day cannot exceed **175 rides**. This number applies whether running a single show day or an AM/PM show day. ~~200 rides without prior approval of the Zone Administrator. The intended size of the show(s) should be included in the show hosting application(s). Additional rides must be approved by the Zone Administrator no later than the closing date of the event (s).~~

All other rules relating to show operations as defined in section 4100 Competitions and Shows - Applicability of IEA Rules and section 4200 Event Host Coordinator (EHC) still apply.

5. AMENDMENTS TO SHOW ENTRY RULES FOR 2020-21

Restricting teams from extensive travel to other regions and limiting the number of rides allowed in a show day, will allow EHCs to effectively incorporate social distancing and COVID-19 protocols that reduce chances of exposure or spread of COVID-19. To help ensure safety of participants and spectators, IEA has added COVID-19 amendments to the following rules related to show entries for the 20-21 season:

- **Rule 2803.8** For the 2020-21 competition season, teams hosting shows **MUST limit all entries only to their region**, unless otherwise approved by their Zone Administrator. ~~or may include a priority entry period for their region.~~
- **Rule 5302** After the initial deadline date, entries may be opened to members from other regions and zones if space permits. For the 2020-21 competition season, rule 5302 only applies if an exception to open entries to other regions has been approved by the Zone Administrator. (See rule 2803.8.)
- **Rule 5313** The EHC may limit the number of entries so long as it is done in a fair and equitable manner, and does not require entrants to supply horses for the event. (See Rule 4106.) **The manner in which entries will be limited must be stated in the prize list.**

For the 2020-21 Competition Season Options of Fair and Equitable Entry Include:

- Accepting one (1) rider per class from every team within the Region, or
- Accepting entries on a first come first serve basis until all spots are filled, or
- Accepting entries by random draw of teams meeting the registration deadline, or
- Accepting twelve (12) riders per class so two sections of six (6) run for each class, or
- Accepting X number of performance rides (over fences, reining, or dressage tests) and Y number of flat rides (flat, dressage tests, or horsemanship) placed at any level from attending teams, or
- Accepting entries only from the host and co-host teams, or
- Accepting entries from teams defined in a prearranged calendar coordinated by the Region President, or
- Proposing an option for Fair and Equitable Entry not included here that is approved by the Zone Administrator

All other rules relating to show entries as defined in section 2803 Zone Requirements and Split Guidelines - General Rules for Dividing a Zone into Regions and section 5300 Entries still apply.

6. AMENDMENT TO JUDGE USE RULE FOR 2020-21

Because shows during the 2020-21 regular season will need to be smaller, a cost saving concession is to allow EHCs to hire the same individual to judge two shows occurring in the same day or two shows occurring over the same weekend. IEA is allowing the following COVID-19 rule amendment related to hiring judges:

- **Rule 6204** For the 2020-21 competition season, a person may judge only **one show managed by one weekend** for any particular EHC within the same competition season. If the EHC is running two

shows in one day (Show A and Show B) or two shows over one weekend (Saturday & Sunday), the same person may judge both shows. If the EHC is running four shows (Show A and Show B) on Saturday and Sunday) over one weekend, the same person may not judge both days.

- **Rule 6205** For the 2020-21 competition season, a licensed judge is permitted to judge up to three (3) regular IEA shows or two (2) A/B shows which equates to four (4) total shows during a competition season within each region or within a zone if not split. An unlicensed judge from the IEA-Approved Non-Rated Officials List is restricted to only judge two (2) regular season shows or one (1) A/B shows during a competition year within each region or within a zone if not split.

All other rules relating to the use of judges as defined in section 6200 Judges Qualifications still apply.

7. **ENFORCEMENT OF COVID-19 MANDATES**

Equestrian competitions are one of the few athletic offerings currently permitted. To ensure IEA shows may continue operating, all attendees share responsibility in being COVID-19 conscious and proactive in safeguarding themselves and others. Everyone taking part in an IEA show, including but not limited to, those working as paid staff members or volunteers, participating as coaches or riders, or attending as spectators **must** follow IEA COVID-19 MANDATES.

