

while he or she is riding. This does not absolve the manager's or secretary's duties and responsibilities. A judge may not be an owner of any competing horse, except that horses may be shown Hors de Concours in classes where the owner is not officiating (see GR1304.17 and GR1040).

8. **Minimum entry requirements for athletes of USA FEI sport nationality entering CDIs can be found in Annex B, which is posted on the USEF website. Athletes of foreign FEI sport nationality (other than USA) should refer to the rules of their National Federation for minimum CDI entry requirements. BOD 6/22/20 Effective 12/1/21**
9. FEI Young Rider Tests are open only to Young Riders. FEI Junior Tests are open only to Juniors from the beginning of the calendar year in which they reach the age of 14 until the end of the calendar year in which they reach the age of 18. Ponies may not be ridden in FEI Young Rider or FEI Junior tests. FEI Pony Tests are open only to riders from the beginning of the calendar year in which they reach the age of 12 until the end of the calendar year in which they reach the age of 16. FEI Tests for Children are open only to riders from the beginning of the calendar year in which they reach the age of 12 until the end of the calendar year in which they reach the age of 14. Individuals who are eligible as Juniors and Young Riders may not enter both FEI Junior and FEI Young Rider tests on the same horse in the same competition; however, they may enter both Junior and Young Rider tests in the same competition on different horses.
10. The FEI Young Rider Freestyle test is open only to Young Riders.
11. Horses competing in the FEI Dressage Tests for 4-year-old horses and USEF Dressage Test for 4-year old horses must be four years old. Horses competing in the FEI Dressage Tests for 5-year-old horses must be five years old. The FEI Dressage Tests for 5-year-old horses are comparable to Second Level. Horses competing in the FEI Dressage Tests for 6-year old horses must be six years old. The FEI Dressage Tests for 6-year-old horses are comparable to Third Level. Horses competing in the FEI Dressage Tests for 7 year old horses must be seven years old. The horse's age is counted from January 1 of the year of birth to January 1 of the current competition year.
12. Riders with a diagnosed permanent disability who require the use of compensatory aids or adaptive equipment must hold a Federation Dispensation/Classification Certificate indicating their International (FEI) or their National (Federation) classification status. A copy of an athlete's Dispensation/Classification Certificate listing all of his or her allowed compensating aids and adaptive equipment must be included with the rider's entry, with a copy then attached to each of their Dressage sheets for the Judge's reference. A copy must remain with the entry records for review by the Technical Delegate.
13. Athletes in FEI **Para Dressage** tests must have a current Federation Dispensation/Classification Certificate which indicates their Classification status to be eligible to participate.
14. Riders who do not submit a current Federation Dispensation/Classification Certificate or a Federation Presidential Modification letter to the competition secretary cannot compete with any modifications, compensatory aids, or dispensations to the rules in DR Chapter 1. Federation affidavits cannot be used to compete with modifications or compensatory aids when either the **Federation** Dispensation/Classification Certificate or Presidential Modification is not available. **BOD 6/28/21 Effective 12/1/21**

DR120 Dress

1. Dress. The Dress Code provisions of this section apply to all classes and levels, including Championships, at USEF Licensed-USDF recognized dressage competitions. FEI Dress rules apply only to FEI recognized dressage events (CDIs).

1.1 Protective Headgear. Protective headgear is defined as a riding helmet, which meets or exceeds current ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials)/SEI (Safety Equipment Institute) standards for equestrian use and carries the SEI tag. From the time horses are officially admitted to the competition grounds by competition management, anyone mounted on a horse at any time on the competition grounds, including non-competing riders, riders on non-competing horses, mounted participants in exhibition classes, and those competing in all classes and tests, including Para Dressage tests, must wear protective headgear as defined by this rule and otherwise in compliance with GR801. The harness must be secured and properly fitted. Any rider violating this rule at any time must immediately be prohibited from further riding until the headgear is properly in place.

Protective headgear may be the same as or a coordinating color with the coat, and may include contrast coloring, accent, and crystal decoration. See DR136 for dress code rules for exhibitions.

