

# ADULT Pilot Program

Updated May 31, 2023



INTERSCHOLASTIC  
**EQUESTRIAN**  
ASSOCIATION

## RULE 1000: GENERAL

- A. The Adult Pilot Program will be a subsidiary of the Interscholastic Equestrian Association.
- B. This addendum shall provide rules and guidelines to accompany the current *IEA Rules and Regulations* in relation to the Adult Equestrian Association Pilot Program. Any reference in this addendum relating to a Rule will be referring to the *2023-2024 IEA Rules and Regulations*.
- C. Rules and Guidelines for the Adult Pilot Program shall be governed by the *2023-2024 IEA Rules and Regulations* with the exception of the guidelines listed in this addendum.
- D. The *2023-2024 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 *2023-2024 IEA Rules and Regulations*, first the rules and regulations of the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association ["IHSA"] and the Intercollegiate Dressage Association ["IDA"] shall be consulted. If not resolved, the rules and regulations of the appropriate national governing body may be used for the hunt seat and dressage disciplines and the American Quarter Horse Association ["AQHA"] and National Reining Horse Association ["NRHA"] may be used for the western discipline.

## RULE 2000: MEMBERSHIP

- A. Any person 21 years of age or older, and who is considered an amateur under the policies of their disciplines' governing body, may participate in the Adult Pilot Program. Hunt seat and dressage will follow the amateur rules of the national governing body; western will follow the amateur rules of AQHA.
- B. Participants must be an Adult Member of the IEA and be associated with a registered **returning** IEA team prior to participating in Adult Pilot Program competitions.
- C. Participants may not compete in any IEA / Adult Pilot Program show in which they are also the judge, steward or manager of the show in which they intend to compete.

## Rule 3000: DISCIPLINES, CLASSES AND TESTS: RIDER PLACEMENT AND ELIGIBILITY

- A. Participation in the 2023-2024 Adult Pilot Program will not affect rider placements in Adult Pilot Program classes in future seasons.

B. Riders should enter a class based on their own discretion, as well as the discretion of their coach. A rider may move up or down in class levels within the 2023-2024 season, pending their experience supports their eligibility. Note: No cross entry permitted within the same show for riders in Class 3.

### **C. Hunt Seat Discipline: Classes**

**AH1. Class 1. Equitation Over Fences** - Open to all eligible adult members who have had at least one year of continuous professional instruction over fences. This class will have two options to choose from for the height of the fences: 18" cross-rails or 2' verticals. Riders and coaches should choose the height of the fence based on the skills of the rider. The class will be judged together as one class at two fence heights over the same course/track unless it is split in accordance with Rule 4000.K in the *Adult Pilot Program Addendum*. Riders are expected to be proficient in Hunt Seat Rider Tests 1 through 10 (see Rule H3304). Riders may also participate in Class 2 - Equitation on the Flat Walk/Trot/Canter.

**AH2. Class 2. Equitation on the Flat Walk/Trot/Canter** – Open to all eligible adult members who have had at least one year of continuous professional instruction and who's coach feels they are capable of cantering on an unfamiliar horse. Riders are expected to be proficient in Hunt Seat Rider Tests 1 through 7 (see Rule H3304). Riders in this class may also participate in Class 1 - Equitation Over Fences, if otherwise eligible.

**AH3. Class 3. Equitation on the Flat Walk/Trot** - Open to all eligible adult members who have had at least six months of continuous professional instruction and who's coach feels they are capable of cantering on an unfamiliar horse, but are not yet ready to compete at the canter. Riders are expected to be proficient in Hunt Seat Rider Tests 1 through 5 (see Rule H3304). Riders may not cross enter in Class 1 or 2 at the same show.

### **D. Western Discipline: Classes**

**AW1. Class 1. Ranch Riding** – Open to all eligible adult members who have had at least one year of continuous professional instruction performing ranch patterns. The pattern for this class must be chosen from the patterns offered in the *IEA Western Addendum*. Riders are expected to be proficient in Western Horsemanship Tests 1 through 10 (see Rule W3304). Riders in this class may also participate in Class 2 - Horsemanship Walk/Jog/Lope.