NEW RULE - IEA COVID-19 MANDATES

For the 2020-21 Competition Season all IEA shows and participants (show staff, volunteers, coaches, riders, and spectators) **must** adhere to the following IEA COVID-19 MANDATES:

IEA COVID-19 MANDATES

- Verification of personal temperature of less than 100.4 degrees before arriving on Show grounds.
- Regardless of temperature, do not attend the Event if feeling ill, showing any signs that could potentially be related to COVID-19, or if you have been in contact with anyone diagnosed or showing symptoms of COVID-19 within 10 days* of the event.
 - * *While the **ideal quarantine time is still considered to be 14 days, it is recognized that a shorter quarantine period may balance significant societal burdens against the progressively smaller possibility of spreading the virus over time after exposure. An individual may discontinue quarantine after Day 10 following close contact (exposure) without testing if no COVID-19 symptoms are present.***
- Face covering (Mask) **MUST BE WORN AT ALL TIMES** while attending an IEA show as a SPECTATOR, PARTICIPANT or OFFICIAL.
- Competitors must wear face coverings (masks) at all times except when mounted on a horse.
- If an individual needs a reasonable accommodation to the face covering (mask) requirement due to a verifiable disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act, a face shield should be worn. Any alternative accommodations to the face covering requirement must be confirmed by the membership office at least 48 hours before the event.
- Hands must be washed and/or sanitized upon arrival at Show grounds and frequently while in attendance. Attendees should bring a personal supply of hand sanitizer.
- Maintain Social-Distancing of at least 6 feet between non-family members.
- **Each rider is limited to bringing no more than one (1) attendant (guardian/spectator) per show.** Sibling riders are limited to one (1) shared attendant (guardian/spectator) per show. Depending on spacing and each show facility's policy, the attendant may or may not be permitted ringside to watch the rider compete.
- Advise the IEA membership office if any person is diagnosed with COVID-19 within 14 days of attending an IEA Event.
- National/State/Local Government and/or Health Department rules may differ from these IEA Guidelines/Rules. In ALL cases, the more restrictive regulations, recommendations, guidelines and requirements will prevail.

The Event Host Coordinator (EHC) is responsible for enforcing IEA COVID-19 MANDATES with special attention paid to Social-Distancing practices and face covering (Mask) requirements. The EHC must deny entry and/or order from the show grounds any individual(s) not willing to ascribe to these practices.

Along with IEA's COVID-19 MANDATES, the EHC must follow directives and restrictions relating to COVID-19 in place at the local, state and national levels when planning and running IEA competitions. National/State/Local Government and/or Health Department rules may differ from these IEA Guidelines/ Rules. In ALL cases, the more restrictive regulations, recommendations, guidelines and requirements will prevail.

Steps to follow if an INDIVIDUAL is not complying with IEA COVID-19 MANDATES:

- A first warning will be given by the EHC or Show Manager. The offending individual(s) will be reminded of IEA COVID-19 MANDATES and asked to comply or leave.
- A second warning will be given by the Show Steward and Show Manager together. If the offending individual(s) refuse to comply, he/she will be ordered to immediately leave the show grounds.
- The Show Steward must include in the Show Steward Report details of the incident noting the name(s) of the individual(s) refusing to comply with IEA COVID-19 MANDATES and/or ordered from the show grounds.
- The Zone Ethics Committee will review incidents related to noncompliance of IEA COVID-19 MANDATES. Penalties outlined in rules 9502 and 9603 which include but are not limited to fine, suspension, and/or expulsion from the organization will be assigned as appropriate.

