

## **DRESSAGE DIVISION**

There are two dressage classes that may be readily incorporated into a standard horse show: Dressage Equitation and Suitable to Become a Dressage Horse. These classes do not require a dressage arena or any special equipment. Although a dressage judge is not mandatory, a judge knowledgeable in dressage should be used.

Because dressage tests require specifically measured and marked arenas with attention to footing, experienced personnel, and explicit timing and tests, it is not recommended to try to incorporate them into a standard horse show. If you are interested in organizing a Dressage Show, please consult the USEF rulebook and contact the United States Dressage Federation (USDF).

*Dressage riders should be welcomed into shows where appropriate.*

### **APPOINTMENTS**

#### **1. Rider and Tack**

Default to United States Dressage Federation rulebook: [USDF.org](http://USDF.org)

### **Dressage Equitation and Suitable to Become a Dressage Horse**

***\*\*Items in italics are guidelines that may vary from state to state.\*\****

#### **Class Routine for Dressage Equitation**

1. *To be shown at working walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring. 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.*
2. *Movements shall be performed by the exhibitors simultaneously; however, the judge may ask for independent execution of certain tests.*
3. *Tests are as follows:*
  - a. *Transitions from one gait to the next, both up and down.*
  - b. *Transitions from walk to halt and vice versa.*
  - c. *Transitions from trot to halt and vice versa with or without stirrups.*
  - d. *Judge shall not require exhibitors to exchange horses.*
4. *Whips and blunt spurs, no serrated rowels, 3.5cm/1 3/8 inches, with a strap are allowed. Horses shall be shown in plain snaffle. Refer to Bit and Spur Guidelines.*
5. *The size of the class shall not be more than 15 riders.*

#### **Class routine for Suitable to Become a Dressage Horse**

1. *To be shown at a walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring.*
2. *To be judged on the horse's potential to become a Dressage mount. These qualities are revealed by:*
  - a. *Freedom and regularity of the paces.*
  - b. *Harmony, lightness and ease of movements.*
  - c. *Lightness of the forehand and the engagement of the hindquarters, originating in a lively impulsion.*
  - d. *Acceptance of the bridle with submissiveness throughout without any tenseness or resistance.*

**Disqualifications:** See # 14 under General Rules