

Intercollegiate Dressage  
Association  
2025-2026

Rules, Standards and Regulations  
for  
Recognized Competitions

NOTE: All IDA competitions shall be run under US Equestrian rules, unless covered specifically within these rules.

[www.teamdressage.com](http://www.teamdressage.com)

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# INTERCOLLEGIATE DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION

## Code of Conduct

*Intercollegiate Dressage Association (IDA) Members, including riders, coaches, Officials, and volunteers must conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner, and are responsible for their actions in competitions, going to and from competitions, and while at areas hosting competitions. Members are responsible for adherence to IDA competition rules and procedures.*

*In all equestrian sports the well-being of the horse shall be above the demands of trainers, riders, owners, organizers, sponsors or officials. In the interests of the horse, the fitness and competence of the rider is essential. IDA will strive to adhere to high standards of equine care and humane equine treatment. All riding and training methods, whether performed by students, coaches, volunteers, or trainers, must demonstrate respect for the horse as a living entity and may not include any technique that is considered abusive or overtaxing to the horse's ability or fitness. The welfare, safety, and mental fitness of the horse will be protected, and the horses will be treated with dignity and humanity. Inhumane acts toward horses at IDA functions will not be tolerated.*

**NOTE:** Anyone may approach the steward or show management to report violation(s) to the IDA Code of Conduct. Unsportsmanlike conduct may result in disqualification from an event, loss of points earned at the event and possibly prevent participation at future IDA events at the discretion of show management, show steward and/or IDA Board.

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# Intercollegiate Dressage Association, Inc.

## 2024-2025 RULES, STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS For Recognized Competitions

All IDA competitions shall be run under US Equestrian rules, ***unless modified specifically within these rules.***

### Article 1 - IDA Recognized Shows

- A. For a show to be recognized as an Official IDA Show with points earned toward regional standings and qualification for Nationals, the show must be approved by the Regional Representative. It is preferred that the dates be submitted to the regional representative by Sept. 1 for fall semester and January 15 for spring semester. In the event that a show is added after these dates, it must be submitted to the Regional Representative and agreed upon by the region's member schools for approval a minimum of 4 weeks prior to the show.
- B. To be a recognized show, each show must have a different judge presiding.
  - a. It is strongly recommended that within one region, a judge only judges one IDA show in the fall and one in the spring
  - b. Example: if two shows are run in the same day, each show must have a different judge.
- C. In the case of a cancellation of a show due to any circumstances, the possible reschedule of that show must go to a vote of the region. Requests to reschedule and proposed date must be made within 3 days of the cancellation announcement.
  - a. For inclement weather policy see Article 7.6

### Article 2 - Officials

#### 2.1 Judges

Judges used at all IDA recognized competitions must be either US Equestrian licensed dressage or eventing judges ("r", "R", or "S") or, USDF "L" graduates.

- A. It is strongly recommended that within one region, a judge only judges one IDA show in the fall and one in the spring.
- B. At least 2 US Equestrian licensed "S" or "R" judges are required in each ring for all rides at Championships or Finals.

#### 2.2 Show Officials

Includes and refers to all persons directly engaged by the show. All show officials should be clearly and appropriately identified on the day of competition. Show officials shall include:

- A. *Show Management* – duties include:
  1. Select tests to be ridden that are appropriate for horses ability.
  2. Group the horses. There shall be four horses in each group. The groups should be composed of horses of as equal as possible quality to ensure a fair competition. Prior to horse draw a list of alternate horses, including substitution order and division must be declared in the event of a competition horse being unsuitable on the day of the competition.
  3. Exchange an unsuitable horse for an alternate horse before saddling or during warm-up.
  4. Prepare and submit an Emergency Preparedness Plan to the regional representative and the IDA National Secretary 2 weeks prior to the show. Submit Emergency Preparedness plan with the prize list.

- B. *Horse Master*, who shall be in charge of:
1. Overseeing the horse handling crew, ensuring that all horses are presented properly, efficiently and humanely.
  2. Ensuring that each horse is ready for mounting at the appropriate time. It is recommended that on cold days horses waiting to be mounted are hand walked, and kept warm.
- C. *Secretary*, who shall be in charge of:
1. Submitting a request for show dates to the Regional Representative for approval.
  2. Hiring the Judge(s) and organizing the officials necessary for the operation of the show.
  3. Mailing or emailing the prize lists to the colleges in their region at least 3 weeks prior. In order to qualify as an IDA competition there must be a minimum of 3 schools competing at the show.
  4. Making the ballots for the horse draw.
  5. Making the competitors packets.
  6. Confirming receipt of entries
  7. Presiding over the registration.
  8. Making copies of the schedule after the declaration of horses. \*One copy shall be given to the Judge(s), one to the Announcer, one to the Horse Master, and one copy shall be the Official Show Program. An Official Show Program must be posted for the competitors' and spectators' reference.
  9. Supplying the Judge with the correct score sheets.
  10. Familiarizing the Judge with the objectives and procedures of Intercollegiate Dressage competitions.
  11. Familiarizing the scorer with scoring procedures.
  12. Providing copies of competition results to each competing college representative.
  13. Mailing competition results and show dues to the Regional Representative within 30 days following the Regional IDA competition. Delinquent schools will not be able to become participating members of the IDA in subsequent years until all outstanding dues are paid.
- D. *Scorer*, who shall be in charge of:
1. Calculating the points (marks) earned for each test see 8.9.B.1;
  2. Calculating the overall team score as outlined in 8.9.c,d,e.
  3. Creating an official score board to be posted for public reference as efficiently as possible.
- E. *Ring Persons*, who shall be in charge of: (minimum of 2 persons)
1. Observing the warm-up area, with a view toward maintaining a safe schooling environment.
  2. Ensuring the riders mount at the appropriate time.
  3. Time rider with appropriate timing device that calculates seconds.
  4. Giving the rider a 3-minute warning for the end of the warm-up period.
  5. Telling the rider when the warm-up period is over.
  6. Telling the rider when to leave the warm area to proceed to the competition area.
- F. *Rules Stewards* shall consist of three (3) coaches from visiting colleges whose names are drawn at the coaches' meeting. The Rules Stewards are responsible for overseeing the event and settling all problems that may arise concerning the rules. In the event that three coaches (3) are not present (excluding the hosting school's coaches) then two (2) stewards will preside.
1. One steward must be selected to complete and submit the Steward's Report and any Incident Report to the Regional Representative at the end of the show.
  2. Stewards may brief the judge before the show in order to explain special circumstances with any of the horses (ex., horses that may have boots or wraps, fly bonnets, etc...).
  3. During the Judge's briefing, it is recommended that stewards suggest that the "GAIT" score in the collective marks shall be interpreted as how well/not well the rider helped the horse show his gaits to the best of his ability.
- G. *Qualified Emergency Personnel*: Each show must provide qualified emergency personnel as required by the safety preparedness plan; with the responsibility of coordinating emergency response in the ring and warm-up area. This individual should be a currently certified or licensed EMT, Certified Athletic Trainer, Paramedic, or a Physician or nurse trained in pre-hospital trauma care and currently certified or licensed in their profession. A physician or nurse trained in pre-hospital trauma care is a physician or nurse who is

currently certified in Advanced Trauma Life Support, Basic Trauma Life Support, Prehospital Trauma Life Support, or who has First Responder or comparable certification. It is strongly recommended that EMTs and/or Paramedics be used to fill this position. Medical personnel must not exceed the scope of their practice. All medical personnel must be readily identifiable and the area where they are available must be designated and readily accessible. Medical personnel should have no other responsibilities at the show except emergency response. The individual must be clearly identified and have access to emergency phone numbers and directions to the facility. This individual should remain at the venue in sight of where horses are being ridden at all times that any and all riders are mounted (from the first warm up until the conclusion of the final ride of the day.) Hosting schools are required to follow the emergency personnel guidelines of the hosting college or facility.

- H. *Emergency Preparedness Plan:* Each show manager is responsible for preparing an emergency preparedness plan. The form can be found on the IDA website and must be included in the prize list and submitted to the regional representative and the IDA National Secretary 2 weeks prior to each competition.

