

Q: May my trainer and I both qualify and show my horse at the Regional Championships?

Answer: You and your trainer may both qualify your horse, but only one of you may show the horse at the championships in a particular region. Furthermore, a horse may not be entered in more than one U.S. Equestrian/USDF Regional Championship at a particular level in the same calendar year.

Therefore, if your trainer declares a change of region and qualifies at a different level both of you would be permitted to compete the same horse.

Q: As a junior rider, may I use the FEI Junior tests to qualify?

ANSWER: Junior Riders (age 14-18) may ride the FEI Junior Team Test to qualify for Third level and the FEI Junior Individual Test to qualify for Fourth Level. Prior to riding in the class, riders must pay \$10.00 Qualifying Class fee to the Competition Secretary. In 2004, Young Riders DO NOT ride FEI Young Rider Tests in Regional Championship classes and FEI Juniors DO NOT ride the FEI Junior Tests in Regional Championship classes.

For the 2005 Regional Championships, two new divisions will be added: FEI Junior and FEI Advanced Young Rider. Riders in these divisions will compete in qualifying classes using the FEI tests and will compete in those classes at their Regional Championships.

Q: I want to compete in the championships in a region other than my home region. However, I wish to qualify in my home region. Is this permitted? If yes, which region's qualifying season do I follow?

ANSWER: You may qualify in any region. To compete in a championship outside your home region, you just submit a "change of region request" in writing (via fax or regular mail; e-mail requests are not acceptable) to USDF by July 1. Include your name, address, USDF and U.S. Equestrian member numbers, home region, and the region in which you would like to compete.

As for the qualifying season, follow the qualifying season of the region in which you intend to compete in the championships.

Q: Will I get a qualifying certificate from USDF to submit with my entry so the show secretary knows I am qualified?

ANSWER: You will receive a certificate recognizing your achievement, but not before the championships. Certificates are sent after the completion of the final championships of the year. Competitors are not required to prove submit proof that they are qualified when entering the championships. However, USDF recommends that competitors contact USDF for a score check to verify that their scores have been properly recorded. USDF will verify the list of entrants in the championship classes as provided by the competition.

Q: What are the membership and registration requirements for the rider, horse, and owner?

ANSWER: The rider:

- Must be a USDF participating member at the time qualifying scores are earned and at the time of the championships
- Must be a U.S. Equestrian member (junior, senior, or life) at the time qualifying scores are earned and at the time of the championships.

The horse:

- Must be USDF lifetime-registered at the time qualifying scores are earned and at the time of the championships. Horse registration must be in the name(s) of the current owner(s) or lessee(s) of record.
- Must be U.S. Equestrian recorded (annual or lifetime recorded) at the time qualifying scores are earned and at the time of the championships. Horse registration must be in the name(s) of the current owner(s) or lessee(s) of record.
- Does not have to be breed-registered.

The owner:

- Must be a USDF member (participating or business) at the time qualifying scores are earned and at the time of the championships

- Must be a U.S. Equestrian member (junior, senior, or life) at the time qualifying scores are earned and at the time of the championships.

Horses must be entered in qualifying classes under their official recorded names and ownership as specified in Art. 811.4 (USEF Rule Book), and transfers of ownership or lease registrations must be completed in compliance with USEF rules prior to the competition in order for the horse to compete under the name of the new owner or lessee. (USEF Art. 1927.2 – effective 12/1/03)

Q: I am not a U.S. citizen but have lived in the U.S. for ten years. May I compete in the Regional Championships?

ANSWER: Riders must be U.S. citizens in order to compete in qualifying and championship classes. This is a U.S. Equestrian rule.

Q: What are the requirements to qualify for the Regional Championships?

ANSWER: To qualify for a Regional Championship, horse/rider combinations must earn a total of two qualifying scores. They must be from different competitions and (except at the FEI levels) from different judges or combination of judges. If a panel judges a qualifying class, their average score is used. (Note: A panel of judges is considered a different judging entity if 50 percent or more of that panel is changed. For example, a panel of two judges must have one new person; a panel of three judges must have two new people; and a panel of five judges must have three new people.)

Q: What are the minimum percentages needed to qualify?

ANSWER: One set of nationally standardized qualifying scores has been established for all U.S. Equestrian/USDF Regional Championships for levels through Intermediate I, in three divisions: open, adult amateur, and junior/young rider. Intermediate II, Grand Prix, and freestyles have only open divisions.

The minimum percentages are as follows:

	Open	AA	Jr/YR
Training Level (Test 4)	65%	60%	60%
First Level (Test 4)	65%	60%	60%

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Second Level (Test 4)	63%	59%	59%
Third Level (Test 3)	60%	57%	57%
Fourth Level (Test 3)	60%	57%	57%
Prix St. Georges	60%	57%	57%
Intermediate I	60%	57%	57%
Intermediate II	58%	--	--
Grand Prix	58%	--	--

Freestyle

First Level	65%	--	--
Second Level	65%	--	--
Third Level	65%	--	--
Fourth Level	63%	--	--
Intermediate I	63%	--	--
Grand Prix	63%	--	--

Q: How much is the qualifying fee, and what is the money used for?

ANSWER: The qualifying fee is \$10 per class entered. Of each fee paid, \$5 is deposited into a prize-money fund. All prize money accumulated during the U.S. Equestrian competition year (December 1-November 30) is distributed in the following year equally among all USDF regions. Monies are split equally for levels and in all three divisions (open, ad/am, and Jr/YR). The champion in each class receives 60 percent of the designated amount, and the reserve champion receives 40 percent. Undistributed money is returned to the pool for the following year.

Q: What happens if I forget to bring copies of my membership cards to the Regional Championships?

ANSWER: Copies of the required memberships and registrations must be included with a championships entry. If you cannot produce this documentation you WILL NOT be permitted to compete in the championship class.

In the event that a competitor is unable to produce copies of USDF-membership or lifetime-horse-registration documents, or both, and wishes to enter a qualifying class, a USDF membership and registration affidavit may be completed and filed with the competition secretary. A fee of \$5 is required for each affidavit filed. A copy of the affidavit and the \$5 must be submitted to USDF along with the competition results.

Q: I am trying to qualify for the Regional Championships, but my next show does not offer an adult-amateur qualifying class. What should I do?

ANSWER: Enter the open qualifying class. You do not “win” a qualifying score and the USDF’s computer system will recognize you as an adult amateur and credit the score earned.

Q: May I use a score earned last weekend as a qualifying score if I pay the \$10 qualifying fee now?

ANSWER: Unfortunately, no. The \$10 fee must be paid before the ride occurs and the score is earned.

Q: I competed in two qualifying classes last weekend. Does each class count as a separate qualifying score?

ANSWER: No, unless the two classes were held in separate competitions. You may earn only one qualifying score at a particular level in each competition.

This is why some competition organizers hold shows of two or more days but have each day recognized by USDF and U.S. Equestrian as a separate event (e.g., Dynamic Dressage I, Dynamic Dressage II). If you compete in a multi-day event that is designated as separate shows in this way, then qualifying scores earned on the different days would all count.

Even a multi-day show run as a single competition, however, may offer qualifying classes on more than one day. This gives riders more than one opportunity to earn a qualifying score at that competition. If you

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compete in multiple qualifying classes at the same competition and earn more than one qualifying score, only one score counts toward your Regional Championships qualification.

For the complete Great American Insurance Group/USDF Regional Dressage Championship rules,

please visit our web site at:

<http://www.usdf.org/Programs/RegionalChampionships/2002ABICRegionalChampionshipRules.pdf>

