CHAPTER 2 MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES AND REQUIREMENTS

SUBCHAPTER 2-A MEMBERSHIPS

GR201 Membership

GR202 Membership Requirements

GR203 Effective Date of Membership

SUBCHAPTER 2-B AFFILIATED ASSOCIATIONS

GR204 Affiliated Associations

SUBCHAPTER 2-C NON-MEMBERS

GR205 Participation

SUBCHAPTER 2-D FEDERATION FEES AND DUES

GR206 Show Pass Fee

GR207 High Performance Fees

GR208 Competition Fees

© USEF 2026

CHAPTER 2 MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES AND REQUIREMENTS

SUBCHAPTER 2-A MEMBERSHIPS

GR201 Membership

1. Competing Membership(s)
   Competing members are those individuals who desire to participate in Federation Licensed Competitions as Life or Active members as defined in Bylaw 212.
   a. Life Member. Life Members are those persons who have made a single payment of the fee, established by the Federation. They shall be exempt from annual dues.
   b. Active Member. Active Members are those Members who have paid the requisite annual dues. For purposes of these rules, 'Senior Active Members' are those Active or Life Members who have reached their 18th birthday. 'Junior Active Members' are those Active or Life Members who have not reached their 18th birthday, as provided for in GR128.
2. Non-competing Membership(s)
   Non-competing members are those individuals who do not desire to participate in Federation Licensed Competitions. Non-competing members are not eligible to participate as a licensed official, rider, driver, handler, vaulter, longeur, owner, lessee, agent, trainer, coach, competition manager, or competition secretary. The non-competing membership options are described on the membership application.

GR202 Membership Requirements

1. To be eligible to participate as a rider, driver, handler, vaulter, longeur, owner, lessee, agent, coach, or trainer at Federation Licensed Competitions, persons must be Junior or Senior Members of the Federation as provided in Bylaw 212, or pay a non-member Show Pass Fee (See GR205).
2. No organization, other than the Federation and its Recognized Breed and Discipline Affiliates, may require mandatory membership or a non-member fee as a condition of participation in a Federation Licensed Competition. (See GR1210.12 for further information regarding the collection of mandatory participation fees at Federation Licensed competitions).
3. All Competing Members of the Federation must designate a primary breed/discipline affiliation upon joining or must do so annually upon renewing. A member will be deemed to continue their primary designation unless prior to the record date (November 30 of each year) such Life Member notifies the Federation in writing of change. This shall be considered the member's affiliation for the purpose of allocating Voting Director seats as provided in Bylaw 211.
4. Lessees are considered owners in connection with this membership requirement. If a horse(s) is owned by multiple individuals, only one owner need be a Senior Active Member or pay a non-member Show Pass fee. The competition is responsible for listing either the active member or the owner that paid the non-member Show Pass fee in the results.
5. If a horse(s) is owned by a farm or any other entity, at least one of the Farm/Business's owners, must be a Federation Senior Active Competing Member in good standing. See GR201.
6. To be eligible to compete at Federation Licensed Competitions, coaches, trainers, and legal guardians signing and/or acting as coaches or trainers on behalf of their minors must be Senior Active Members in good standing, as defined herein.

BOD 06/17/2025 Effective 12/01/2025

GR203 Effective Date of Membership

1. Effective Date of Memberships
   a. Membership is effective the date the correct application and fees are received by the Federation, with the following exceptions:
      1. Applications completed online at any Dressage competition are effective the date the application is submitted.

2. Applications completed online at any competition other than Dressage are effective, for points and eligibility to compete only, the start date of the Competition.

SUBCHAPTER 2-B AFFILIATED ASSOCIATIONS

GR204 Affiliated Associations

1. Recognized Affiliate Associations
   Recognized Affiliate Associations consist of corporations, organizations, and associations in good standing that have been approved by the Board of Directors of the Federation. See Bylaw 222.