## **Article 3 - Show Staff**

### **3.1 Show Staff**

Includes and refers to all persons performing duties under the direction of the Show Officials. The Show Officials may organize the Show Staff in any manner that contributes to the quality of the show. The Show Staff and their duties may include:

- A. *Announcer* who shall be in charge of:
  - 1. Reading the horses' description during the Parade.
  - 2. Giving the competitor's name, number, and the horse's name before the test and during the award Ceremony.
  - 3. Announcing the results of the horse draw.
- B. *Scribe* who shall be in charge of:
  - 1. Writing the judge's comments during the test.
  - 2. Serving as a link between the Judge and the Show Officials
- C. *Horse Handlers* who shall prepare and present the horses.
- D. *Parade Riders* who shall show the horse during the parade. It is encouraged to select parade riders that represent the horses well for their levels. Ideally non-competing riders serve as parade riders, however if the host college cannot provide a sufficient number of non-competing riders, competing riders may act as parade riders. The goal is for each horse to be warmed up and presented to the best of its ability.
- E. *Ring Crew* who shall prepare, reset, and maintain the arenas.
- F. *Runners* who shall carry messages and carry the tests from the Judge to the Scorer.
- G. *Additional Persons* as needed to perform any duties assigned by Show Officials.

## **Article 4 - Competitors and Representatives**

### **4.1 Riders**

- A. Schools and riders must be members of IDA at least 2 weeks prior to the show - NO EXCEPTIONS.
- B. Riders must be students enrolled as full-time undergraduate or graduate students and be in good academic standing at the college they are representing. Fourth year seniors who are in their last semester and are part-time, may still participate as long as they are in good academic standing. Riders will have a maximum of 4 years of combined eligibility as an undergraduate and/or graduate student over a period of 5 years. Riders must be paid individual members of the IDA and represent colleges that are participating members of the IDA. Riders should have their membership form filled out on the IDA website at least 2 weeks prior to their first competition. Payment must be received by PayPal or a school check 2 weeks prior to the horse show.
- C. If special accommodations or adaptive equipment is needed by a rider, the regional representative must be made aware of these needs. The rider must have a completed dispensation certificate from the USEF. The dispensation certificate must clearly identify accommodations and adaptive equipment needed. A coach must contact hosting schools prior to the closing date of a horse show. The hosting school and/or horse provider may decline entry if they do not feel that they have a suitable mount. Alternatively, the host school may also specify a particular horse or horses that would be suitable for the rider and thus may limit that riders random draw to one horse or limited horses.
- D. Senior Qualification Rule: A qualified senior who graduates mid-year is permitted to compete at Nationals as an individual provided they have health insurance and have permission from their school, coach or student representative. They may not compete in regional shows after graduation. They may not compete at Nationals as a member of a team.



- E. All riders must provide complete and accurate information concerning their past riding experience as part of their initial registration. Any rider and/or coach who is proven to have intentionally misrepresented, through falsification or omission, any riding experience will lose all individual and/or team points, and/or be barred from IDA competition and participation at the discretion of the IDA Board. All riders must be entered according to the division at which they are qualified to ride; and may only be entered in one class/ division per show. Any rider found competing that is not a valid member of the IDA will have their score and the scores of their team dropped.
- F. Definition of Recognized Competition: A recognized competition is sanctioned by the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF); American Grand Prix Association (AGA); American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA); National Reining Horse Association (NRHA); United States Eventing Association (USEA); and United States Dressage Federation (USDF) United States Hunter Jumper Association (USHJA). See appendix for chart on equivalent riding levels to other federations with USEF.
- G. Definition of a Schooling Competition: A schooling competition is any unrecognized competition that collects entry fees, hands out ribbons for placings, and issues a back or bridle number to horse/rider pairs.

**\*\*When turning in rider classification forms for INTRODUCTORY LEVEL RIDERS ONLY- Coaches must provide proof that the rider has NO USEF COMPETITION RECORD. This can be achieved by looking the rider up on the USEF website, clicking on their name, and when the page states "There are no results in this time frame," print that page and include it with the rider's classification form.**

- H. Divisions of Riders – Riders are placed into one of four divisions; Introductory Division, Lower Training Level Division, Upper Training Division and First Level Division.
  - 1. The Rider Classification Questionnaire must be used to place riders in the correct division and can be found in Appendix for reference.
    - i. Once a rider answers no to all questions in a division they are placed in that division.
    - ii. The Rider Classification Questionnaire may be viewed in the appendix
  - 2. **Introductory Division**
    - i. Minimum Qualifications: The Introductory division is designed for beginning dressage riders that have had a minimum of 12 hours of riding instruction within 1 year prior to competing in the IDA.
    - ii. Maximum Qualifications: Introductory riders shall have a maximum 2-year calendar limit to compete at this level dating from their joining IDA. Unlike other levels, Introductory Division riders must be reclassified each year of their two-year eligibility with the same qualifications as a new rider. **\*\*When turning in rider classification forms for INTRODUCTORY LEVEL RIDERS ONLY- Coaches must provide proof that the rider has NO USEF COMPETITION RECORD. This can be achieved by looking the rider up on the USEF website, clicking on their name, and when the page states "There are no results in this time frame," print that page and include it with the rider's classification form.**
    - iii. *iii. The ideal of the Introductory Division is to encourage exposure to the riders new to the sport of dressage. Coaches and Riders are requested to abide by this philosophy.*
  - 3. **Lower Training**
  - 4. **Upper Training**
  - 5. **First Level Division:** This division is open to all riders who exceed the qualifications of the introductory, lower training and upper training divisions.

**\*ALL RIDER QUESTIONNAIRES ARE PUBLICLY AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST**

- I. **Moving between Divisions:** A rider's classification is determined by the rider's Rider Classification Form; see appendix B. In subsequent years the rider's classification is determined by points accumulated in IDA recognized competition. Introductory riders must be reclassified each year of their two-year eligibility. Regional points shall be allocated on the following basis:

1. 1<sup>st</sup> Place = 7 Points
2. 2<sup>nd</sup> Place = 5 Points
3. 3<sup>rd</sup> Place = 4 Points
4. 4<sup>th</sup> Place = 3 Points
5. 5<sup>th</sup> Place = 2 Points
6. 6<sup>th</sup> Place = 1 Point

- i. Riders that accumulate 35 points at any level except First Level Division are no longer eligible to compete at this level.
- ii. Riders at First level may remain at First level for as long as they are eligible to compete with IDA. First level riders may not compete below the First Level Division.
- iii. Once a rider has placed first or second at IDA Nationals during individual or team competition at any division, they are no longer eligible to compete at that division in IDA regional competition.
  1. Exception: First level riders may continue to ride in First level.
- iv. Points earned will follow students who transfer to other schools throughout their IDA eligibility.
- v. Points earned will follow the student for classification of division for their entire IDA eligibility.
- vi. Points towards qualification for the National Championship will start at zero each year.
- vii. Ribbons earned at Nationals do not receive regional points.

Riders may not move back to a lower division once they have shown at a higher division unless the rider can provide verifiable justification for moving back to a lower division. The request must be reviewed and approved by the Chair of the Rules and Rider Classification Committee. A rider's classification change to a lower level may be requested either by a written request to the Chair of the Rules and Rider Classification Committee from the rider's coach stating sufficient reason for lowering the rider's classification or at such time when the majority of the region's coaches agree that said rider is not proficient enough to compete safely at the higher level and submit their written request to the Chair of the Rider Classification Committee. A regional rep can also lower a riders classification for safety reasons as long as there is no conflict of interest (coach of rider) with the competitor in question. If there is a conflict of interest the request must go to the chair of the rules and rider classification committee. If a Regional rep lowers a rider documentation of the movement must be sent to the chair of the rules and rider classification committee

- viii. Coaches may move riders up to a higher division if their ability warrants.

- J. Riders are to be attired in accordance with US Equestrian rules for Dressage classes. All riders are required to wear protective headgear meeting the standard of ASTM SEI Certified approved headgear. The helmet's harness must be fastened at all times when mounted. Any rider not wearing the required helmet as specified in this rule will be automatically eliminated.
- K. Riders are permitted to wear safety vests in IDA competition and in warm-up.

## 4.2 College Representative

College Representative shall be an employee of the college and a non-student to whom the IDA Secretary directs correspondence regarding official matters. The College Representative certifies the official IDA team.

