

Upcoming rule changes of interest to Dressage...

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www.usef.org/compete/resources-forms/rules-regulations/rule-changes

Other helpful resources...

ANNEX A: Photos of bits, bridles, etc. ruled legal/illegal for USEF/FEI competitions!

Look for an update Spring 2019 here: www.usef.org/compete/disciplines/dressage/rules--equipment

NEW TESTS: All USDF and USEF tests have been re-released for 2019. Rider Tests are no more. :-(
FEI has not (yet?) posted any test updates for 2019. Links to all Dressage tests here:

www.usef.org/compete/disciplines/dressage/dressage-tests/2019-2022-usefusdf-dressage-tests

Category	Effective Date	Rule Number	Summary
Western Dressage	now	GR1004.17 WD124.1	DR judges may no longer judge WD in USEF competitions.
PARA	now	DR-3	Entire subchapter added for Para Dressage.
Tests / Judging	now	DR118	Delete Rider Tests (old DR118.4) and renumber.
Tests / Judging	now	DR122.5e	Errors in Freestyles. Added provision in italics: "For FEI Level and USDF Freestyle tests, two points will be deducted for each error, however they are not cumulative and will not result in elimination."
Tests / Judging	1-Feb-19	DR117.6 DR122.3	Use of voice earns a 2 point penalty (delete "at least") and is NOT to also be considered in the collective marks for the rider.
Tests / Judging	1-Feb-19	DR122.5j	HIGH PERFORMANCE/SELECTION TRIALS ONLY: for the errors listed, 2 points to be deducted by each judge .
Tests / Judging	1-Feb-19	DR129.7c	FREESTYLES, language deleted: Riders should note that it is compulsory to come into and out of the canter pirouette in canter in a straight line for the technical mark to be given. Walking into and out of the canter pirouette or pirouettes performed from lateral movements will be considered only in the artistic marks.
Tack	now	DR121.2	A properly fitted jowl strap is considered a THROATLATCH. Therefore, <i>if a jowl strap is fitted around or immediately below the horse's jowl, then a conventional throatlatch is optional.</i> Note that a noseband with multiple straps behind the chin still requires a jowl strap or throatlatch.
Tack	now	DR121.2	NOSEBANDS. This sentence has been deleted : "Bridles are not permitted in which the noseband is connected to the bit or cheekpiece below the level of the browband." The noseband and chin strap now may be connected directly to the cheekpieces, removing the necessity for a separate cavesson. It may look very much like a conventional bridle with only one cheekpiece, or it may look more like a Micklem, with the nose and chin straps offset from each other.

Tack	1-Feb-19	DR121 FIG 1 A&B	<p>BITS Permitted for FEI Tests: <i>added language in italic</i> .</p> <p>ALL: <i>Bits must not place mechanical restraint upon the tongue.</i></p> <p>CURB: <i>May have straight or S-shaped cheeks and rotating lever arms</i></p> <p>TONGUE RELIEF: <i>A double jointed snaffle, a snaffle with rotating mouthpiece, and a curb mouthpiece may be shaped to allow tongue relief. The maximum height of the deviation is 30mm from the lower part of tongue side to the highest part of the deviation. The widest part of the deviation must be where the mouthpiece contacts the tongue and must have a minimum width of 30 mm.</i></p> <p><i>The mouthpiece of a jointed or unjointed snaffle may be shaped in a slight curve within the dimensions specified above.</i></p>
Tack	1-Feb-19	DR121 FIG 1 A&B	<p>BITS Permitted for FEI Tests: <i>added language in italic.</i></p> <p>SNAFFLE (when permitted):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - may be made of <i>flexible</i> rubber or synthetic material. - <i>A bushing, barrel/ or coupling or ball joint is permitted as the center link in a double jointed snaffle, however, the surface of the center piece must be solid with no moveable parts, other than a roller and except as pictured above. The center link may be tilted in a different orientation from the mouthpiece but must have rounded edges and may not have the effect of a tongue plate.</i>
Tack	1-Feb-19	DR121.15	SADDLE PADS, added language: <i>Contrast coloring and piping are allowed. Striped or multi colored pads are not permitted.</i>
Tack	1-Feb-19	DR121.15	STIRRUPS, added: <i>The foot must not be fully or partially enclosed and must in no way be attached to the stirrups (for example with magnets).</i>
Tack	1-Feb-19	DR121.7	FLY HOODS, added: <i>Fly hoods may not be attached to the noseband.</i>
Tack	1-Feb-19	DR121.7	<p>EYE COVERS now allowed in warmup:</p> <p><i>Blinkers and fly masks that cover the horse's eyes are permitted in warmup but are forbidden in the competition arena .</i></p>
Show Mgt	now	DR121.15	<p>New language in italics: "Horses may only be exercised and ridden in management-designated areas on the competition grounds.</p> <p><i>Management must post a map in the show office outlining the "designated competition grounds" where horses may be ridden and exercised. Any restricted areas must also be noted."</i></p>
Show Mgt	now	DR128.4	Qualifying scores for USEF National and NAYC Championships must be submitted within 48 hrs (some only 24 hrs) following qualifying comp.
Show Mgt	now	DR136.1h	Exhibition classes may not be divided into divisions/sections for any reason (i.e., to get around the only-two-exhibition-classes/day limit).
Entries/ Competing	now	DR119.1	Horse must be at least 6 years old to compete at Fourth Level.
Entries/ Competing	now	DR119.2	Horse entered in a USEF DR competition may not compete in ANY other competition on that day, recognized or not.
Entries/ Competing	now	DR129.9	Freestyle pre-requisite score raised to 63%.

Entries/ Competing	1-Apr-19	GR609	TEMPORARY SUSPENSION, intent: "Individuals who are suspended by the FEI, will not be permitted to participate at [a USEF-?] licensed competition in any manner, including as a spectator. For temporary suspensions imposed by the U.S. Center for SafeSport, sanctions will only be imposed on the individual listed. All final and non-appealable suspensions and bans will be imposed on the listed individual, all horses completely or in part owned, and businesses within which the listed individual appears to have an ownership interest."
Entries/ Competing	1-Apr-19	GR703	VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES, intent: "A new section has been added to GR704 to cover individuals permanently banned [by] the U.S. Center for Safe Sport. This [sic] individuals would be prohibited from coaching or training participants at least 30 days prior to and after a Licensed Competition. In the event a permanent ban is imposed in the 30 days leading up to a competition, the participants may seek a waiver from the Federation. This rule is intended to protect victims who have come forward from the perception that the banned individuals is [sic] participating in the sport in every [any?] aspect other than simply attending competitions."