1.2 Coats and Jackets. A short riding jacket or cutaway coat (modified tailcoat) with short tails is permitted at any level of competition. A tailcoat is permitted in all classes above Fourth level and in tests for FEI Juniors. Any single color jacket or tailcoat is permitted and may have subtle pin striping, checks or tweeds. Striped or multi-colored jackets or coats are not permitted. Tasteful and discreet accents, such as a collar of a different hue, modest piping, or crystal decorations, are acceptable. Only riders competing in Level 1 dressage competitions or in Opportunity classes are not required to wear a riding jacket or coat. *BOD 1/15/22 Effective 2/1/22*

1.3 Vests. Vests of any type are permitted but not required. Vests, including cooling vests, may be worn underneath a riding jacket or when jackets are waived.

1.3.1. Per GR801, a body protecting or inflatable vest, specifically designed for use in equestrian sport, may be worn in any division or class without penalty from the judge.

1.3.2. When the only warm-up available is open to all horses and riders, riders with safety concerns are encouraged to wear an orange vest.

1.4 Breeches and Jodhpurs. White, light or dark colored breeches or jodhpurs are permitted in competition. Bright colors or patterns are not permitted. Contrast piping is allowed.

1.5 Shirts and Neckwear. Shirts with tie, choker, stock tie, or integrated stand-up collar are required. Ties, chokers, or stock ties may be any color. If jackets or coats are not worn per DR 120.1.2 and DR 120.2.1, shirts must be without bold pattern.

1.6 Boots & Half Chaps. For tests or classes at Fourth level or below, riders may wear tall boots or paddock/jodhpur boots with half-chaps or garters, matching the color of their boots, and made of smooth leather or leather-like material. Tall English-style riding boots, including dress or field boots or variations thereof, are required above Fourth Level. Boots of coordinating color(s), with or without accents, are permitted. Boots/shoes worn while riding anywhere on the competition grounds must have a distinguishable heel. (GR 801.9)

1.7 Gloves. White or light colored gloves are recommended and any solid color is permitted at Fourth Level and below. Black, brown, or white gloves are required in FEI tests or levels.

1.8 Military. Current and retired members of the Armed Services and police units may ride in the uniform of their service. All riders who choose to wear Armed Services or police uniform must wear protective headgear as defined in DR120.1.1 and in compliance with GR801. Members of the Armed Services or police units may wear summer uniforms if jackets are waived.

1.9 Pas de Deux and Quadrille Attire. Riders in Pas de Deux and Quadrille classes are exempt from the dress code requirements of DR120.1.2, 1.4, 1.5, and 1.7. However, headgear and boots as required in DR120.1.1 and 1.6 must be worn. Riders must follow the dress requirements outlined in the USDF Rules and Guidelines for Quadrille Competitions and for Pas de Deux.

2. Weather Conditions. In locations with high average heat and humidity on the date of a competition, competition management may publish in its prize list that jackets will be waived for the duration of the competition. Alternatively, management may announce prior to or during a competition that competitors may show without jackets when extreme heat and/or humidity is forecasted. This waiver applies to national classes at a USEF licensed-USDF recognized dressage competition.

2.1 Competitors must wear protective headgear and shirt with sleeves and collar, without neckwear. T-shirts are not permitted.

2.2 Competitors are permitted to wear a hat cover and a rain coat, with or without a riding jacket, in inclement weather.

3. Sponsor logo and Non-Sponsor Logo or Brand Marks. When sponsorship is permitted in accordance with GR1306, the name and/or logo of the individual's sponsor(s) may appear on each of the two sides of jackets and top garments at the height of breast pockets not exceeding 80 cm² in size. Logos described under DR121 are also permitted. No other sponsor logos are permitted on any garments (including jackets or coats, vests, shirts, or stock ties).

3.1 Dress may include non-sponsor logos or brand marks of any size. Refer to GR1306.

3.2 The name and/or logo of an individual's sponsor may also appear on the rider's protective headgear if permitted in accordance with GR1306 and DR121.1.b.

4. Spurs. Spurs must be made of metal. Only English-style spurs are permitted, as described below.

4.1 The shank must be either curved or straight pointing directly back from the center of the spur when on the rider's boot. If the shank is curved, the spurs must be worn only with the shank directed downwards. However, swan necked spurs are permitted.



The inside arm of the spur must be smooth and one or both arms may have rubber covers. If rowels are used, they must be blunt/smooth and free to rotate. Metal spurs with round hard plastic knobs on the shank are permitted ("Impuls" spur). "Dummy" spurs (without shank) are permitted. Armless spurs are permitted.