Steps to follow if the SHOW is not operating within IEA COVID-19 MANDATES:

- A coach member or Show Steward may address the EHC/Show Manager with any concerns regarding noncompliance of IEA COVID-19 MANDATES relating to show operations. The EHC/Show Manager must make every reasonable attempt to correct the issue(s) as quickly as possible.
- The Show Steward may stop competition until the show is in compliance with IEA COVID-19 MANDATES.
- The Show Steward with permission from the Zone Administrator, IEA Membership Office, National Steward, or Executive Director may cancel a competition in progress for noncompliance of IEA COVID-19 MANDATES.
- The Show Steward must include in the Show Steward Report detailed information relating to show operational issues of noncompliance.
- The Zone Ethics Committee will review incidents related to noncompliance of IEA COVID-19 MANDATES. Penalties outlined in rules 9502 and 9603 which include but are not limited to fine, suspension, and/or expulsion from the organization will be assigned as appropriate.

8-HS. AMENDMENT TO HUNT SEAT POST SEASON QUALIFICATION

Should it become too challenging within a Region for riders to qualify for post season competition because classes regularly did not fill or should the regular show season be cut short due to complications related to COVID-19, alterations to post season participation might be required. To ensure opportunity for individual rider advancement to post season competition, the following rules have been amended:

8206.2 Riders in Hunt Seat Zones 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10 and 11 qualify for Regional Finals by accumulating a minimum of eighteen (18) points in that class during the competition year.

For the 2020-21 competition season if the number of Hunt Seat Regional Finals qualifiers in Zones 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, and 11 with eighteen (18) points or more in a given class is **less** than the number of Zone Finals spots allotted to the Region, the following steps will apply in this order:

1. Any rider(s) with eighteen (18) points or more will automatically advance to Zone Finals. (e.g. If two (2) spots are allotted to a Region and only two (2) riders earn eighteen (18) points or more, they both advance directly to Zone Finals.)
2. Any unassigned Zone Finals spots will be determined by inviting riders with the next highest point totals less than eighteen (18) to compete at Region Finals in an Invitational/Scrimmage Class. The number of invited competitors will not exceed six (6). (e.g. If two (2) spots are allotted to a Region and only one (1) rider earns eighteen (18) points, that individual advances directly to Zone Finals and the remaining spot is determined by inviting the next five (5) highest point earners along with the one (1) qualified rider to compete in an Invitational/Scrimmage Class at Regional Finals. The qualified rider and top placing rider from those invited to compete will advance to Zone Finals.)
3. Invitational/Scrimmage Classes are encouraged to ensure post season competition at every level. These classes will determine regional titles and fill any unassigned spots for Zone Finals that were not previously claimed by qualified riders per rule 8206.2. Invitational/Scrimmage Classes should also include any qualified rider(s) who earned a bye to Zone Finals (participation optional). A qualified rider

with a bye to Zone Finals who competes in an Invitational/Scrimmage Class will advance to Zone Finals regardless of participation or placing at Region Finals (rule 8205). **The number of unassigned spots for Zone Finals that will be awarded in each class to those invited to compete must be clearly stated in the prize list.**

4. Should there be a tie of riders with less than eighteen (18) points that exceeds the number to be invited to compete in an Invitational/Scrimmage Class, it shall be broken using the regular season placings by the 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... (rule 4510.1).

8206.3 Riders in Hunt Seat Zones 6-9 qualify for Regional or Zone Finals (in areas not split into regions), or National Finals (for instances in which a Zone Final individual competition is not needed) by accumulating a minimum of fifteen (15) points in that class during the competition year.

For the 2020-21 competition season if the number of Hunt Seat Regional Finals qualifiers in Zones 6-9 with fifteen (15) points or more in a given class is **less** than the number of Zone Finals spots allotted to the Region, the following steps will apply in this order:

