

Rule: DR135
Rule Change Type: Standard
New Rule Number: 0

From time to time rules are adopted which change the sequence of rule numbering. The rule reference used here is the rule number that appears in the current website version of the United States Equestrian Federation, Inc. Rulebook

Proposed Change:

DR135 Dressage Competition Performance Standards. [Chapter DR, Dressage Division] **Add new and renumber remaining:**

The purpose of Competition Performance Standards is to ensure that riders are properly prepared to successfully move up the levels. The qualification system is based on the rider, not the horse. Multiple horses may be used by a rider to earn qualification. Rider qualification is permanent and there is no time limit for earning qualification.

1. Three levels exist:

a. Bronze Level: (Training-Third Level). All riders may compete at this level without earning qualification scores or points.

b. Silver Level: Required to compete at Fourth Level - Prix St. Georges (including USEF Developing Horse Test). Qualification at this level may be achieved as follows:

(1) Earning the USDF Bronze Medal

(2) Earning a minimum of ten (10) qualification points (as defined under DR135.3, below) in USEF Third Level tests ridden in USEF licensed/USDF recognized competitions. Scores must come from at least three different USEF or FEI judges. A panel of two or more judges will count as one distinct judge.

(3) Earning a minimum of 65% (6.5) in the USEF Riders' Test. The USEF Third Level Test 3 will be ridden using a separate "USEF Riders' Test" score sheet. Only one riders' test qualifying score is required with a panel of two eligible judges. Judges will officiate separately and both judges' scores must be a minimum of 65% (6.5) in order to achieve qualification at this level. If only one eligible judge officiates, two separate rides earning scores of at least 65% (6.5) will be required for qualification. Scores may be obtained at the same competition.

c. Gold Level: Required to compete at Intermediaire I - Grand Prix (including Brentina Cup). Qualification at this level may be achieved as follows:

(1) Earning either the USDF Silver or USDF Gold Medal

(2) Earning a minimum of eight (8) qualification points (as defined under DR135.3, below) in the FEI Prix St. Georges test. Scores must come from at least two different USEF or FEI judges. A panel of two or more judges will count as one distinct judge.

2. Qualification may be earned only at USEF licensed/USDF recognized or FEI recognized competitions. At all levels, freestyle scores and FEI Young Horse tests/rides do not earn points. FEI Junior, Young Rider, and Pony Tests and the USEF Developing Horse and USEF "Brentina Cup" tests may be used to earn points at the equivalent national or FEI level, as listed under DR119.2.

3. Qualification System.

a. Qualifying points will be awarded for tests/rides with the following scores. A score from a panel of two or more judges will be considered one test/ride.

58-59.99%	One (1) Point
60-62.99%	Two (2) Points
63-64.99%	Three (3) Points
65% and Above	Four (4) Points

b. In order for qualifying points to be recorded after December 1, 2010, the rider must be a USDF Group, Participating or Life Member and a USEF Active Member at the time points are earned.

c. Scores/points earned between 1974 and December 1, 2010 at USEF licensed/USDF recognized or FEI recognized competitions (including foreign CDI's) may be used towards the number of points required for rider qualification as follows:

(1) Scores earned in any Third Level test (except Freestyle) or equivalent may be used toward the ten (10) points needed for Silver Level qualification;

(2) Scores earned in any test at or above the Prix St. Georges level or the equivalent level may be used toward the eight (8) points needed for Gold Level qualification.

(3) All scores earned before December 1, 2010 must be verified by USDF before rider qualification is granted, unless the rider is "grandfathered" as described under DR135.7 below.

d. Qualification at any level is not required to compete in the following tests: FEI Pony, USEF Four-Year-Old, FEI Five-Year-Old and FEI Six-Year-Old tests. However, riders competing in the USEF Young Adult "Brentina Cup" and USEF Developing Horse tests are not exempt from qualifying.

e. Qualification is not required for Juniors and Young Riders who are declared as candidates for the USEF National Championships or NAJYRC and who enter designated NAJYRC/USEF qualifying classes. However, those riders must obtain the appropriate qualification in order to compete in any other class at any competition.

f. United States Eventing Association (USEA) members are exempt from qualification requirements as follows: Horse/Rider combinations who have achieved one or more qualifying scores as defined within the applicable (USEF or FEI) rules for Eventing at the Advanced, CIC*, CCI*** or CCI**** levels may compete at the Silver Level without any qualifying points in Dressage.**

Proposed Rule Change/Bylaw Change

4. Compliance with DRI35 (Dressage Competition Performance Standards) is mandatory at USEF-Licensed/ USDF Recognized Dressage Competitions and "Open" Dressage divisions or sections of USEF-Licensed Regular and Local Competitions. Compliance with Performance Standards is optional for USEF-Licensed Regular and Local Competitions with breed-restricted divisions or sections. Dressage test scores from all USEF-Licensed/USDF Recognized Dressage Competitions and "Open" Dressage divisions or sections of USEF-Licensed Regular and Local Competitions will be counted towards meeting Performance Standards eligibility levels. Scores from "breed restricted" Dressage divisions or sections of Regular and Local Competitions will only be counted for eligibility from those breeds that require Performance Standards qualification to compete in their breed-restricted dressage sections/divisions.
5. Foreign riders may qualify under this rule, as long as USEF and USDF membership requirements are met. Alternatively, they may prove competition eligibility with a letter to USEF from their National Federation verifying the level at which they are eligible to compete.
6. Riders may earn a higher qualification level once their scores are verified by USDF. However, a qualification level cannot be changed during a competition.
7. Prior to November 30, 2010, riders will be "grandfathered" into the qualification system as follows:
- Riders on a USET/USEF Long List from 1999 to November 30, 2010 will receive qualification at the Gold Level.
 - Riders who have competed at the USEF or USET Festival of Champions from 1985 to 2010, will receive qualification at the Gold Level.
 - USDF Bronze Medal winners from 1974 to November 30, 2010 will receive qualification at the Silver Level.
 - USDF Silver Medal and Gold Medal winners from 1974 to November 30, 2010 will receive qualification at the Gold Level.
 - USEF Dressage judges will be grandfathered as follows:
 - 'r' judges will receive qualification at the Silver Level.
 - 'R' judges will receive qualification at the Gold Level.
 - 'S' judges will receive qualification at the Gold Level.
 - USDF Certified Instructors certified through Second Level will receive qualification at the Silver Level and those certified through Fourth Level will receive qualification at the Gold Level.
8. Eligibility and qualification disputes will be addressed by an appeals committee which will include three members of the USEF Technical Dressage Committee and two members of the USEF High Performance Dressage Committee and one alternate from each committee
9. Qualification levels will be printed on USEF/USDF membership cards and will be available on both the USDF and USEF web sites.

Proponent: Dressage Committee

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Intent of Proposal:

To outline the criteria for the Dressage Competition Performance Standards.

Proposed Effective Date: 12/1/10

Linked Rule Changes:

Proponent

Dressage Committee

Action**Date****Committee/Organization****Draft: Action-Date*****Budget and Finance Committee Comments:******Staff and Committee Comments******Legal Comments:******Other Comments:*****Board of Directors****Action****Date**