## 4.3 Designated Team Representative/Coach

**\*\*\*\* All coaches are required to take the USEF Safe Sport test before your school is eligible to compete at any IDA recognized competitions**

One or more designated team representatives / coaches must be listed on the entry form and are to accompany the riders to competitions, assist the riders with horse selection and warm-up, and perform the customary role of a coach. The designated team representative may be the coach, a competing student or other representative. A designated team representative /coach must be listed on the entry form for each team. Any last minute additions or substitutes should be reported to the secretary and added to the form. A substitute team representative/coach may be used if the person listed on the team application as representative/coach cannot attend. The substitute must be listed on the entry form and perform all functions of team representative/coach. The designated team representative's duties include:

- A. Being responsible for entering riders at the division appropriate to his/her ability and qualifications.
- B. Attending the pre-competition briefing/coach's meeting and relaying information to the college's team or individuals.
- C. Being familiar, and familiarizing his/her riders with the US Equestrian and Intercollegiate Dressage Competition rules.
- D. Upholding and requiring his/her riders to uphold the US Equestrian, Intercollegiate Dressage Association rules and the IDA codes of conduct. Infractions of the code of conduct and/or the rules will be enforced as follows:
  - 1. 1<sup>st</sup> Infraction - Warning by Steward and/or Show Management
  - 2. 2<sup>nd</sup> Infraction within Competition Year - Will result in loss of team scores /points for show
  - 3. 3<sup>rd</sup> Infraction within Competition Year - Will result in school suspended from all IDA competitions for the remainder of the year.
- E. Monitoring the use of whips and spurs during the parade, warm-up and the performance of the test. These aids must be used according to the restrictions published with the horse descriptions.
- F. It is recommended that designated team representatives / coaches check the scoring on their team members' test sheets as per article 8.9.a.6 of these rules.

## Article 5 - Horses

### 5.1 Qualifications

- A. All horses must be five years of age or older and serviceably sound.
- B. All horses must be schooled for the division at which they are meant to compete; and be of sufficient quality to be competitive at the division for which they are recommended; and fit enough for three (3) rides at that division if scheduled for 3 rides in the competition.
- C. Each horse may be used for a maximum of three tests during a competition.

- D. Alternate horses suitable for each division must be provided.
- E. It is advisable to limit show entries rather than include groups of unsuitable horses.
- F. Outside horses brought in for competition use must be checked for suitability at the host facility prior to the competition.
- G. Host College may designate a horse as a restricted horse. Horses may be restricted because of temperament, training or fitness. Restricted horses may only compete at a particular division or division as stated. All colleges must abide by this designation. Restricted horses shall be posted in the show program and/or announced at the parade of horses. Examples of restrictions include: Restricted to First Level Division only; restricted to Introductory Division only; restricted to Training Level Division and below. All teams must adhere to these restrictions. Host colleges reserve the right to restrict riders because of their size, at their sole discretion. Teams must abide by the host college's restrictions or elimination will result.
  - 1. In Extreme circumstances of a sensitive horse or a horse with a medical issue that cannot tolerate the sitting trot but can still perform all the movements necessary for the test then a posting trot only restriction on said horse
  - 2. A horse may also have restricted use for rider special accommodation as outlined in Article 4.
- H. The use of auxiliary aids such as whip and spurs shall be at the discretion of the host college and must be clearly posted before the start of competition. All riders must abide by this posting or elimination of the rider will result. If there is no written restriction, it is presumed that all other USEF approved auxiliary aids are allowed.

## 5.2 Presentation

- A. Each horse should present a polished appearance.
- B. In the interest of equality, all horses used for a particular division must have the same type of saddle, i.e. Dressage or all-purpose, and each saddle must properly fit each horse to provide the greatest comfort to the horse.
- C. Equipment must remain the same for each horse throughout the competition. Length of stirrups may be adjusted as needed to accommodate individual riders and are the only equipment changes that may be made once the competition has begun. If the stirrup leathers supplied by the host school cannot be adjusted adequately, stirrup leathers may be replaced with ones that are long or short enough, with suitably sized irons. A competitor may bring their own set of stirrup leathers and irons if the above circumstances occur.
- D. Tack and Equipment must conform to US Equestrian rules with exceptions as noted in these rules (5.2.e,f).
- E. Equipment designed to protect the horse, such as boots, bandages, ear bonnets, and ear plugs are allowed. The same equipment must be used consistently throughout the competition.

## **Article 6 - Riding Areas**

### **6.1 Warm Up**

- A. The warm-up area should present a safe environment in which riders can school unfamiliar horses. Ideally, the warm-up area is an enclosed space with easy access both to the saddling area and the competition area. It should be large enough to allow adequate warm-up space. In the coach's meeting before the draw the show organizer will announce the horses that will require an additional warm-up.
- B. At show management's discretion, the horses used later in the day may be warmed-up for a second time prior to competition for no more than 15 minutes with the approval of the show stewards. Hand walking, or walking on a long rein is allowed at the show management's discretion. If horses are restricted at all divisions, warm up and parade may take place prior to each division.
- C. At the discretion of the show management, the warm-up for the Introductory Division may be shortened to less than 10 minutes but greater than 5 minutes for the entire division.
  - 1. This shortened warm-up must be announced during the coaches meeting before the show begins.

### **6.2 Competition**

- A. A standard arena of twenty by sixty meters is recommended for Training Level Test 1, 2 and 3, and First Level. However, a short arena or standard arena may be used for all divisions at the discretion of the organizers but must be clearly declared in the prize list and the coaches notified prior to the beginning of the competition. If the short arena is used for the First and Upper Training level division it is recommended the current USE Training level test and the IDA Modified First Level Test 1 be offered. Other first level tests may not be ridden in the short arena.
- B. Suitable provisions for the Judge's box must be made.

## **Article 7 - Entry Procedure**

### **7.1 Prize List**

The following information is to be collated by the Secretary and sent to the teams invited to compete:

- A. Entry form on which the show fees and the organization to which the fees are payable must be clearly stated. The Board of Directors shall set the fees nationally.
- B. Specific show information, including:
  - 1. Date and location of the show
  - 2. Tentative schedule
  - 3. Tests offered.
  - 4. Include Emergency Preparedness Plan with the prize list
  - 5. The open and closing dates for entries
  - 6. Size of the arena for each level
  - 7. Any other relevant information including a listing of area hotels, restaurants and directions
- C. A medical/liability release form, if required by facility, must be signed and returned to the Show Secretary before the start of competition.
- D. The entry form must be returned to the Show Secretary and the Regional Representative via email.
- E. The Regional Representative and the Hosting College will email verification of receipt of entries. This policy will ensure that the proper rotation of additional teams and individual riders will be followed from year to year.

- F. Payment due date for entries will be stated on the prize list. All prior debts must be settled before future entries will be accepted in IDA completions.
- G. Failure to notify the host school of scratching a team, without 48 hour advance notification will result in the inability to compete in future IDA competitions for 3 months.
- H. The Hosting College will declare the number of teams they will accept on the prize list. If they need to change the size of the show after the prize list has been distributed, notification must go through the Regional Representative. The Regional Representative will notify the regional member colleges of any changes made.

## **7.2 Entry of Teams and Individuals**

- A. One team from each member college may be entered at each show. Each team shall be composed of three to four eligible riders from the following levels, one USDF Introductory level (Introductory test A or B), one Lower Training level (Intro test C and training level 1), one Upper Training level (training level test 2 or 3), one First level (first level test 1, 2 or 3). Team members may change from show to show.
- B. Individuals of IDA member colleges may be entered if the college has fewer than 3 riders. Individuals may be placed at any level for which they are eligible.
- C. Rider scores shall not be calculated for team scoring if fewer than 3 riders represent the college. In such cases these points shall be calculated as individual points only. Only scores earned by riders, as part of a recognized Team shall be calculated in the team scores.
- D. Coaches must notify host colleges of any riders with specific needs two weeks prior to the show. Riders with specific needs will be accommodated at the discretion or ability of the host college, keeping in mind the well-being of the horses and safety of the rider and other riders.

## **7.3 Substitutions and Cancellations**

Before the closing date, any eligible rider may be substituted for an entered rider in the following manner:

- A. To make the substitution, the College Representative must contact the Show Secretary.
- B. No substitutions shall be allowed after the closing date without the permission of the show management.
- C. If a college cancels its entry prior to the closing dates, the college is entitled to a full refund of its entry fees. Cancellations after the closing date are non-refundable and entry fees are to go to the organization hosting the show.
- D. Whenever possible, the prize list shall include a rain or snow date in the event the show needs to be postponed due to weather or other unforeseeable acts or event

## **7.4 Over or Under-Subscription**

- A. If more slots are available the first spot at each division shall be awarded to the hosting school. The remaining spots will be individual spots given out on a fair rotation. An example of such a rotation can be seen in Appendix B.
  - 1. Teams must pay for 4 riders even if only 3 riders are showing.

## **7.5 Confirmation of Entry**

- A. It is required that the Show Secretary confirm receipt of entries with the Regional Representative.
- B. Any refunds for oversubscription shall be made at the confirmation of entries.