1. Any rider(s) with fifteen (15) points or more will automatically advance to Zone Finals. (e.g. *If two (2) spots are allotted to a Region and only two (2) riders earn fifteen (15) points or more, they both advance directly to Zone Finals.*)
2. Any unassigned Zone Finals spots will be determined by inviting riders with the next highest point totals less than fifteen (15) to compete at Region Finals in an Invitational/Scrimmage Class. The number of invited competitors will not exceed six (6). (e.g. *If two (2) spots are allotted to a Region and only one (1) rider earns fifteen (15) points, that individual advances directly to Zone Finals and the remaining spot is determined by inviting the next five (5) highest point earners along with the one (1) qualified rider to compete in an Invitational/Scrimmage Class at Regional Finals. The qualified rider and top placing rider from those invited to compete will advance to Zone Finals.*)
3. Invitational/Scrimmage Classes are encouraged to ensure post season competition at every level. These classes will determine regional titles and fill any unassigned spots for Zone Finals that were not previously claimed by qualified riders per rule 8206.3. Invitational/Scrimmage Classes should also include any qualified rider(s) who earned a bye to Zone Finals (participation optional). A qualified rider with a bye to Zone Finals who competes in an Invitational/Scrimmage Class will advance to Zone Finals regardless of participation or placing at Region Finals (rule 8205). **The number of unassigned spots for Zone Finals that will be awarded in each class to those invited to compete must be clearly stated in the prize list.**
4. Should there be a tie of riders with less than eighteen (18) points that exceeds the number to be invited to compete in an Invitational/Scrimmage Class, it shall be broken using the regular season placings by the 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... (rule 4510.1).

Relating Rules

8206.2 Riders in Hunt Seat Zones 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10 and 11 qualify for Regional Finals by accumulating a minimum of eighteen (18) points in that class during the competition year.

8206.3 Riders in Hunt Seat Zones 6-9 qualify for Regional or Zone Finals (in areas not split into regions), or National Finals (for instances in which a Zone Final individual competition is not needed) by accumulating a minimum of fifteen (15) points in that class during the competition year.

8205 In cases when riders are given a bye to the next level of post season competition, Regions and Zones may offer scrimmage classes for those riders, but it must be clearly noted in the prize list and show program. If a rider receives a score of "0" or no score in a scrimmage class, they may still advance to the level for which they had already qualified.

4510.1 At all shows, including Zone and Regional Finals, for all placings, team ties shall be broken first by the total number of first (1st) place finishes, then by the total number of second (2nd) place finishes, then by the 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. If a tie still exists, then it shall be broken by the highest combined total of points from performance classes (hunt seat over fence, dressage test, or western reining). Designated team point rider scores are the only scores to be considered when breaking team placement ties.

8-W. AMENDMENT TO WESTERN POST SEASON QUALIFICATION

Should it become too challenging within a Region for riders to qualify for post season competition because classes regularly did not fill or should the regular show season be cut short due to complications related to COVID-19, alterations to post season participation might be required. To ensure opportunity for individual rider advancement to post season competition, the following rule has been amended:

8207.2 Western **riders** qualify for Regional Finals by accumulating a minimum of fifteen (15) points in that class during the completion year.

For the 2020-21 competition season if the number of Western Regional Finals qualifiers with fifteen (15) points or more in a given class is **less** than the number of National Finals spots allotted to the Region, the following steps will apply in this order:

1. Any rider(s) with fifteen (15) points or more will automatically advance to National Finals. *(e.g. If two (2) spots are allotted to a Region and only two (2) riders earn fifteen (15) points or more, they both advance directly to National Finals.)*
2. Any unassigned National Finals spots will be determined by **inviting** riders with the next highest point totals less than fifteen (15) to compete at Region Finals in an Invitational/Scrimmage Class. The number of **invited** competitors will not exceed six (6). *(e.g. If two (2) spots are allotted to a Region and only one (1) rider earns fifteen (15) points, that individual advances directly to National Finals and the remaining spot is determined by **inviting** the next five (5) highest point earners along with the one (1) qualified rider to compete in an Invitational/Scrimmage Class at Regional Finals. The qualified rider and top placing rider from those **invited** to compete will advance to National Finals.)*
3. Invitational/Scrimmage Classes are encouraged to ensure post season competition at every level. These classes will determine regional titles and fill any unassigned spots for National Finals that were not previously claimed by qualified riders per rule 8207.2. Invitational/Scrimmage Classes should also include any qualified rider(s) who earned a bye to National Finals (participation optional). A qualified rider with a bye to National Finals who competes in an Invitational/Scrimmage Class will advance to National Finals regardless of participation or placing at Region Finals (rule 8205). **The number of unassigned spots for National Finals that will be awarded in each class to those **invited** to compete must be clearly stated in the prize list.**
4. Should there be a tie of riders with less than fifteen (15) points that exceeds the number to be invited to compete in an Invitational/Scrimmage Class, it shall be broken using the regular season placings by the 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... (rule 4510.1).