SUBCHAPTER 2-C NON-MEMBERS

GR205 Participation

A non-member, who wishes to participate as a rider, driver, handler, vaulter, longeur, owner, lessee or agent, at Federation Licensed Competitions, are eligible to obtain no more than one non-member Show Pass per competition year and must pay the requisite fee. Lessees are considered owners in connection with this requirement. The amount of the non-member Show Pass fee will be established annually by the Federation. Payment of Show Pass fees for purposes of competing does not entitle the individual to any other privileges of Federation membership.

BOD 06/17/2025 Effective 12/01/2025

SUBCHAPTER 2-D FEDERATION FEES AND DUES

GR206 Recognized Affiliate Association Fees

1. Recognized Affiliate Association non-member fee. A Federation Recognized Affiliate Association as defined under Bylaw 222, Section 1(a) and 1(b) may establish a non-member fee for their respective breed or discipline. If established, the amount of the non-member fee will be determined annually by the applicable Recognized Affiliate Association. This fee must be collected by all appropriate Licensed Competitions and remitted to the Recognized Affiliate Association (for exceptions see GR901.9).

BOD 06/17/2025 Effective 12/01/2025

GR207 High Performance Fees

1. International High Performance
   a. In order for an individual to be eligible to compete as a rider, driver, vaulter, or longeur, in competitions as defined herein, said individual must be a member of the Federation and must pay an International High Performance (IHP) Fee as noted below: (Exception: GR207.1k)
   b. The IHP fee is charged per entry at defined competitions in the United States as noted below for each discipline. The fee is capped per competition year. Please refer to the Federation website for policy and instructions on requesting reimbursement for payments over the cap in the same competition year.
      1. For purposes of this rule, an entry is defined as each horse, horse/vaulter combination, vaulting team, or driving single, pair or team.
      2. Competition secretaries are responsible for collecting the fees and sending them to Federation with the post-competition report.
   c. Dressage
      1. FEI Recognized Events [CDIO/CDI's, including the North American Junior and Young Rider Championships (NAJYRC)].
   d. Eventing

1. FEI Recognized Events [CCIO and CCI competitions, including the North American Youth Championships (NAYC)].

e. Jumping
   1. FEI Recognized Events [CSIO/CSI's, including for Children, Young Riders, Seniors, and the North American Junior and Young Rider Championships (NAJYRC)].
   2. Federation recognized Grand Prixes included on the USEF Show Jumping Ranking List (Maximum one fee per horse per competition).

f. Driving
   1. FEI Recognized Events (CAIO/CAI's).

g. Endurance
   1. FEI Recognized Events (CEIO/CEI's).

h. Para-Equestrian
   1. FEI Recognized events (CPEDIO/CPEDI's) at the 3* level or above.

i. Reining
   1. FEI Recognized Events [CRIO/CRI's, including the North American Junior and Young Rider Championships (NAJYRC)].

j. Vaulting
   1. FEI Recognized Events(CVIO/CVI's)

k. In order to compete in competitions in the US as defined above, foreign competitors must be a member in good standing of their National Federation and are required to pay the IHP per entry fee.

2. All Senior Active Members who receive funding from the Federation for High Performance training or competitions, if called upon by the Federation President, shall personally donate at least two days of service for each calendar year in which they have received funding. However, such service is not required to be given during the same calendar year in which funding is received. Such service may be, at the President's discretion, given to either the Federation and/or the members' respective affiliate. In person participation at Board and Committee meetings shall be credited toward fulfilling this service requirement. Such requested service shall not affect a member's amateur status. A member's competition schedules and prior commitments shall be taken into serious consideration by the Federation President when calling upon members to fulfill this requirement. An administrative penalty may be levied by the President for non-compliance at the recommendation of the Director for Sport Programs, and after consultation with the Regulation Director.

GR208 Competition Fees

1. For every horse participating in any competition licensed by the Federation, a Federation fee will be collected (a portion of the fee shall be an Equine Drugs and Medication fee to provide for research, inspection, and enforcement of rules regarding use of medications and drugs; see GR407.1, .2 and .3). Exception: Horses entered in classes exempted from the Equine Drugs and Medication fee are also exempt from the balance of the Federation fee.
2. The following fees may be paid by competitors when applying for membership at a competition: any fees as provided in GR206, GR207, GR208.1, and GR1307.3.