## **7.6 Inclement Weather**

- A.** If inclement weather is forecasted for the show day the host college, will consult with the regional representative and competing member schools regarding travel. 75% of the competing member schools must be able to safely travel to and from the hosting location for the show to be held. Cancellations must be 24 hours prior to the show.

## **Article 8 - Show Procedure**

### **8.1 Programs**

Hosts must use the template for the show program provided on the IDA website.

### **8.2 Registration**

The purpose of the registration period is to confirm the competitors' arrival and to distribute information packets.

- A. The information packets should include the following:
  - A. A program listing the name, number, and college affiliation of each competitor. A schedule of ride times with blank spaces for horse and rider names will be supplied. Rider and horse names will be filled in by the competitors after the horse draw and declaration of horses.
  - B. A description of the horses to be ridden during the competition that shall include:
    - i. The horse's name
    - ii. The division(s) to which each horse is suited, including mandatory level restrictions if required by the Host College
    - iii. Characteristics of each horse – name, height, color, breed
    - iv. Designated parade riders
    - v. Artificial aids (whip and/or spurs) that the rider may make use of when riding the horse.
    - vi. The alternate horses must also be described.
  - C. Rider Numbers
  - D. Optional: Any additional helpful information (where to get food, special promotions, etc.)

### **8.3 Pre-Competition Briefing**

Before each competition there shall be a briefing conducted by the Show Manager with the team representatives/coaches of all schools present. During the briefing, the Show Manager shall discuss with the team representatives/coaches the procedures to be followed throughout the competition. The Show Manager shall also answer any questions that may arise prior to the competition. \*\* See article 2.2f Rules Stewards.

### **8.4 Horse Draw**

- A. On the day of the competition, the team representative/coach shall draw the ballot that determines the horse group for his/her college.
- B. If horse groups are being used more than once during the competition, the ballot must specify both the group number and the ride number. If horse groups are not being reused, the ballot needs only the group number.



## 8.5 Parade of Horses

- A. The object of the parade is to provide the competitors an opportunity to view the horses and make horse/rider pairings, to warm up the horses appropriately, and to show them to the best of their abilities. Ideally, the horses will be presented by non-competing riders. If in the best interest of a proper warm-up, competing riders are asked to parade horses, the horse/ rider combinations must be posted prior to the draw. (Regional competitions only)
- B. All horses to be used in the competition are to be presented under saddle in the competition arena. They are to be shown at a walk, trot, and canter in both directions (canter unnecessary for a strictly walk-trot horse). Horses must perform all movements required in the levels for which they are recommended, for example: Chewing the reins out of the hand.
- C. Horses shall be presented with tack, whips, and spurs consistent with posted restrictions and US Equestrian rules.
- D. Horses may be paraded in groups or by division.

## 8.6 Declaration of Horses: If horses are restricted no declaration of horses is required.

- A. After the parade of horses, management shall announce that it is time for the competitors to select their horses. A minimum of ten (10) minutes shall be allowed for competitors to select their horses.
- B. Each horse in the group must be paired with one rider on the team.
- C. After the conferencing period, the team representatives/coaches are called in the order that they appear on the program. When called, the team representative is to inform the Show Secretary of the name of the horse and the name of its designated rider. No horse/rider combination may be changed after the declaration except upon the withdrawal of a horse for cause.

## 8.7 Competition

- A. Every rider must have their number.
- B. At the scheduled time, the Horse Master shall allow the rider to take control of the horse. The rider then has ten (10) minutes of warm-up time to prepare the horse for competition. Warm-up time begins at the moment the rider mounts. Riders are encouraged to adjust stirrup length from the ground before mounting. A 3-minute warning will be given during the warm-up period.
  - A. If a rider is not present at posted warm-up time, their warm-up time will begin without them.
- C. The rider may warm up the horse as he/she sees fit. However, cruelty to the horse and/or unsportsmanlike conduct as defined by the US Equestrian shall not be tolerated.
- D. Coaches may assist the rider during the warm-up period. The assistance may only be verbal and the coach may not touch the horse in any manner to aid the rider in warm-up (i.e. flexion of the poll through rein contact by the coach etc.) They may assist verbally while the rider circles the competition arena **until the judges whistle or bell**. During the warm-up period coaches may assist in adjusting stirrups.
- E. Warm up may include movements up to and including the USE Second level, if appropriate and beneficial to the horse and the division in which he will be shown. Show management guidelines should be followed.

- F. Medium and/or free walk ONLY are allowed from the moment the warm up time ends until the rider enters the competition area. NO COLLECTED WALK OR TEST MOVEMENTS ALLOWED.
- G. After the final halt-salute of the previous rider, the rider about to perform the test may circle the perimeter of the competition arena at any gait.
- H. The execution and judging of the test shall proceed according to US Equestrian rules. However, riders may not have tests called or read for them in any IDA competition. When the test is finished, the rider shall exit the competition area, dismount, retrieve his/her number and give the horse to a handler.
- I. Breaks:
  - A. Between half an hour and one hour must be allowed for lunch. An activity or entertainment may be planned by the organizers if desired.
  - B. Judge's breaks should also be scheduled, as determined by the length of the competition, US Equestrian rules, and contract with the Judge.
  - C. It is advisable to adhere strictly to the schedule and to build catch-up time into the schedule in the event it is needed.
- J. A re-test must occur if:
  - A. A competition horse is ruled unfit by the Judge due to unsoundness or obvious unsuitability.
  - B. Coaches may request a re-ride and the request must be made by a coach to a steward within 5 minutes from the rider exiting the arena. Re-rides are primarily granted due to unsoundness or safety concerns. The stewards will discuss and determine if the re-ride is granted. The stewards decision is final and if the re-ride is granted the horse will be pulled for the remainder of the competition.
  - C. A substitute horse is provided and the rider is given a second warm-up period. When a re-ride is granted it only applies to the individual rider granted the re-ride and the riders who come AFTER. Every effort will be made to keep the rider order on the new horse the same as the original draw if possible.
- K. Equipment failure: If equipment failure occurs during a test, the test is halted, equipment is fixed and the test begins as soon as possible from the point of interruption.
- L. If a rider's coach feels that the rider is in danger, the coach may stop the ride by signaling the judge. A re-ride will be determined at the discretion of the stewards. Show management may also stop a ride at any point when they feel the rider or horse is in danger. If show management stops the test, a re-ride must be offered.

## **8.8 Scoring, Classification and Prize Giving**

- A. General Considerations:
  - i. After each performance and after each judge has given his/her Collective Marks, which must be done with due considerations, the judges' sheets pass into the hands of the scorers.
- 2. Scores and comments must be written in ink. Any corrected score must be initialed by the judge having made the correction. The points are then multiplied by the corresponding coefficient where applicable and then totaled. Penalty points incurred for errors in the execution of the test are then deducted on each judge's sheet.
- 3. The total score for the classification is obtained by adding the total points given on each test sheet. If there are two or more judges, the points awarded by each judge will be published separately in addition to the total score. Total final results must be published in marks as well as percentages with numbers to 3 places after the decimal point.
- 4. After all scores for a level have been posted, the test sheets shall be available for viewing by the designated team representative/coach only. The test sheets or any reproduction may not be removed, even momentarily, and must remain with the scorer.
- 5. After the last division of the day and prior to the awards ceremony, all scores must be posted and tests made available to designated team representative/coach to ensure that no errors in scoring have been made.

6. If a mathematical error on the score sheet is discovered, it must be brought to the attention of show management within ½ hour of the official posting of the scores from the last class of that show day.
7. Videotape may not be used to dispute a judge's decision
8. A judge is free to leave when all scores from his class are totaled and any ties resolved.

B. Individual Classification / Ranking/ Placing

1. The winner of the competition is the competitor having the highest total marks/test points as added from the test sheet and determining the percentage score. The second placed competitor is the one with the next highest total marks/test points and so on. If there are two or more judges, the marks/test points awarded by each judge shall be published separately in addition to the total score. Total final results must be published in marks/test points as well as in percentage. **Percentage must be to 3 places after the decimal point.**
2. Each division should be placed first through twelfth and use rider placing points to determine regional standings. Rider placing points are as follows:

Rider Placing Points:

1st place = 7 points	4 <sup>th</sup> place = 3 points
2nd place = 5 points	5 <sup>th</sup> place = 2 points
3rd place = 4 points	6 <sup>th</sup> place = 1 points

3. In the event that there is equality of test points/marks for individuals in the same division, the winner will be determined using the following tie breaks in order:
  - i. The rider's collective marks: the competitor with the highest combined score for the rider's position, rider's correct and effective use of aids, and geometry and accuracy.
  - ii. All of the collective marks: the competitor with the highest combined scores from gaits, submission, impulsion and all rider collective marks.
  - iii. If the scores remain tied, the judge shall break the tie.

