

SUMMARY OF 2025 QUALIFYING RULES FOR USEF/USDF PROGRAMS HELD AT NATIONAL SHOWS

Compiled by the USDF TD Committee... rev March 2025

	SNAFFLE	DOUBLE	SNAFFLE BIT DIAMETER	WHIP	SPURS	DRESSAGE COAT	HORSE AGE	RIDER AGE	MINIMUM OVERALL AVERAGE SCORE	PROGRAM EQUIV LEVEL
USEF PONY RIDER DRESSAGE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP	YES	NO	CAN BE <10mm	100cm	OPTIONAL 3.5cm MAX NO ROWELS	SHORT COAT	MIN 6 YRS	12 - 16	62%	2ND LVL TEST 3
USEF CHILDREN NAYC & DRESSAGE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP	YES	NO	12mm MIN.	120cm		SHORT COAT	MIN 6 YRS	12 - 14	62%	2ND LVL TEST 3
JUNIOR RIDER: ADEQUAN/USEF/ NAYC & FESTIVAL OF CHAMPIONS	YES	YES	10mm MIN.	120cm OK for Qual, but NO whips in Ch'ships	Spurs are OPTIONAL	SHORT COAT or TAILS	MIN 6 YRS	14 - 18	NAYC 64% Festival 66%	3RD LVL TEST 3
YOUNG RIDER: USEF NAYC & FESTIVAL OF CHAMPIONS	YES	YES	10mm MIN.			SHORT COAT or TAILS	MIN 7 YRS	16 - 21	NAYC 64% Festival 66%	PSG
U25 NAYC & Festival of Champions ADEQUAN/USEF 'BRENTINA CUP'	OK for Q & I-2 CH	REQ for GP & FS Ch'ship	10mm MIN.			SHORT COAT or TAILS	MIN 8 YRS	16 - 25	NAYC 64% Festival 65%	INT-2 & DEV GP
USEF INTERMEDIAIRE 1 DRESSAGE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP	YES	YES	10mm MIN.			SHORT COAT or TAILS	MIN 7 YRS	MIN 16 YRS	66%	INT-1
NEUE SCHULE/USEF GRAND PRIX DRESSAGE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP	OK for Qual	REQ for Ch'ship	10mm MIN.			SHORT COAT or TAILS	MIN 8 YRS	MIN 16 YRS	66%	GRAND PRIX & GP SPECIAL
MARKEL/USEF YOUNG HORSE DRESSAGE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 4 YEAR OLD	YES	NO	12mm MIN.	120cm OK for Qual, but NO whips in Ch'ships	Spurs are OPTIONAL	SHORT COAT	4-YR-OLD	Q NO MIN AGE FESTIVAL 16 YRS MINIMUM	75% 7.5 AVERAGE	1ST LVL TEST 3
MARKEL/USEF YOUNG HORSE DRESSAGE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 5 YEAR OLD	YES	NO	12mm MIN.			SHORT COAT	5-YR-OLD	Q NO MIN AGE FESTIVAL 16 YRS MINIMUM	75% 7.5 AVERAGE	2ND LEVEL
MARKEL/USEF YOUNG HORSE DRESSAGE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 6 YEAR OLD	YES	NO	12mm MIN.			SHORT COAT	6-YR-OLD	Q NO MIN AGE FESTIVAL 16 YRS MINIMUM	75% 7.5 AVERAGE	3RD LEVEL
MARKEL/USEF YOUNG HORSE DRESSAGE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 7 YEAR OLD	YES	YES	10mm MIN.			SHORT COAT or TAILS	7-YR-OLD	Q NO MIN AGE FESTIVAL 16 YRS MINIMUM	68% AVERAGE	4TH LEVEL
MARKEL/USEF DEVELOPING HORSE DRESSAGE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS-PSG	YES	YES	10mm MIN.			SHORT COAT or TAILS	7/8/9 YO	MIN 16 YRS	69% AVERAGE	USEF DEV HORSE PSG TEST
MARKEL/USEF DEVELOPING HORSE DRESSAGE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS-GP	YES	YES	10mm MIN.			SHORT COAT or TAILS	8/9/10 YO	MIN 16 YRS	66% AVERAGE	INT-2 & DEV GP

EQUITATION	USDF REGIONAL ADULT AMATEUR EQUITATION PROGRAM	YES	NO*	10mm MIN.	120cm Whips OK in all Eq Qual & Ch'ships	OPTIONAL	SHORT COAT	36 MONTHS OF AGE	MIN 22 YRS	70% in DSE class or Region Ch'ship Qual	FOLLOW DRESS, SADDLERY & EQUIPMENT RULES FOR FIRST LEVEL*
	USEF/USDF DRESSAGE SEAT MEDAL SEMI-FINALS								13 & Under 14 - 18	70% in DSE class or Region Ch'ship Qual	
	USEF/USDF DRESSAGE SEAT MEDAL FINALS								13 & Under 14 - 18	TOP TWO from each SEMI-FINAL advance	

* Horses also showing Third Level or above in the same competition may warm up in a double bridle but not compete in Equitation in it.

ONE ATHLETE RULE DR 128.2	Pony Childrens	JR & YR U25	Young Horse 4/5/6/7	Developing Horse Brentina, Int-1, GP
Applies at Qualifying Competitions →	✓	✓	N/A	✓
Applies at Festival of Champions →	✓	✓	✓	✓
DRUGS & MEDICATIONS RULES	National Qualifying Competitions	Festival of Champions	NAYC	CDIs
These follow USEF D & M Rules →	✓	Children, Pony, Junior, YR, Brentina Cup, Young Horse, Developing Horse		
These follow FEI Rules →		Int-1 & GP	✓	✓