



## 2008 USEF DRESSAGE SEAT MEDAL CLASS SCORE SHEET (FOR ALL SEMI-FINALS AND FINALS MEDAL CLASSES)

Class:

**Purpose:** To evaluate the dressage rider's correct position, seat and use of aids. See back of score sheet for rules and additional specifications.

**Judges' Directives:** For Dressage Seat Medal Semi-Finals and Finals classes, a final percentage score for EACH rider must be posted at the conclusion of the class.

**Preliminary scores/marks are NOT required.** Judges may use a numerical (0-10) or "plus/minus" scoring system, including decimals, to arrive at a final score, at their discretion.

**\*\*\*ONLY the "TOTAL SCORE" and "PLACE" columns are REQUIRED to be marked for EACH rider.\*\*\***

Rider No.	Walk (Notes)	Trot (Notes)	Canter (Notes)	Additional Tests (Notes)	Score (Percentage)	Place

Judge's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Judge's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

# 2008 RULES AND SPECIFICATIONS

## USEF DRESSAGE SEAT MEDAL CLASSES

Juniors may not ride stallions in Dressage Seat Equitation classes. USEF Dressage Seat Medal class score sheets must be used for Dressage Seat Medal Semi-Finals and Finals classes. The final score for each rider in a Semi-Finals and Finals class must be posted at the conclusion of the class. Rider scores and placing will be determined by averaging the total scores from each judge. Tied scores in a USEF Dressage Seat Medal Final class will be broken by requiring riders to perform an additional independent test, which will be scored by all judges together. The higher score on the additional independent test will receive the higher placing. In a USEF Dressage Seat Medal Semi-Final class, judges shall consult to break ties.

Dressage Division rules will apply, in particular:

- 1 – Saddlery, Equipment and Dress as required for First Level (see heading below)
- 2 – Unauthorized Assistance as defined in DR122.10 is prohibited.
- 3 – Use of voice will be penalized.
- 4 – Horses may be disqualified for lameness, as defined in DR122.6.
- 5 – Elimination, as defined in DR124.1, except for e), h) and m).

### **Saddlery, Equipment and Dress:**

Per USEF DR132, horses of all levels (both classes) must be ridden in a plain snaffle as pictured in DR121 Figure 1A. Whips and spurs are permitted in both Semi-Finals and Finals classes, and all riders must wear a short jacket. Protective headgear, as described in GR318, is REQUIRED for Semi-Finals and Finals classes. All other dress, saddlery and equipment rules for First Level horses and riders in competition and warm-up must conform to DR120 and DR121, except that horses also showing in dressage classes at Third Level and above may be warmed up for those classes in a simple double bridle.

### **Class Specifications:**

The rider's position, seat and use and effect of the aids will be judged as outlined in DR117. Movements shall be performed by the exhibitors simultaneously; however, the judges may ask for independent execution of certain tests. All instructions must be publicly announced.

Riders must be judged at the medium walk, working trot (sitting and rising), and working canter in both directions. In judging the position, seat and use of aids, judges may include the following movements and exercises as required at Training and First Level:

May be ridden as a group:

- 1 – Free walk
- 2 – Transitions from one gait to the next in both directions
- 3 – Transitions from walk to halt and vice versa
- 4 – Change of direction across the diagonal, down the centerline, across the arena, and/or by making a half-circle at the walk or trot

Note: The maximum size of a group shall be limited to no more than 25 riders; however, groups may be divided into smaller sections, at the discretion of the judges, for safety and convenience. Judges may also limit the number of horses required to canter at the same time, at their discretion.

Additional tests from which judges may choose movements and exercises, as required at Training and First Level, to be ridden in small groups or independently:

- 1 – Transitions
- 2 – Leg yield
- 3 – Changes of lead through trot
- 4 – Serpentine at the trot
- 5 – Shallow loop serpentine with counter canter
- 6 – Trot lengthening and/or canter lengthening
- 7 – Riding without stirrups

In Semi-Finals classes, it is not required that all riders in a class perform independent tests. The judges may, at their discretion, choose to require independent tests, and they may select any number of riders in the class to perform one or more independent tests. However, independent tests must be required of each rider in Finals classes.

No change of horses shall be required in Semi-Finals or Finals competition. If a class is divided into groups for preliminary judging, the top 3-5 riders in each group will meet together for the USEF Dressage Seat Medal Semi-Finals or Finals class in their respective age group.

### **Competition Ring:**

USEF Dressage Seat Medal classes may be held in an enclosed ring that is larger than a standard dressage arena, if available. If not, an open schooling area is permitted. If Medal classes must be held in a dressage arena, it must be 20 m X 60 m, and no more than 6 horses shall be asked to canter at the same time.

### **Judging Directives**

Judges are urged to become familiar with USEF DR117 and the "Guidelines for Judging Dressage Seat Equitation Classes" which describes the criteria for evaluating riders in these classes. In particular, the criteria for judging General Impression are as follows: overall correct design of position, relaxation and suppleness of the rider, unity with the horse (including following arms, depth of seat, etc.) lightness and correct application of aids, ability to maintain tempo and rhythm, and overall quality of performance. The equitation judging guidelines may be obtained through the USEF Dressage Department.

Judges are encouraged to provide verbal comments to riders after the class, but scoresheets must not be posted.