C. Team Classification/ Ranking/ Placing for Regular Competition (Does Not Apply To Regional Ranking)

1. After each individual class is placed, the riders will receive rider placing points for their teams that count towards a team's total points. Rider placing points are as follows:

Rider Placing Points:

1st place = 7 points	4 <sup>th</sup> place = 3 points
2nd place = 5 points	5 <sup>th</sup> place = 2 points
3rd place = 4 points	6 <sup>th</sup> place = 1 points

2. Placing points earned by each team's top 3 riders will be added together to come up with the team's total placing points. The team with the highest placing points wins the competition. In regular IDA competition, a team with four riders will drop their lowest placing. A team with 3 riders will not have a drop score.

- D. In the event of a tie between teams the following tie breaks shall be used in order:
1. The top three placing riders' percentages (to 3 decimal points) will be averaged to get the overall "team percentage." The team with the highest averaged team percentage places ahead.
  2. If the tie still remains then the highest combined scores for the rider's position, rider's correct and effective use of aids or geometry and accuracy in the collective marks from the three eligible tests will place ahead.
  3. If a tie still remains, then the total of the three eligible riders' collective marks will place ahead.
  4. If a tie still remains, the team with the highest rider position points from the 3<sup>rd</sup> ranked of the eligible riders will place ahead.
  5. If the tie still remains, the tie will remain unbroken.

## 8.9 Awards

Awards are to be made in both individual and team categories.

### A. Individual Awards:

1. Ribbons are awarded through at least sixth place to the individuals of each level, with the highest test marks/percentage winning the highest placing.

### B. Team Awards

1. Ribbons are awarded to the first through sixth placed teams. Participation ribbons or tokens may be awarded to teams in less than sixth place.
2. Providing an additional prize for the winning team is strongly encouraged. Trophies or equestrian merchandise are appropriate.

Colors for ribbons:

First Place - Blue

Second Place - Red

Third Place - Yellow

Fourth Place-White

Fifth Place - Pink

Sixth Place – Green

## 8.10 Post Show Procedures

- A. The Regional Representative must collect the official results, Steward's Report and any Incident Reports before leaving the show. All information collected must be sent to the National Secretary within a five (5) day period after the show.

## Article 9 Dressage Seat Equitation

### 9.1

### 9.2 Membership:

All competing riders must be members in good standing with IDA.

### 9.3 Divisions:

Introductory Division, Lower Training Division, Upper Training Division, First Level Division.

### 9.4 Qualifications:

- A. All riders are required to compete in the division at which they are placed through the rider Classification form.
- B. A rider may compete in both tests and DSE in a competition year, but may only compete at Nationals in either tests or DSE.

### 9.5 Judging:

- A. USEF licensed dressage judges or USDF 'L' graduates must be used
- B. Judges are encouraged to give feedback to all the riders at the conclusion of each class.
- C. DSE judging score card/guidelines for all DSE judges must be used. Judges must give an overall percent for each rider along with the placing. Riders are to be judged on equitation. The horse's way of going should not be taken into consideration unless it is the result of poor riding and incorrect position. Riders will be asked to perform all gaits required of the level and in both directions of the ring.

### 9.6 Placing:

Riders will be placed 1st-6th with points as follows:

Placing points are as follows:

1st place = 7 points

2nd place= 5 points

3rd place= 4 points

4<sup>th</sup> place = 3 points

5<sup>th</sup> place = 2 points

6<sup>th</sup> place = 1 point

Points from DSE must be recorded separately from other regional standings.

### 9.6 Moving between divisions:

- A. Points from DSE are recorded only in the DSE division
- B. A rider points out of a division in DSE when they accumulate 35 points at any division except first level.
- C. Riders at First Level may remain at First Level for as long as they are eligible to compete with IDA.
  - 1. First Level riders may not compete below First Level Division.
- D. Once a rider has placed first or second at IDA Nationals during individual or team competition at any division, they are no longer eligible to compete at that division in IDA regional competition.
  - 1. Exception: First level riders may continue to ride in First Level
- E. If a rider places 1st or 2nd at Nationals in a Test they will then get moved up in DSE for the following year. If a rider places 1st or 2nd at Nationals in DSE they will move up in DSE but not Test level.
- F. Points earned will follow students who transfer to other schools throughout their IDA eligibility.
- G. Points earned will follow the student for classification of division for their entire IDA eligibility.
- H. Points towards qualification for National Championship will start at zero each year.
- I. Ribbons earned at Nationals do not receive regional points.

Riders may not move back to a lower division once they have shown at a higher division unless the rider can provide verifiable justification for moving back to a lower division. The request. Must be reviewed and approved by the Chair of the Rules and Rider Classification Committee. A rider's classification change to a lower level may be requested either by a written request to the Chair of the Rules and Rider Classification Committee from the rider's coach stating sufficient reason for lowering the rider's classification or at such time when the majority of the region's coaches agree that said rider is not proficient enough to compete safely at the higher level, and submit their written request to the Chair of the Rider Classification Committee. A regional rep can lower a riders classification for safety reasons as long as there is no conflict of interest (coach of rider). If there is a conflict of interest the request must go to the chair of the rules and rider classification committee. If a regional rep does lower a rider documentation of the movement must be sent to the chair of the rules and rider classification committee

- 1. Coaches may move riders up to a higher division if their ability warrants.
- J. You may point up in one category and not the other (test vs DSE) but there can only be a one level difference between the divisions. For example test ride lower T and DSE Upper Training.

### 9.7 Horse Qualifications:

It is recommended, at the host school's discretion, that only horses that have gone in 2 or fewer tests, been an alternate, or not shown at all, be used in DSE classes.

- A. DSE horses must be included on the horse description sheet along with whip and spur restrictions.
- B. In the interest of equality, all horses used for a particular division must have the same type of saddle, i.e. Dressage or all-purpose, and each saddle must properly fit each horse to provide the greatest comfort to the horse.

### 9.8 Horse Draw:

Horse draw can occur at any point throughout the day. Riders draw horses in order according to height / weight restrictions of the available horses, from tallest to shortest. If there are height/ weight restrictions, they should be announced and noted on the horse description prior to the draw. Riders who are too tall or heavy for the horse will redraw.

### 9.9 Warm up/Parade:

Horses are not required to parade. Any horse that has not already been paraded or shown, should have a brief warm up before competition.

### 9.10 Class subscription:

Hosting schools may use their discretion on class sizes, however a class must have a minimum of four riders for points to count. Multiple classes for the same division may be run to allow for more entries and to accommodate fewer horses. Hosting schools may accept as many or as few DSE entries as their horse use allows. It is suggested that the prize list gives an estimate of the number of spots available and those spots are spread out amongst competing schools.

A. Once mounted coaches are allowed to coach their rider in a DSE class from outside the arena until the class starts. Once a class is started the coaches are not allowed to give outside assistance.

### 9.11 Entry Fees:

Twenty-five (25)-per rider Five (5) dollars per entry shall go to the National Fund.

### 9.12 DSE National Championships:

#### A. Rider Qualifications:

1. A rider must have shown in 4 DSE classes to qualify for DSE National Championships.
2. Riders may compete in as many DSE shows as they like, but only the top 4 placing scores will count towards regional year end standings.
3. If a tie exists between riders at the last show the tie will be broken by using the average percent of the riders top 4 DSE placings. If a tie still remains the riders top percentage will be used.

#### B. The top rider in each level from each region qualify for National Championship.

1. Riders may only compete as a DSE or a test rider at the National Championship.
  - a) Regional placement for DSE qualification will be determined through wildcard qualifications if the regional champion rider chooses not to compete in DSE.

#### C. DSE National Championship Classes will be filled through the following:

1. Regions in which the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> place regional highpoint riders are not competing at Nationals due to their decision to test ride or other circumstances, the region is eligible to qualify the 3<sup>rd</sup> place rider if and only if the following rider numbers are met within the region:
  - a) Regions that have 6-8 qualified riders (riders that have competed more than 4 times in regular season DSE classes) in a respective DSE division will be eligible for the 3<sup>rd</sup> place regional rider to qualify for Nationals.
  - b) Regions that have over 8 riders qualified in a respective DSE division will be eligible for the 4<sup>th</sup> place regional rider to qualify for Nationals.