**AW2. Class 2. Horsemanship Walk/Jog/Lope** - Open to all eligible adult members who have had at least one year of continuous professional instruction and who's coach feels they are capable of loping on an unfamiliar horse. Riders are expected to be proficient in Western Horsemanship Tests 1 through 7 (see Rule W3304). Riders may also participate in Class 1 - Ranch Riding, if otherwise eligible.

**AW3. Class 3. Horsemanship Walk/Jog** - Open to all eligible adult members who have had at least six months of continuous professional instruction and who's coach feels they are capable of loping on an unfamiliar horse, but are not yet ready to compete at the lope. Riders may not cross enter in Class 1 or 2 at the same show. Riders are expected to be proficient in Western Horsemanship Tests 1 through 5 (see Rule W3304).

## **E. Dressage Discipline: Classes**

**AD1. Class 1. Dressage Test** - Open to all eligible adult members who have had at least one year of continuous professional instruction performing dressage tests. This class shall have two test options to choose from: the *IEA Intermediate Dressage Test* or the *IEA Novice Dressage Test*. Coaches shall choose the test based on the skills of the rider. Regardless of test level performed, the tests will be ranked together based on highest test score(s), unless the class is split in accordance with Rule 4000.J in the *Adult Pilot Program Addendum*. Riders are expected to be proficient in Dressage Rider Tests for DSE classes 1 through 7 (see Rule D3304). Riders may also participate in Class 2 - Dressage Seat Equitation Walk/Trot/Canter.

**AD2. Class 2. Dressage Seat Equitation Walk/Trot/Canter** - Open to all eligible adult members who have had at least one year of continuous professional instruction and who's coach feels they are capable of cantering on an unfamiliar horse. Riders are expected to be proficient in Dressage Rider Tests for DSE classes 1 through 7 (see Rule D3304). Riders may also participate in Class 1 - Dressage Test, if otherwise eligible.

**AD3. Class 3. Dressage Seat Equitation Walk/Trot** - Open to all eligible adult members who have had at least six months of continuous professional instruction and who's coach feels they are capable of cantering on an unfamiliar horse but are not yet ready to compete at the canter. Riders are expected to be proficient in Dressage Rider Tests for DSE classes 1 through 5 (see Rule D3304). Riders may not cross enter in Class 1 or 2 at the same show.

## **RULE 4000: COMPETITIONS**

A. Adult Pilot Program classes can be offered as additional classes at any regular season IEA competition.

B. Teams who have adult riders on their roster **must be prepared to offer a minimum of six rides for each of the three adult classes (18 rides in total) for their discipline in their hosted/co-hosted competition and plan their time and resources accordingly.** The 18 required rides will count toward the 200 rides allowed for each competition. Teams who would like to offer more than 200 rides to accommodate the adult classes may make a request through their Zone Administrator.

C. For the convenience of IEA Youth Teams and Adult Pilot Program attendees, the IEA recommends running the Adult Pilot Program classes at the end of the regular IEA show schedule and provide an estimated start time for adult participants.

D. Adult Pilot Program classes may also be held as a stand-alone, or partial-day, competition as long as all guidelines set for a regular season IEA competition are followed. This includes submitting a show application and insurance to the IEA Membership Office and obtaining qualified officials. See Rules G4000 and G5000 for complete details.

E. No additional insurance is required if Adult Pilot Program classes are being held during an IEA regular season competition. If Adult Pilot Program classes will be held on a separate day, a one day show policy must be submitted to the Membership Office.

F. Show hosts must be following the hosting obligations of Rule G4105 for youth members, in addition to offering the Adult Pilot Program classes at their regular season competition.

