

## 2011 RULES AND SPECIFICATIONS USEF DRESSAGE SEAT EQUITATION CLASSES

### USEF DR 132:

Dressage Seat Equitation classes may be offered for Juniors, Young Riders, Adult Amateurs and/or Open riders according to the following specifications:

Medium walk, working trot and canter both ways of the ring must be performed. The rider's position, seat and specifically the correct use and effect of the aids required by the Training and First Level Dressage tests are to be judged as outlined in DR117.1.

The movements shall be performed by the exhibitors simultaneously; however, the judge may ask for independent tests as listed below in DR 132.2.h(4) – 2.h(5).

No change of horses shall be required.

Whips and spurs are allowed. Horses shall be shown in a plain snaffle.

The size of a group shall be limited to no more than 25 riders. Groups may be divided into smaller sections, at the discretion of the judges, for safety and convenience. Judges may limit the number of horses required to canter at the same time, at their discretion.

Only the rider is judged, however, lameness of horses will be penalized per DR122.6.

Prizes are awarded to the rider, not the horse owner.

Back numbers must be provided to Equitation riders and they must be positioned to be clearly visible at all times.

Judges are required to give a final percentage score only for the riders placing in the class, plus two reserves, except when two or more judges officiate separately. When judges officiate separately, final percentage scores from each judge must be given to all riders competing in the class.

USEF Dressage Seat Equitation scoresheets must be used.

Juniors may not ride stallions in Dressage Seat Equitation classes.

In judging the position, seat and use of aids, judges may include the following movements and exercises as required at Training and First Level:

May be ridden as a group:

- 1 – Free walk
- 2 – Transitions from one gait to the next in both directions
- 3 – Transitions from walk to halt and vice versa
- 4 – Change of direction across the diagonal, down the centerline, across the arena, and/or by making a half-circle at the walk or trot.

Additional tests from which judges may choose movements and exercises, as required at Training and First Level, to be ridden in small groups or independently:

- 1 – Transitions
- 2 – Leg yield
- 3 – Changes of lead through trot
- 4 – Serpentine at the trot
- 5 – Shallow loop serpentine with counter canter
- 6 – Trot lengthening and/or canter lengthening
- 7 – Riding without stirrups

### **Judging Directives**

Judges are urged to become familiar with USEF DR117 and the "Guidelines for Judging Dressage Seat Equitation Classes" which describes the criteria for evaluating riders in these classes. In particular, the criteria for judging General Impression are as follows: overall correct design of position, relaxation and suppleness of the rider, unity with the horse (including following arms, depth of seat, etc.) lightness and correct application of aids, ability to maintain tempo and rhythm, and overall quality of performance.

Judges are encouraged to provide verbal comments to riders after the class, but scoresheets must not be posted.

The equitation judging guidelines may be obtained through the USEF Dressage Department.



Class:

## 2011 USEF DRESSAGE SEAT EQUITATION CLASS SCORE SHEET (NOT FOR USE IN DRESSAGE SEAT MEDAL SEMI-FINALS AND FINALS CLASSES)

**Purpose:** To evaluate the dressage rider's correct position, seat and use of aids. See back of score sheet for rules and additional specifications.

**Judges' Directives:** A final percentage score is required for ONLY those riders placing in the class, plus two reserves (i.e., if 6 ribbons are to be awarded in the class, the judge(s) are ONLY required to record a final score and placing for the top eight riders in the class.) **Preliminary scores/marks are NOT required.** Judges may use a numerical (0-10) or "plus/minus" scoring system, including decimals, to arrive at a final score, at their discretion.

**\*\*\*ONLY the "TOTAL SCORE" and "PLACE" columns are REQUIRED to be marked for all ribbon winners plus two reserves.\*\*\***

Rider No.	Walk (Notes)	Trot (Notes)	Canter (Notes)	Additional Tests (Notes)	Score (Percentage)	Place

Judge's Names \_\_\_\_\_ Judge's Signature \_\_\_\_\_