4.2 Spurs are mandatory during competition in FEI Tests. However, spurs are optional for all of the FEI Children tests, FEI Pony tests, and the FEI and USEF test for 4-year old horses.

4.3 The maximum length for spurs in all classes except the FEI Children tests and the FEI Pony tests is 5.08cm (2 inches) including rowels. Only blunt metal spurs (i.e., with no rowels) no longer than 3.5cm are permitted for FEI Pony Rider tests and FEI tests for Children. Except for FEI Pony Rider tests and FEI tests for Children, the length of the spur is measured from the base to the end of the shank. For FEI Pony Rider tests and FEI tests for Children, spur length is measured from the boot to the tip of the spur.

4.4 Offset spurs without rowel are permitted for riders having an appropriate Federation Dispensation/Classification Certificate.

5. Electronic Communication Devices. Earphones and/or other electronic communication devices are strictly prohibited while competing and such usage is penalized by elimination. Electronic devices that transmit and/or receive information may be used in the stabling area and in warm up areas. The unsafe use of electronic devices, as determined by the competition Technical Delegate in their sole discretion, including cell phones, with or without earphones/buds, while mounted is prohibited in all areas designated for schooling and exercise, and while lungeing horses on competition grounds. Exception: medical devices, such as hearing aids are allowed to be used for the medical condition for which they are prescribed.

5.1 Electronic devices are permitted for Para Dressage riders if stated on their Federation Dispensation/Classification Certificate.

6. Federation Dispensation/Classification Certificates. Individuals holding Federation Dispensation/Classification Certificates may be allowed exceptions. See DR307. All exceptions to required dress must be listed on the rider's Federation Dispensation/Classification Certificate. *BOD 6/28/21 Effective 12/1/21*

10. A horse sold by you or by your employer.
 11. A person for whom you have or are scheduled to receive any remuneration involving a horse sale, purchase, (unless at public auction), lease, or board (stud fees, retiree or broodmare board excluded).
26. Other Hunter/Jumper Regulations and Restrictions:
- a. If a judge believes (but is not certain) that a horse or person presented to him is ineligible to compete under these rules, the entry should be judged, an investigation should occur and, if substantiated, the judge should report the alleged rule violation to the Federation.
 - b. Sixty days prior to the first day of a competition through 30 days after the last competition day, no horse or rider that has been trained by a judge or a judge's employee or agent may show before a judge officiating at any of the following competitions:
 1. National Junior Hunter Finals.
 2. National Pony Hunter Finals.
 3. All USEF Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation Medal Finals (USEF Jr. Medal, ASPCA, USEF Pony)
 4. USEF Show Jumping Talent Search Finals.
 5. Washington International Horse Show Equitation.
 - c. No one shall approach a judge with regard to a decision unless he first obtains permission from the Steward, who shall arrange an appointment to meet with the judge at a proper time and place. The Steward shall be present for the meeting.
 - d. No competitor has the right to inspect a judge's card without the judge's permission.
 - e. No rider may compete in an equitation class before a judge by whom he has been instructed, coached, or tutored (with or without pay) within 30 days of the competition. Conducting clinics or assistance in group activities such as Pony Clubs, unless private instruction is given, will not be considered as instruction, coaching, or tutoring.
 - f. No rider may compete in an Equitation class before a judge with whom his parent, guardian, or instructor has had any financial transaction in connection with the sale, lease, board, or training of a horse within 30 days of the competition unless the sale or purchase was made at public auction.
 - g. The hiring of a judge to officiate does not constitute employment under this rule.

GR1305 Elimination & Withdrawal from Classes & Competition

(See also GR118)

1. No exhibitor may withdraw horses from a Licensed Competition after it has commenced, or remove them from the competition grounds, without the permission of the competition secretary.
2. If an exhibitor voluntarily removes a horse from the ring without the permission of the judge, the Show Committee or Competition Management will disqualify the exhibitor and all his entries from all future classes at that competition and all prizes and entry fees for the entire competition will be forfeited.
3. Any horse leaving the ring without the exhibitor's volition is deprived of an award in that class. See also division rules for other causes of elimination.

SUBCHAPTER 13-B AMATEURS AND PROFESSIONALS

For purposes of this Subchapter the following definitions apply:

Social Media Brand Ambassadors are social media users who spread the word about a company/brand or its products by posting about them on social media and promoting them to their unique social audience.