G. Spurs are not permitted in Walk/Trot for the hunt seat and dressage disciplines.

H. There is no limit on the number of competitions an Adult Pilot Program rider may participate in.

I. A class may run with only one participant.

J. Adult Pilot Program riders are eligible to school horses on the same day as the Adult Pilot Program classes in which they intend to compete as long as the horses they are school are at or below the Adult member's equivalent ability level based on outside (non-IEA / Adult Pilot Program experience), and/or based on Adult Pilot Program class descriptions and intended horse usage.

K. Split Classes

1. Group classes *must* be split into two classes when they reach 12 participants, but may be split with less than 12 at the show host's discretion.
2. Hunt Seat Class 1 - Equitation over Fences - shall have two options to choose from for the height of the fences: 18" cross-rails and 2 verticals. Participants in this class will be scored together for ribbons, regardless of height chosen. If the show host feels that entries warrant splitting the class, it may be split into separate classes by height of fence.
3. Western Class 1 - Ranch Riding - EHC shall choose one pattern from the current *IEA Western Addendum* to be used in the class. Pattern may be Walk/Jog or Walk/Jog/Lope.
4. Dressage Class 1 - Dressage Test - shall have two test options to choose from: the *IEA Intermediate Dressage Test* and the *IEA Novice Dressage Test*. Participants in this class will be scored together for ribbons, regardless of test chosen. If the show host feels that entries warrant splitting the class, it may be split into separate classes by test.

**RULE 5000: PRIZE LIST, ENTRY BLANK, ENTRY FEES AND PROGRAM**

A. Adult Pilot Program classes must be included in the time schedule for any regular competition that intends to offer the classes.

B. The *Adult Pilot Program Entry Form* must be included in the prize list if classes will be offered by the show host.

C. Adult Pilot Program classes will be considered in the total ride count allowed for the show host and for horse usage. Show hosts must be following Rule G4105 prior to offering Adult Pilot Program options. Show hosts should prioritize IEA youth competitors over Adult Pilot Program if entries will need to be limited due to scheduling or horse availability.

D. Classes for Adult Pilot Program will not be available in the database, but eligible adults will be listed on the official Team Roster. Show hosts must manually add the classes into the program book.

E. Entry fees for competitions will be no more than:

\$45 for Flat and Over Fences classes at Hunt Seat Regular Season Shows

\$45 for Horsemanship and Ranch classes at Western Regular Season Shows

\$45 for DSE and \$50 for Test classes at Dressage Regular Season Shows

F. \$5.00 from each Adult Pilot Program rider's entry fee for each class will be collected by the show host and paid to IEA within fourteen (14) days of the competition.

#### **RULE 8000: POINTS SCORING AND POST SEASON QUALIFICATION**

A. Participants in Adult Pilot Program classes ~~will not~~ accrue points for the 2023-2024 season.

B. Results for Adult Pilot Program classes will be posted on the IEA website.

C. The EHC must submit a copy of the results from the Adult Pilot Program classes to Emily David at [Emily@rideiea.org](mailto:Emily@rideiea.org) and to the IEA membership office at [Info@rideiea.org](mailto:Info@rideiea.org).

D. The overall TOP SIX (6) ranked riders from each of the adult classes will be invited to show at their respective 2024 National Finals. (6 riders in 3 classes = 18 rides/national discipline). Riders will be ranked based on the following criteria:

1. Total Points earned in the 2023-2024 season. Each class will be calculated and invited individually based on a deadline date that is 60 days prior to the related discipline's national finals..
2. Ties will be decided using all regular season placings in the designated class and ranking them again by the total number of first (1<sup>st</sup>) place finishes, then by total number of second (2<sup>nd</sup>) place finishes, then by total of third (3<sup>rd</sup>) place finishes, then by total number of fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) place finishes, then total number of fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) place finishes, and then total number of sixth (6<sup>th</sup>) place finishes.
3. If a tie still exists, then the rider from the hosting zone will take the spot.
4. If a tie still exists, then the National Steward, together with the Executive Director, will conduct a random draw to fill the National Finals spot.