#### D. Judging for National Championship:

1. Judges may ask for additional testing which include:
2. 1st level: lengthened trot or canter, shallow loop counter canter, leg yield, work without stirrups
3. Upper/lower training: sitting trot, work without stirrups
  - a) Intro-no sitting trot

## **Article 10 - Determining Regional Standings**

### **10.1 Team Standings**

- A. Regional Representatives MUST verify that all riders and their schools are in good standing with the IDA. Any college with unpaid dues for IDA shows or individual or school memberships will not be eligible for regional awards or be eligible to compete at the National Championship Competition. Any school or rider that is found to be delinquent will have their points dropped and will be ineligible to become participating members of the IDA in subsequent years until all outstanding dues are paid.
- B. The Regional Representative will designate a Point Secretary every year (may be the Regional Representative). The Point Secretary 'using the standardized IDA point template, will be responsible for tracking all the riders and schools that are in good standing with the IDA to determine eligibility for regional awards and qualification for the National Championship. Fully paid participating members and schools will be included on point's sheets. Their show records will be distributed by the point secretary to the coach or student representative of the college within 3 days after each competition or prior to the next show, whichever is shorter. It is the responsibility of the coach or student representative to check the accuracy of the points and percentages earned throughout the year.
  - 1. The Point Secretary and the Regional Representative must also maintain all of the final IDA regional show results. These records will then be used to determine team and individual standings and to aid in breaking ties.
- C. Once the Point Secretary distributes the point records, the coach, student representative, or student riders have 3 days to dispute any discrepancy. If no dispute is brought to the Point Secretary at the end of 3 days, the points will stand as posted.
- D. Team standing: The team with the highest combined rider placing points from 4 regional shows at the end of the competition year will be the regional champion. The Reserve Regional Team will be the team with the second highest combined rider placing points value etc.
  - 1. Total rider placing points of the top 3 riders on each team are added together to get the combined rider placing points. (Example: a team with first, second and third and fourth place finishers would obtain  $7 + 5 + 4 = 16$  points for a particular show. The fourth place score would be considered the drop score.
- E. Regional rankings will be used to determine eligibility for filling the National Championship slots allotted to each region.
- F. Ties – in the event of a tie for regional champion the tie will be broken by using the following tie breaks in order:
  - 1. The average of the percentage scores (calculated to 3 decimal points) of the four shows with the highest placing points will be used.
  - 2. If the tie still remains the team with the highest percentage out of the four shows will determine the regional champion

### **10.2 Individual Regional Standings**

- A. Each rider must have competed at 4 (four) regional shows to be eligible for regional standings.
- B. Individual Regional Standings for regional year end awards will be based on rider placing points earned from a maximum of 4 shows within a division.
- C. Placing points do not carry over from the previous year to calculate Regional Standings. Placing points do not move between divisions. Placing points earned during a previous year only accumulate to determine when a rider points out of a level, not for regional year end awards. When a rider accumulates 35 points at Introductory Division, Lower Training Level Division, or Upper Training Level Division that rider is no longer eligible to compete at that division.
- D. Riders should be moved up by their coach to the next higher division at the start of the academic year if their ability warrants and it is anticipated that the rider will need points at the higher division to qualify for Nationals. Regional rankings will be used to determine eligibility for filling the National



Championship slots allotted to each region.

- E. Ties for individual regional year end awards will be broken using the following tie breaks in order:
  1. The average of the percentage scores (calculated to 3 decimal points) of the top four shows. The top four shows are those in which the rider received the highest rider placing points.
  2. If the tie remains the highest percentage of each rider's top 4 shows will be used to break the tie.

## **Article 11- National Championship Rules**

### **11.1 Determining the Allocation of the Number of Regional Team and Individual Representatives at National Championships**

12 teams will be invited to compete at the National Championship Show and 48 individual riders will be invited to compete at the National Championship Show.

- A. Regional representation for the National championship show by teams and individuals will be based on paid Class 1 and 3 memberships respectively as of Feb. 15 per IDA qualified region. A qualified region for purposes of National Championship competition is a region with a minimum of 3 class 1 members and 24 class 3 members. The team and individual membership for each region will be calculated by the National President using the number of paid Class 1 and 3 memberships. Memberships must be activated as of Jan 15 on the website in order to be counted. The Executive Committee will approve the number of slots for team and individual competitors for the National Competition by Feb 28.
- B. In order for a region to qualify a team they must compete in a minimum of 4 shows with a minimum of 3 teams competing at each of the 4 shows to qualify.
- C. In order to qualify an individual, a rider must have competed in a minimum of 4 shows that had a minimum of 3 competing class 1 members at each of the 4 shows.
- D. All qualified regions will send their regional champion team and regional champion of each division. This rule will be in effect until such time that the IDA has more than 12 qualified regions.
- E. The remaining slots if less than 12 qualified regions will be called the wild card slots. Wild card slots will be awarded as follows:
  1. The host team if they do not qualify otherwise.
  2. The remaining wild card slots, including if one is not used by the host team, will be allotted based on the following ranked by their top 4 combined team points on combined rider placing points earned by the team:
    - i. Regions with 6 or more class 1 members where at least 6 have competed in a minimum of 4 shows.
    - ii. If wild card slots remain regions with 6 or more class 1 members where at least 5 competed in a minimum of 4 shows.
    - iii. If wild card slots remain regions with 6 or more class 1 members where at least 4 competed in a minimum of 4 shows.
  3. Three different judges must be recorded.
- F. The remaining wild card slots will be allotted on ranked order.
- G. Ties for teams will be broken using the following tie breaks in order:
  1. The sum of the percentage scores (calculated to 3 decimal points) of the top 4 shows will be used.
  2. If the tie remains, the highest team percentage out of their top 4 shows will be used to break the tie.
- H. Individual Wild Card Slots:
  1. At each division of competition the wild card individual slots will be awarded as follows:
    - i. Regions with 6 or more class 1 members where at least 6 have competed in a minimum

of 4 shows.

- ii. If wild card slots remain regions with 6 or more class 1 members where at least 5 competed in a minimum of 4 shows.
  - iii. If wild card slots remain regions with 6 or more class 1 members where at least 4 competed in a minimum of 4 shows.
- I. Ties for individuals will be broken using the following tie breaks in order:
    - 1. The sum of the percentage scores (calculated to 3 decimal points) of the top 4 shows will be used.
    - 2. If the tie remains, the individual percentage out of their top 4 shows will be used to break the tie.
  - J. In the event that a region cannot send a team/individual, the slot will be awarded as if the region did not exist, with the slot going to the region that would have been given the slot in accordance with the above formula.
  - K. In the event a team or individual rider in a region cannot attend Nationals the slot is offered to the team/individual that is next highest standing in regional points earned based on year end regional points ranking.
  - L. In the event a team or individual rider cannot fill the wild card slot awarded, the slot will be offered to the next wild card qualifier.
  - M. Teams/individuals who qualify for Nationals must notify their Regional Representative immediately after the last show in the region if they are or are not attending Nationals.

### **11.2 Individual Rider Qualifications**

- A. Riders may move up a level during the IDA Regional show year due to 'pointing' out of their division or at a coach's discretion. Riders moving up a level, compete at Nationals at both team and individual competition at the level they qualified for and if qualified for two levels then at the level where the highest points have been accumulated. They may not compete at Nationals in the lower level if he/she has accumulated more points at the higher level.

### **11.3 Team Qualifications**

- A. Teams at nationals must have four (4) members to ride at each of the four (4) levels. All riders on the team MUST have competed in a minimum of two (2) regional shows but do not have to have earned points at these shows. Team riders do not have to have qualified as individuals.
- B. Riders pointing out must compete at the division they have obtained the most points during the current year.
- C. Riders must compete at the same division on both the team and individual competition days.
- D. An injured rider on a team may be substituted after entries close as long as the rider meets all rider qualifications, including level and participation at the correct number of competitions and approved by the Executive Committee.

### **11.4 Competing Riders**

- A. Competing riders MAY NOT warm up any horse to be used in the competition on selection day prior to the show including horses loaned by other schools or individuals on the day prior to competition without the permission of the horse committee.
- B. Competing riders MAY NOT warm up or parade any horses on team or individual competition day unless the warm-up occurs after they have competed.
- C. If a coach is used as a parade or selection rider, they may only ride their own school's horses.

### **11.5 Officials Selection**

- A. National championship judges will be selected by the National Championship judges committee and announced by Dec 1. Schools are not permitted to hire the judges as clinicians or regional judges from Jan 1 until after the National Championship Competition.

