

## ECSJ Rules for Dressage Shows

The dressage competition coordinator can be reached at [ecsdressage@gmail.com](mailto:ecsdressage@gmail.com)

It is the farms responsibility to be familiar with these rules.

- Assigned dates cannot be changed without contacting the Competition Coordinator first.
- ECSJ will consider footing of competition arenas, footing of warm-up arenas, amount of warm-up area and ample parking prior to sanctioning.
- All new dates must be approved by the Competition Coordinator
- The Competition Coordinator must be informed if a show is to be cancelled.
- All tests offered must be USEF, USDF, or WDAA tests.
- There will be a calendar of events posted on the ECSJ website. Each event listed will consist of the name of the facility holding the event, the date of the event, the classes offered, the judge, the opening and closing dates, and the contact person.
- Show organizers are requested to identify which riders are Juniors and which are Seniors for Starter divisions and Training Level.
- Show organizers are requested to identify Starter Horse (StH) or Starter Rider (StR) for the Starter divisions.
- It is recommended judges have a minimum of 1 ten minute break every 2 hours, plus an adequate lunch break.
- Individual shows are responsible for having their own insurance. ECSJ does not assume any liability responsibility.
- Arena Requirements:
  - 20 meters by 40 meters for the small arena -- Only Introductory Level tests and Training Level Test 1 and Training Level Test 2 may be held in a small arena. Note, it is not required these tests be held in a small arena.
  - 20 meters by 60 meters for the standard arena -- All USEF, USDF, and WDAA tests may be held in the standard arena
  - Letters should be clearly marked and visible to riders
  - Fence enclosure should be about 12" high.
  - Arena should have adequate space to ride around the perimeter
- Judges must be licensed through either USEF or USDF only.
- Schooling and Scheduling:
  - Schooling is allowed around or near the ring before the show starts or during the lunch break.
  - Please allow extra time for judges to make suggestions to riders. Schooling shows are for educational purposes and ECSJ suggests an extra 3 minutes per ride time.
- Results should be calculated to 3 decimal places
- Show producers are asked to submit scores by email to [ecsdressage@gmail.com](mailto:ecsdressage@gmail.com) **within one week** of the show date.

ECSJ dressage shows are conducted in accordance with ECSJ and USDF/USEF rules.

It is the riders' responsibility to be familiar with these rules.

- Spectators should be no closer than 10' from the dressage arena
- A rider must enter the area within 45 seconds of the judges signal
- Whips may be carried during a test but may not exceed 47.2 inches in length
- Spurs capable of injuring a horse are forbidden.
- Riders may have a reader. Movements may only be read once.
- Talking or clucking to your horse is not permitted.
- Speaking to another person (including the reader) while in the arena is not permitted.
- Committing three course errors, leaving the area during the test, or marked lameness results in elimination.
- Horses may not be entered in classes differing by more than one level at any one show.
- A horse may not compete in more than 4 classes per show.
- A simple snaffle, regular cavesson, slash, figure-eight, or drop noseband are permitted. Twisted wire bits are not permitted. Refer to the USDF rule book for a complete list of legal bits.
- A rider must be attired according to USDF/USEF rules for proper attire
  - light colored breeches, boots, light colored shirt, dark jacket, and helmet
  - Jackets may be waived due to hot weather if permitted by the show secretary - no sleeveless shirts may be worn and neckwear should be removed.
- Bandages, boots, blinders, martingales, draw reins, side reins, running reins, seat covers, earplugs, or artificial devices are not permitted.
- Lungeing with side reins, and riding or lungeing with boots or wraps is permitted during warm up only.
- Each individual is responsible for checking the accuracy of all tests. Check tests immediately upon receipt. No changes in scores can be made after the close of that show.
- Western dressage competitors should refer to the WDAA rule book for a complete list of equipment requirements.