Social Media Influencers are individuals who have built a reputation for their knowledge, content creation, and expertise on a specific topic. They make regular posts about that topic on their preferred social media channels and generate large followings of enthusiastic, engaged people who pay close attention to their content.

Sponsored Rider is an individual who is paid by companies, sponsors, and/or owner/s to compete and perform, leveraging their exposure and performance in competition. *BOD 11/22/21 Effective 12/1/21*

GR1306 Professional/Amateur Status

1. Amateur. Regardless of one's equestrian skills and/or accomplishments, a person is an amateur if after his 18th birthday, as defined in GR101 and GR103, he has not engaged in any of the activities identified in Section 4 below.
 - a. For Amateurs in the Dressage Division, see DR119.3.
 - b. For Amateurs in Jumper Sections, see JP118.
 - c. For Amateurs in Hunter Sections, see HU137-HU138.
 - d. For Amateurs in Eventing, see EV Appendix 3-Participation in Horse Trials.
 - e. For Amateurs in the Arabian Division, see AR110.6 and AR110.7.
2. Remuneration. Remuneration is defined as compensation or payment in any form such as cash, goods, sponsorships, discounts or services; reimbursement of any expenses; trade or in-kind exchange of goods or services such as board or training. Amateurs are permitted to accept remuneration for the following activities:
 - a. Accept remuneration for barn duties on or off competition grounds. Barn duties include but are not limited to grooming, tacking and un-tacking, bathing, clipping, lunging, braiding, and stall and tack cleaning.
 - b. In the American Saddlebred, Saddle Seat Equitation, Morgan, Arabian, Andalusian/Lusitano, National Show Horse, Paso Fino, and Western Divisions, an amateur is permitted to accept remuneration for teaching riding lessons under the following conditions:
 - i. The amateur must register with USEF prior to performing any instruction.
 - ii. Total lesson time cannot exceed 20 hours per calendar week.
 - iii. Lessons must be given under the oversight of a USEF Competing Member in good standing who is designated as a Professional.
 - iv. Lessons cannot be conducted at a competition, including Federation Licensed Competitions and non-licensed competitions.
 - v. Student must be a beginner who has not competed and is not competing at any level of competition, and lessons must not exceed the basic beginner level.
 - vi. Teacher must maintain a log of all lessons. Log must include lesson date, lesson time and name of student.
 - vii. A USEF Competing Member designated as a Professional must review the teacher's log and verify its accuracy.
 - viii. The teacher and professional are responsible and accountable for compliance with this rule.
 - ix. USEF may request proof of compliance and refusal to provide such proof constitutes a violation of the rule.
 - c. Accept remuneration for teaching or training disabled riders for therapeutic purposes.
 - d. Accept reimbursement for expenses associated with conducting classroom seminars.
 - e. Accept remuneration for serving as a camp counselor when not hired in the exclusive capacity as an equestrian instructor
 - f. Accept remuneration as a Social Media Influencer or Social Media Brand Ambassador.
 - g. Accept remuneration for providing service in one's capacity as a: clinic manager or organizer (so long as they are not performing the activities of instructor or trainer), presenter or panelist at a Federation licensed officials' clinic, competition manager, competition secretary, judge, steward, technical delegate, course designer, announcer, TV commentator, veterinarian, groom, farrier, tack shop operator, breeder, or boarder, or horse transporter.

h. Accept reimbursement for any expenses directly related to the horse (i.e. farrier/vet bills, entries). Travel, hotel, equipment, and room and board are not considered expenses **related to the horse**.

3. Other Permitted activities by Amateurs. An Amateur is permitted to do the following:

a. Appear in advertisements and/or articles related to acknowledgement of one's own personal or business sponsorship of a competition and/or awards earned by one's owned horses.

b. Accept prize money as the owner of a horse in any class.

c. Accept a non-monetary token gift of appreciation valued less than **\$1,000** annually.

d. Serve as an intern for college credit or course requirements at an accredited institution provided one has never held professional status with the Federation or any other equestrian National Federation. In addition, one may accept reimbursement for expenses without profit, as prescribed by the educational institution's program, for the internship. At the request of the Federation, an Amateur shall provide certification from the accredited educational institution under whose auspices a student is pursuing an internship that he is undertaking the internship to meet course or degree requirements.