- B. A technical delegate will be hired for the competition days to act as head steward.
- C. Coaches may be called on to act as stewards in divisions where they have no competing riders, or on team competition day if they do not have a team competing. Coaches at nationals may not have any kind of access to judges during the National Championship Competition (IEA OR IDA). This includes scribing, socializing, or any other contact for the duration of the championship.

### 11.6 Arena Size

First Level Division, Upper Training Level Division and Lower Training Level Division must use standard arena. The Introductory Division may use smaller arena.

### 11.7 Tests

The IDA Board determines the tests that will be used at National Championships.

### 11.8 Entries for Nationals

- A. Entries for Nationals
  - 1. Regional Representatives must review the qualifying schools and riders from their region and verify that all riders and their school are in good standing with IDA.
  - 2. Regional Representatives will submit the qualified individual and team riders to the host school, the national secretary and the vice president.
- B. Qualifying teams and individuals **MUST** fill out the official entry form and mail it to the host school with the correct fee for entry. The entry form may be scanned and submitted via email but the entry form **MUST** be mailed to the host school with the correct fee.
- C. **Failure to submit the entry form and appropriate fees by the closing date will result in a late fee of \$100.00**
  - 1. Exceptions:
    - i. Regions with shows scheduled after the closing date which must be approved by the IDA Board.
    - ii. Schools and individuals eligible for wildcard slots.

### 11.9 Scoring at Nationals

- A. At Nationals a 13 point system will be used as follows:
 

1 <sup>st</sup> – 13 pts	4 <sup>th</sup> – 9	7 <sup>th</sup> – 6	10 <sup>th</sup> – 3
2 <sup>nd</sup> – 11	5 <sup>th</sup> – 8	8 <sup>th</sup> – 5	11 <sup>th</sup> – 2
3 <sup>rd</sup> – 10	6 <sup>th</sup> – 7	9 <sup>th</sup> – 4	12 <sup>th</sup> – 1
- B. There is **NO DROP SCORE** at Nationals
- C. In the event of a tie at the Nationals Championship show the same procedures will be used as for a regular show except there is no drop score which means that all 4 percentages are counted in the calculation. In the event of a tie between teams the following tie breaks should be used in order:
  - 1. The four placing riders' percentages will be averaged to get the overall "team percentage" (three decimal points). The team with the highest averaged team percentage places ahead.
  - 2. If the tie still remains then the highest combined rider position, rider's correct and effective use of the aids, and harmony between horse and riders and/or geometry and accuracy in the collective marks from the four tests will place ahead.
  - 3. If a tie still remains, then the total of the four eligible riders' collective mark scores will place ahead.
  - 4. If a tie still remains, the team with the highest rider position points from the 4<sup>th</sup> ranked of the riders will place ahead.
  - 5. If the tie still remains, the tie will remain unbroken.

- D. Individual Day – If ties occur, IDA rules for regional shows will be followed to break them.
- E. Ribbons earned at Nationals do not receive points to be carried over to the following year.

### **11.10 Horse Selection Committee**

The Horse Selection Committee consists of the 2 IDA board members appointed by the president. The board members must not be coaching a team at Nationals. In addition, a designee of the host college and a designee of colleges providing loaned horses. The president is eligible to perform this function if desired. The selection committee may confer with horse providers as needed.

## **Article 12 - Memberships and Fees**

### **12.1 Membership Fees**

For more information about IDA memberships and eligibility, please consult IDA by laws.

Class 1: Participating University/College Membership - the annual fee for University/ College Members shall be two hundred fifty (250) dollars.

Class 2: Supporting School Membership -The annual fee for Supporting School Members shall be one hundred-twenty (125) dollars.

Class 3: Individual Membership - The annual fee for Individual Membership shall be forty-five (45) dollars.

Class 4: Contributing Membership - The annual fee for Contributing Membership shall be five hundred (500) dollars.

Class 5 Coach – no fees

Class 6: Administrative Memberships have no fee.

Class 7: Alumni Supporting Membership fee is thirty-five (35) dollars.

Class 8: Life Membership fee is seven hundred fifty (750) dollars one-time fee.

Class 9: Gold Participating University/College Membership – for those colleges wishing to contribute to the IDA the annual fund shall be three hundred (300) dollars.

### **12.2 Entry Fees and Show Dues**

- A. Regional Shows: IDA Show fees shall be a minimum of one hundred forty (140) dollars per team of up to four (4) members per school. Individual Entry fees are thirty-five (35) dollars per individual for each person in addition to the team of four (4).
  - 1. Regions may choose to increase the entry fees up to \$180 per team if necessary to cover show costs. Any increase in show entry fees above the minimum must be voted on by the members of the region.
  - 2. Twenty-four (24) dollars of each team entry shall go to the National Fund and eight (8) dollars goes to the Regional Fund. Six (6) dollars of each individual fee shall go to the National Fund and two (2) dollars shall go to the Regional Fund
- B. DSE entry fees will be twenty-five (25)-per rider. Five (5) dollars of each entry shall go to the National Fund.
- C. National Championship: Fees for IDA National Championship shall be six hundred-fifty (650) dollars per team of up to four (4) members per school and one hundred seventy-five (175) dollars per individual entry for each person in addition to the team of four (4). Dressage Seat Equitation (DSE) fee will be seventy-five (75) dollars per rider. Participation in the USDF Quiz Challenge will be twenty-five (25) dollars.

## Appendix A- Emerging Region Allowance

IDA is committed to the growth of regions and education on the sport of Dressage.

The purpose of the Emerging Region Allowance is to allow regions that fall under the minimum of 3 Class 1 Memberships, to compete with the intention of qualifying riders to IDA Nationals.

A region that has been granted the Emerging Region Allowance may host shows with the capacity to qualify individual riders to IDA Nationals. Qualifying classes must have at least 3 riders per class.

The request must be made in writing to the IDA Board, and will be determined through a vote by the Board. The written request should:

- State the region and the regional representative's name submitting the request
- State the current Class 1 Members
- Reason for making the request
- Outline efforts to increase the number of Class 1 Memberships

Regions granted this allowance may operate in this manner for a period of 2 years. Upon the close of the 2 year period they may petition for more time with an outlined plan on efforts to increase the number of Class 1 Memberships.

## Appendix B- Riding Level Equivalents for IDA Competitions

See rules for qualifications

\*(Canadian and Mexican =same tests)

IDA	USEF/ USDF Level *	Western Dressage	German Dressage	Dutch Dressage	FEI
Introductory	Introductory	Introductory	n/a	n/a	
Lower Training	Training	Basic Level	E	B	
Upper Training	First	Level 1	A	L	FEI 4 year old test
First	Second	Level 2	L	M	FEI 5 year old test
	<b>Third</b>		<b>M</b>	<b>z</b>	<b>FEI 6 year old test FEI Jr tests&amp; FEI Pony</b>
	Fourth		s	zz	FEI young rider
					FEI Prix St George and above

IDA	USEF/ USDF Level *	Pony Club Rating	German Medals	IHSA	USEA Events
Introductory	Introductory	D, C1		W/T or W/T/C	Starter
Lower Training	Training	C2	small bronze	Novice	Beginner Novice
Upper Training	First	C3,C+	large bronze	Intermediate	Novice
First	Second	B		Open	Modified/ Preliminary
	<b>Third</b>	<b>A</b>			
	Fourth		silver		
			gold		

## Appendix C – Rotation Example Scramble Rotation A

In order to promote growth and fairness amongst our region, the following is a description of how Region C deals with over and under subscription.

### How it works:

At each show there are 12 slots for teams. Each school (of which there are 7) is guaranteed one team slot. The hosting school is awarded a second team; however this team does not count for team points. The remaining 4 team slots become scramble teams. These 16 rides are dispersed to the schools as individual rides; or scramble rides.

The scramble rides are assigned at the beginning of each semester so that each school is able to plan ahead knowing that in addition to their team they have additional scramble rides. This also allows for schools to trade scramble rides. For instance; if School 1 is assigned an Upper Training ride, but wishes to trade this ride with School 4 for an Intro level ride they may do so.

There is no additional work on the regional rep when using the scramble rotation. It is the schools responsibility to determine if they are trading a scramble rides and inform the show secretary. If a school is unable to trade or not fill a scramble ride it is opened up to the entire region on a first come first serve basis by the show secretary.

Below are examples of what the assigned scramble rides might look like for both 12 and 9 team slots.

