

*Developing the skills and knowledge
to be a more confident competitor*

Kicking off With Confidence

Week 2



All those letters

Membership Organizations

- Local organizations
 - May be affiliated with a national governing body (example: NCDCTA)
 - Membership required for year end awards
 - Usually have opportunities like clinics, scholarships, membership directories
 - Sometimes regulates shows (judges requirements, equipment rules, etc...)



All those letters

Membership Organizations

- **National/International Organizations**
 - USEF - **United States Equestrian Federation** - National governing body for many breed organizations; Dressage; Eventing; Hunter/Jumper; Western Dressage; Vaulting; Reining
 - Sets rules for drugs, horse welfare, and participant conduct (Safe Sport)
 - Trains, selects and funds the United States Equestrian Team (representing our country at international competitions)
 - Provides learning opportunities
 - USDF - **United States Dressage Federation** - Governs dressage in the US, including competitions
 - USEA - **United States Eventing Association** - Governs eventing in the US, including competitions
 - USHJA - **United States Hunter Jumper Association** - Governs H/J in the US, including competitions
 - FEI - **Federation Equestre Internationale** - Governs International competitions



Membership Requirements

Requirements - Recognized Shows

Dressage

Class type	USEF Requirements for Horse	USEF Requirements for Rider, Owner, Trainer and Coach (if listed)	USDF Requirements for Horse	USDF Requirements for Rider, and Owner
Opportunity	none	none	none	none
Regular	L, A, HID	Active, NM fee	L, HID	PM, GMO, NM Fee
Qualifying	L, A	Active	L	PM



Membership Requirements

Requirements - Recognized Shows

Eventing

Class type	USEF Requirements for Horse	USEF Requirements for Rider, Owner, Trainer	USEA Requirements for Horse	USEA Requirements for Rider, and Owner
Modified-above	Not required	Member or NM Fee	Full (Limited allowed for Modified)	Member - rider Owner - not required
Training-Below	Not required	Not required	Limited or Full	Member - rider Owner - not required

L: Lifetime, A: Annual, HID: Horse ID//PM: Participating Member, GMO: General Member Organization, NM Fee: Non-Member Fee (show pass)



Entering a (recognized) show

Info commonly asked for on an entry form that is not required - Dressage

- Horse - Dam, Sire, Registration, Registration Number, Breeder, FEI Passport Number
- FEI/Local # for Rider, Owner, Trainer
- Coach is not required.

Info commonly asked for on an entry form that is not required - Eventing

- Horse - Dam, Sire, USEF #
- Rider - USEF # (for Training and below)



All those entry form lines

Who's Who

- **Rider** - Person who will be competing the horse (parent may sign for a minor)
- **Owner** - Person who owns the horse. *Recognized shows - owner or official leasor must be listed on horse registration. If horse is owned by multiple individuals, only one needs to be a member.*
- **Trainer** - Person (over the age of 18) who is physically on the show grounds and responsible for the care of the horse, must also be the rider, owner, coach or agent (if there is an agent)
- **Coach** - any adult who receives remuneration for having or sharing the responsibility for instructing, teaching, schooling, or advising a rider or handler in equestrian skills



All those entry form lines

Who's Who

- **Junior** - For Dressage - Individuals are eligible as Juniors until the end of the calendar year in which they reach the age of 18
- **Young Rider** - For Dressage - Individuals are eligible as Young Riders from the beginning of the calendar year in which they reach the age of 16 until the end of the calendar year in which they reach the age of 21
- **Amatuer** - Adult = must have an Amatuer card. Defined in the rules per discipline, but basically you can't take any money or trade for anything for training or riding.
- **Professional** - Adult who is 'paid' in any way for training or riding. Check rules for exceptions



All those entry form lines

Who's Who

- **Eventing Divisions**

- **Horse** - Horse cannot have competed 2 levels higher. No time frame. (example: if the horse has ever competed Training level, it cannot ever compete in Beginner Novice Horse)
- **Rider** - Rider cannot have competed 2 levels higher in the last 5 years (example: a person who has competed in training during the last 5 years cannot compete in Beginner Novice Rider)
- For the purpose of this rule, FEI levels are considered a level higher. Example: the One Star level is a level higher than Modified, making a One Star horse ineligible to compete in Training Level Horse division, and a One Star rider ineligible to compete in Training Rider for 5 years.