Relating Rules

8207.2 Western **riders** qualify for Regional Finals by accumulating a minimum of fifteen (15) points in that class during the competition year.

8205 In cases when riders are given a bye to the next level of post season competition, Regions and Zones may offer scrimmage classes for those riders, but it must be clearly noted in the prize list and show program. If a rider receives a score of "0" or no score in a scrimmage class, they may still advance to the level for which they had already qualified.

4510.1 At all shows, including Zone and Regional Finals, for all placings, team ties shall be broken first by the total number of first (1st) place finishes, then by the total number of second (2nd) place finishes, then by the 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. If a tie still exists, then it shall be broken by the highest combined total of points from performance classes (hunt seat over fence, dressage test, or western reining). Designated team point rider scores are the only scores to be considered when breaking team placement ties.

8-D. AMENDMENT TO DRESSAGE POST SEASON QUALIFICATION

Should it become too challenging within a Region for riders to qualify for post season competition because classes regularly did not fill or should the regular show season be cut short due to complications

related to COVID-19, alterations to post season participation might be required. To ensure opportunity for individual rider advancement to post season competition, the following rule has been amended:

Dressage Addendum 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.

For the 2020-21 competition season if the number of Dressage Regional Finals qualifiers with fifteen (15) points or more in a given class is **less** than the one (1) National Finals spot allotted to the Region as defined in the Dressage Split Guidelines and National Allotments for 2020-2021, the following steps will apply in this order:

1. If only one rider in the Region earns fifteen (15) points or more, that rider will automatically advance to National Finals.
2. Any unassigned National Finals spot will be determined by inviting riders with the next highest point totals less than fifteen (15) to compete at Region Finals in an Invitational/Scrimmage Class. The number of invited competitors will not exceed six (6). *(e.g. No riders earn fifteen (15) points or more so the one (1) National Finals spot will be determined by inviting the six (6) highest point earners to compete in an Invitational/Scrimmage Class at Regional Finals. The first place finisher will advance to National Finals.*
3. Invitational/Scrimmage Classes are encouraged to ensure post season competition at every level. These classes will determine regional titles and fill any unassigned spots for National Finals that were not previously claimed by qualified riders per Dressage Addendum rule 8000-B. Invitational/Scrimmage Classes should also include any qualified rider(s) who earned a bye to National Finals (participation optional). A qualified rider with a bye to National Finals who competes in an Invitational/Scrimmage Class will advance to National Finals regardless of participation or placing at Region Finals (rule 8205). **The prize list must clearly state if the one (1) National Finals spot for that class has been claimed by a rider who earned fifteen (15) points during regular season competitions or will be awarded to the highest placing rider from those invited to compete.**
4. Should there be a tie of riders with less than fifteen (15) points that exceeds the number to be invited to compete in an Invitational/Scrimmage Class, it shall be broken using the regular season placings by the 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... (rule 4510.1).

Related Rules

Dressage Addendum 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.

8205 In cases when riders are given a bye to the next level of post season competition, Regions and Zones may offer scrimmage classes for those riders, but it must be clearly noted in the prize list and show program. If a rider receives a score of "0" or no score in a scrimmage class, they may still advance to the level for which they had already qualified.

4510.1 At all shows, including Zone and Regional Finals, for all placings, team ties shall be broken first by the total number of first (1st) place finishes, then by the total number of second (2nd) place finishes, then by the 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. If a tie still exists, then it shall be broken by the highest combined total of points from performance classes (hunt seat over fence, dressage test, or western reining). Designated team point rider scores are the only scores to be considered when breaking team placement tie.