### **12 Team Slots**

Team	Show 1	Show 2	Show 3	Show 4	Show 5	Show 6
School 1	FLU	UI	IUL		FL	UIF
School 2	UIF	FLU	UI	LFI	IUL	
School 3	LFI	UIF	FLU	FL	UI	IUL
School 4		LFI	UIF	FLU		FL
School 5	IUL	FL		UIF	LFI	UI
School 6	FL	IUL	LFI	UI	FLU	FLU
School 7	UI		FL	IUL	UIF	LFI
B Team	School 4	School 7	School 5	School 1	School 4	School 2

### **9 Team Slots**

Team	Show 1	Show 2	Show 3	Show 4	Show 5	Show 6
School 1	FIU	IFL	ULF		LUI	FIU
School 2	ULF	FIU	IFL	LUI	IFL	
School 3	LUI		FIU	IFL	ULF	LUI
School 4		ULF	LUI	FIU		ULF
School 5	IFL	LUI		ULF	FIU	IFL
Team B	School 4	School 3	School 5	School 1	School 4	School 2





## Appendix C – Rotation Example

### Scramble Rotation B

In order to promote growth and fairness amongst our regions, the following is a description of how Region H deals with over and under subscription.

How it works:

The entry form for each show has two sections:

1. Team entry (standard 3-4 riders)
2. Individual ride requests listed in order of preference
  - a. List for individuals is not limited

Entry forms must be submitted to the regional representative. Once the regional representative has received all entry forms:

1. Each school is given one team
2. The first 4 individual slots go to the hosting college in order of their request (not necessarily first at each division)

For the remaining individual slots, a non-hosting coach is asked to help the regional representative to assign slots based on the requests listed on entry forms. The non-hosting coach who helps the regional representative changes for each show.

1. Where there is only one slot and 2 individual requests have been made, a coin toss or draw is done to determine how that individual slot is assigned. This is conducted by either the regional representative or hosting college coach, whichever has the most neutral position.

## Appendix D – Rider Classification

### Rider Classification Questionnaire

**ANY COACH THAT FEELS THAT A RIDER IS UNSAFE IN THE DIVISION THAT THIS QUESTIONNAIRE PLACES THEM IN MAY SUBMIT A VIDEO TO THE RIDER CLASSIFICATION COMMITTEE FOR REVIEW**

Are you an international student who has competed in a country other than the United States?

Yes                      No

\*If yes, please explain below your competitive experience, then continue the questionnaire:

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\*This information will be forwarded to the Rules/Rider Classification committee by the regional rep. The committee may request a rider video.

**Introductory Level: The idea of the Introductory Division is to encourage exposure to the riders new to the sport of dressage. Coaches and Riders are requested to abide by this philosophy**

**Minimum: The introductory division is designed for beginning dressage riders that have had a minimum of 12 hours of riding instruction within 1 year prior to competing in the IDA.**

**Maximum: Introductory riders shall have a maximum 2 year calendar limit to compete at this level dating from their joining IDA, unless they do not qualify for the Introductory Level in their second year when they reclassify. This is ONLY required at the Introductory Level.**

Question: Do you have a USEF Competing record for any discipline? (Coaches, please see instructions in the RULES for printing and submitting proof of no USEF competition record Article 4.1 G2ii)

Answer: Yes              No

Question: Have you competed in 6 or more training level dressage tests (or equivalent tests) or competed at a level higher than training level dressage, in any recognized or schooling competition?

Answer: Yes              No

Question: Do you have a C2 or higher pony club rating?

Answer: Yes              No

Question: Have you competed in an Eventing competition at a USEA recognized or schooling event at beginner novice level (2'7") or higher

Answer: Yes              No

Question: Have you competed in any schooling competition that required you to jump 2'7" or higher?

Answer: Yes              No

Question: Have you competed in the IHSA limit division?

Answer: Yes              No

Question: Have you competed in Western Dressage Basic Level or higher?

Answer: Yes              No

Question: Have you competed in a "recognized" USEF/USHJA and/or USEF/USEA competition?

Answer: Yes              No

Question: Have you competed in mounted classes in recognized competitions to include any western class and who have not earned more than 25 points from any breed association in western classes, excluding roping, games, halter, showmanship, non-roping classes, or "novice" division classes.

Answer: Yes              No

Question: Have you competed in mounted classes in a “recognized” AQHA, NRHA or APHA competition?  
(Excluding AQHA/APHA Novice Classes and NRHA Green Reiner classes)

Answer: Yes      No

Question: Have you placed 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> at the IDA National Championships on individual or team day in Introductory Level?

Answer: Yes      No

Question: Have you been registered and or competed as an IDA Introductory level rider for more than 2 years or earned 35 points at IDA Introductory level?

Answer: Yes      No

**If you have answered no to all of the questions above and you meet the philosophy of the Introductory level rider you are classified as an introductory level rider. Please see the rules regarding eligibility and restrictions to this level.**

**If you have answered yes to any introductory level question or do not meet the philosophy of the Introductory level rider please continue to the questions in the lower training level section below.**

### Lower Training Level:

Question: Have you competed in 3 or more First Level Dressage Tests (or equivalent tests, see Appendix B) or competed at a level higher than first level at any recognized or schooling dressage competition?

Answer: Yes      No

Question: Have you competed in the FEI 4 year old test or above?

Answer: Yes      No

Question: Do you have a C+, C3, or higher pony club rating?

Answer: Yes      No

Question: Have you competed at a USEA recognized or schooling Eventing competition at novice level (2'11") or higher?

Answer: Yes      No

Question: Have you won more than 5 hunter seat equitation on the flat classes in recognized competitions?

Answer: Yes      No

Question: have you competed in more than 6 classes in any over fences class at 3' or higher in recognized or schooling competitions?

Answer: Yes      No

Question: Have you competed in Intermediate level flat or over fences or above IHSA Hunter Seat Competition?

Answer: Yes      No

Question: Have you won more than 5 blue western horsemanship ribbons in recognized competitions in classes of five or more riders?

Answer: Yes      No

Question: Have you earned 26 or more points from any breed association in western classes excluding roping, games, halter, showmanship or novice classes?

Answer: Yes      No

Question: Have you competed in an AQHA/APHA/NRHA World Championship in a western division excluding roping, games, halter, showmanship or novice classes?

Answer: Yes      No

Question: Have you finished in the Year End Top Three in state or affiliate AQHA/APHA/NRHA association in a western division excluding roping, games, halter, showmanship or novice classes?

Answer: Yes      No

Question: Have you competed in Western Dressage at Level one or above?

Answer: Yes      No

Question: Have you placed 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> at the IDA National Championships individual or team day in Lower Training?

Answer: Yes      No

Question: Have you earned 35 or more points at IDA Lower Training Level?

Answer: Yes      No

**If you have answered no to all of the questions above you are classified as a Lower Training Level rider. Please see the rules regarding eligibility and restrictions to this level. If you have answered yes to any Lower Training Level questions please continue to the questions in the Upper Training level section below**

### Upper Training Level:

Question: Have you competed at Second Level (or equivalent tests, see Appendix B) or competed at a level higher than second level at any recognized or schooling dressage competition?

Answer: Yes      No

Question: Have you competed in the FEI 5 year old test or above?

Answer: Yes      No

Question: Do you have a B pony club rating or higher?

Answer: Yes      No

Question: Have you competed at a USEA recognized eventing competition at the modified level (3'5") or higher?

Answer: Yes      No

Question: Have you competed in a recognized Medal, Maclay or USET Talent Search Equitation Class?

Answer: Yes      No

Question: Have you won more than 10 Hunter Seat Equitation classes in recognized competition?

Answer: Yes      No

Question: Have you won more than 6 classes in any over fences class 3'6" or higher in recognized competitions?

Answer: Yes      No

Question: Have you competed Open level flat or over fences in IHSA Hunter Seat competitions?

Answer: Yes      No

Question: Have you ever finished in the Top Five in ANY non-gaited breed National/World Championship in a western class excluding roping, games, halter, showmanship or novice classes?

Answer: Yes      No

Question: Have you ever finished in the Top Ten of the AQHA/APHA/NRHA World/Congress Championship in a western class excluding roping, games, halter, showmanship or novice classes?

Answer: Yes      No

Question: Have you competed in an NCEA Competition?

Answer: Yes      No

Question: Have you competed in Western Dressage at Level 2 or above?

Answer: Yes      No

Question: Have you placed 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> at the IDA National Championships individual or team day in Upper Training?

Answer: Yes      No

Question: Have you earned 35 or more points at IDA Upper Training level?

Answer: Yes      No

**If you have answered no to all of the questions above you are classified as an Upper Training level rider. Please see the rules regarding eligibility and restrictions to this level.**

**If you have answered yes to any Upper Training Level question you are classified as a First Level rider, First level is open to all riders.**