i. In the Hackney, Roadster, American Saddlebred, Saddle Seat Equitation, Morgan, Andalusian/Lusitano, Friesian, Arabian, and National Show Horse Divisions, college students may also accept a stipend (maximum value of the Federal minimum wage rate) and reimbursement of expenses during the internship served under the above paragraph.

ii. In the Hackney, Roadster, American Saddlebred, Saddle Seat Equitation divisions: If a college student serving as an intern exhibits a horse trained by the stable at which they are pursuing the internship, the intern shall only exhibit those horses solely owned by: the intern, the intern's family as defined by GR123, the college at which they are a student, or the stable where they are pursuing their internship. The intern shall not exhibit horses owned/leased nor co-owned by the stables' client(s).

e. Write books or articles related to horses.

f. Accept educational, competition, or training grant(s).

g. Assist in setting schooling fences without remuneration.

4. Professional based on one's own activities. A person is a professional if after his 18th birthday he does any of the following:

a. Accepts remuneration AND rides, exercises, drives, shows, trains, assists in training, schools or conducts clinics or seminars, **except as provided in GR1306.2.g**.

b. Accepts remuneration AND gives **equestrian** lessons, trains horses, or provides consultation services in riding, driving, showmanship, equitation, or training of horses, **except as provided for in GR1306.2.b**.

c. Accepts remuneration AND acts as an employee in a position such as a groom, farrier, bookkeeper, veterinarian or barn manager AND instructs, rides, drives, shows, trains or schools horses that are owned, boarded or trained by his employer, any member of his employer's family, or a business in which his employer has an ownership interest.

d. Rides, drives or shows any horse that a cohabitant or family member or a cohabitant or family member's business receives remuneration for boarding, training, riding, driving or showing. A cohabitant or family member of a trainer may not absolve themselves of this rule by entering into a lease or any other agreement for a horse owned by a client of the trainer.

e. Gives instruction to any person or rides, drives, or shows any horse, for which activity his cohabitant or another person in his family or business in which his cohabitant or a family member controls will receive remuneration for the activity. A cohabitant or family member of a trainer may not absolve themselves of this rule by entering into a lease or any other agreement for a horse owned by a client of the trainer.

f. Accepts remuneration AND acts as an agent in the sale of a horse or pony or accepts a horse or pony on consignment for the purpose of sale or training that is not owned by him, his cohabitant, or a member of his family, **or** a farm/business in which he, his cohabitant, or a member of his family controls.

g. Advertises one's equestrian services such as training or instruction.

h. Accepts remuneration AND acts as an intern, apprentice, or working student whose responsibilities include, but are not limited to, riding, driving, showmanship, handling, showing, training, or assisting in training, giving lessons/coaching and/or schooling horses other than horses actually owned by him.

i. Accepts remuneration for **the use of** commercially logoed items while on competition grounds, **as a Sponsored Rider**.

5. Professional based on one's own activity along with another's. A person is also deemed a professional after his 18th birthday, if he accepts remuneration for his spouse, family member, or cohabitant engaging in any activity enumerated in 4 a-i above. For the purposes of this rule, the term cohabitant is defined as any individuals living together in a relationship, as would a married couple, but not legally married.

6. Violations of Amateur status. **The holding of an amateur card does not preclude the question of amateur standing being raised.** After an investigation as to proper status has been initiated, and upon request by the Federation, an Amateur **must** submit verifiable proof of Amateur status. **Failure to submit requested documentation to the Federation may be deemed a violation of this rule. Any responsible person(s) found to have violated these rules, may be subject to the penalties as set forth in GR703.**

a. Any individual found to have knowingly assisted in the violation of the Amateur rule may also be subject to proceedings in accordance with the Federation Bylaws. See GR1307.

7. Questions about whether you are an Amateur or Professional. For specific inquiries, email amateurinquiry@usef.org. **BOD 11/22/21 Effective 12/1/21**

GR1307 Amateur Status

1. Only **Senior Active Members of the** Federation may obtain amateur status. Every person who has reached his/her 18th birthday and competes in classes for amateurs under Federation rules must possess current amateur status issued by the Federation. Amateur status will be issued only on receipt of the application properly signed, **or on receipt of an online status declaration**, and is revocable at any time for cause. Any person who has not reached his/her 18th birthday is an amateur and does not require amateur status. **Exceptions:**