



MEMORANDUM

To: Potential Applicants for the 2024 U.S. Dressage Festival of Champions

Date: May 11, 2023

From: Laureen Johnson, Director, Para Equestrian

Copy: Hallye Griffin
Kristen Brett

Re: Qualifying Dates and Competitions for the 2024 USEF Para Dressage National Championship

This preliminary information is being provided to assist you with your competition planning and may be subject to change. Please remember that this information is based upon the recommendations of the USEF Para Equestrian Sport Committee and the final qualifying requirements are subject to approval by the USEF Board of Directors or an Ad Hoc Selection Group approved by the USEF Board of Directors.

Date and Location: The 2024 U.S. Dressage Festival of Champions is scheduled to take place on August 19-25, 2024 at HITS Chicago at Lamplight Equestrian Center in Wayne, IL.

Qualifying Period: The qualifying period for the 2024 USEF Para Dressage National Championship will begin on July 25, 2023 and end on July 22, 2024.

Application of Intent: An Application of Intent must be submitted in order to receive an invitation to the U.S. Dressage Festival of Champions. The Application of Intent will be available [here](#) on the USEF website no later than September 14, 2023. The early submission deadline for the Application of Intent is May 15, 2024, with a \$50 fee. Additionally, a late Application of Intent must be submitted between May 16, 2024 and June 17, 2024, with a \$150 fee. Horses are permitted to be added to an existing Application of Intent with a \$50 fee per horse by June 17, 2024. Qualifying scores are permitted to be earned prior to submission of the Application of Intent. These deadlines are subject to change.

For this Championship, qualification is athlete/horse combination based. Therefore, the athlete cannot change during the qualifying period.

Qualifying Competitions:

Competitions throughout the U.S. have been designated as national USEF/NAYC Qualifying Competitions and a list of these competitions is available on the USEF website [here](#).

Qualifying scores may only be earned at these competitions or CPEDIs (See Ranking List Score Calculation below). The 2023 FEI Calendar can be found [here](#) and please note that the 2024 FEI Calendar will not be published on this link until approved by the FEI, no later than December 31, 2023.

For all divisions, scores earned from the 2023 U.S. Dressage Festival of Champions are not used towards qualifying for the 2024 U.S. Dressage Festival Champions.





Eligibility Requirements for Athlete and Horse:

- Athletes must be a minimum of 13 years old as of December 1, 2023 (refer to DR128.1).
- Horses must be a minimum of six-years-old in 2024 (refer to DR119.1 and DR305).
- Athletes must have a USEF National and/or FEI International Para Equestrian Dressage Classification and be assigned a Grade I-V with a confirmed or review, with a fixed review date (FRD), status to earn qualifying scores (refer to DR119.12, DR119.13, and DR305).
- Athletes must ride independently and at their classified Grade.

Qualifying Tests:

Combinations must obtain at least two (2) scores in their respective Grade level in the current edition of the FEI Para Grand Prix A Test and at least (2) scores in their respective Grade level in the current edition of the FEI Para Grand Prix B Test.

Combinations must also complete one (1) FEI Para Grand Prix Freestyle Test in their respective Grade level within the qualifying period. The Freestyle Test score may be earned in an FEI Para Grand Prix Freestyle Test of Choice class held at a national Qualifying Competition or earned in an FEI Para Grand Prix Freestyle Test held at a CPEDI. This score will not be used in the calculation of a combination's final average.

Ranking List Score Calculation:

- a. USEF will automatically track scores for combinations which are earned at national Qualifying Competitions.
- b. For all divisions, scratches, eliminations, and withdrawals will not be penalized.
- c. **CPEDI Scores:** CPEDI scores are calculable at the option of the athlete and will only be computed into the combination's overall average upon receipt of a USEF CDI, CPEDI and Championships Report Form within the specified deadline stated on the form to the USEF Dressage Department. Scores submitted late will not be accepted. It is the sole responsibility of the athlete to ensure that all qualifying CPEDI scores for this Championship are submitted to USEF on time and are accurate.
- d. A combination cannot earn a score in a national Qualifying Competition if the athlete submits the USEF CDI, CPEDI and Championships Report Form from the same event.

Questions: If you have any questions regarding the above, please do not hesitate to contact the USEF Para Equestrian Department at lkjohnson@usef.org or festival@usef.org.