More entry form questions

Other Entry Definitions - Recognized Shows

- **Pony** - 14.2 hands or under - must have USEF Pony Card to compete in pony classes. Recognized shows have scheduled pony measurements - must be scheduled beforehand.
- **Vaccinations/Coggins** - All horses must have proof of negative coggins within one year and proof of Rhino and Influenza vaccines within 6 months. Proof of vaccines can be by veterinarian, OR In the case of vaccines administered by a person other than a veterinarian, must provide a receipt of the vaccine purchase which is signed by the owner, or agent with care, custody, and control of the horse; name, serial number and expiration date of the vaccine and date of vaccine administration. **If the horse is unable to receive either of the vaccinations due to a history of adverse reactions**, the exhibitor, must provide a letter from the veterinarian on official letterhead stating that the horse in question cannot be vaccinated due to medical concerns and a log of temperatures taken twice daily for the seven days prior to entering the competition grounds. These horses must also have their temperature taken and logged twice daily while on the competition grounds. The log of temperatures should be provided when requested.



More entry form questions

Other Entry Definitions - Recognized Shows

- **Drugs and Meds Fee** - required for every horse
- **(dressage) Qualifying Classes/fee** - Qualifies for Regionals. Paying the qualifying fee isn't necessary unless you are looking to qualify for regionals.
- **(dressage) Opportunity Classes** - For those just starting out in Dressage. They require no USEF/USDF Memberships, or Horse ID. If a horse is entered only in Intro and/or Opportunity classes, they don't have to pay the USEF drug fee, but are still bound by the rules, and may be drug tested. The scores do not count towards medals, or qualifying, points, or any other USEF/USDF program.



Types of Shows

- **Virtual shows**
 - Typically no membership requirements
- **Schooling shows**
 - Typically no membership requirements (even if they ask for it on entry form)
 - Year end awards and other programs may be available through local associations or even national organizations - membership required for participation in the programs, but **NOT** in the competition
- **Recognized shows**
 - Membership in National Organizations required (or pay show pass fee). Depends on level and what kind of show.



Show selection

Virtual Shows

- Very affordable
- No travel
- Great opportunity to run thru tests under semi-pressure situation
- Good opportunity for feedback
- Convenient to do regularly



Show selection

Schooling Shows

- Affordable
- Some are held at private farms, some at same location as recognized locations
- Not regulated by a national governing body
 - still may be judged by recognized judges/officials
 - No regulation of warm-up areas
 - No regulation of jumps/courses
 - No regulation of facility like water availability, parking, other convenience
- Variety of atmosphere experiences - research beforehand
- Course difficulty may vastly vary
- Usually able to be more flexible



Show selection

Recognized Shows

- Less affordable
- Regulated by a national governing body / strict rules
 - Judges must be licensed
 - Regulated jump courses
 - Regulated arena set up
 - Regulation of facility requirements
- Still may be a variety of atmosphere experiences - research beforehand
- Rules are in place for most logistics of the show
- Still run by humans - personnel is in place for any enquiries (jump placement/rule questions)
- Ability to use as qualifiers / results are recorded for horse/rider national records



Show Personnel

Show Personnel is meant to help you! Don't be afraid to ask questions

Secretary - They handle everything to do with entries. Field any questions about complete/incomplete entries, memberships. Or can direct any questions you may have about the show to the appropriate person.

Management - They handle the logistics of the show. Ask them about the facility, stabling, footing, etc...

Technical Delegate - This is who basically makes sure rules are followed. Ask them beforehand about equipment rules, and ask for them for any clarification about faults.

Rider Representative (eventing) - Go between between all riders and officials. Bring up any questions about appropriate jumps, scoring, etc...



Show selection

Things to consider

- Goals
- Distance
- Atmosphere
- Parking
- Courses
- Footing
- Warm-up situation
- Timing in schedule
- Support group



Show selection

How to find the answers

- Clarify goals thru steps discussed in Week 1
- Prize List
- Inquire through show secretary (or manager)
- Reach out via social media (personal pages, or local equestrian page)
- Facility website (download rental agreement/show manager packet)
- Past results posted on website or organization page
- Make a practice drive




Choosing a Level/Classes

- Consider what you are schooling at home.
- Know the answers to how the show affects you and your horse (week 1)
- Consider any qualifying you'd like to achieve.
- Consider the show (course difficulty, atmosphere, etc...)
- Consider the schedule (need a confidence boost, vacation scheduled the week before, etc...)



Logistics of Making a Schedule

1. Using blank calendar, write out all things that rank above a horse show (grandmas 90th birthday celebration. Weddings. Etc...)
2. Write out all competitions that might be possibilities. Don't worry about multiple ones on one weekend.
3. Identify (highlight) any major goal competitions (regionals, three-day events, championships)
4. Identify (highlight) any required competitions.
 - a. Qualifiers
 - b. Maybe showing at the same facility or other prep
5. Using goals worksheet and thinking about benefits/weakness with each show, highlight any other priority shows.



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Coming up next week

Packing and traveling

- Packing techniques to make showing less stressful
- Pre-travel preparedness
- On the road comfort and safety
- Getting set up at the show