

This unique and prestigious competition brings together the top advanced young riders from the North American continent to compete in dressage, eventing and show jumping.

The North American Junior/Young Rider Championships is an FEI competition, rated as a CDIOY, which means that it is one of the highest rated FEI competitions. Although this should be a fun and rewarding experience for all riders, the serious nature of this competition needs to be realized.

**Region 9
FEI Junior/Young Riders Web site**

Qualifying to ride at this competition is an accomplishment in itself. However, many riders have serious aspirations to make the top 12, or maybe win a medal. Some riders have a goal to one day ride on the US Equestrian Team and the results of this competition may help them toward that goal.

This competition is also unique because it is often the first chance for a young competitor to ride on a team. This is an opportunity to train future team members, learning how to achieve a common goal through cooperation. The importance of teamwork and sportsmanship cannot be over emphasized.

Contacts

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Other sources of information: include USDF 9 News: Official newsletter of Region 9 and the USEF Web site: www.usef.org

Publications

"Qualifying Criteria and Selection Procedures for the 2008 North American Junior/Young Riders Championships" – Check the USDF website for qualifying information and forms.

(Eligible Age : "A person may compete as a Young Rider from the beginning of the calendar year in which he/she reaches the age of 16 until the end of the calendar year in which he/she reaches the age of 21.")

The Declaration of Intent MUST be completed by the rider and returned to USDF by March 1, 2008.

Required Rule Books: All of these publications are available for purchase from USEF, online at www.usef.org, by phone at (859) 258-2472 or by mail to 4047 Iron Works Parkway, Lexington, KY 40511-8483.

USEF 2008 Rule Book (effective to Nov. 30, 2008), 2008 Rule Book (effective Dec. 1, 2008) which include dressage rules. Free in hard copy to members if you check the box requesting it.

- USEF 2007 and 2008 Rule Books including the dressage rules
- FEI Rules for Dressage, 22nd Edition, effective January 1st 2006 including Special Regulations for Young Riders' and Junior Riders, 8th edition, effective January 1st, 2006
- FEI Statutes, 21st edition, effective May 2006
- FEI General Regulations, 21st edition, effective June 1st, 2006
- FEI Veterinary Regulations, 10th edition, June 1st, 2006

All of the above Rule Books are available for purchase from USEF by

FEI Veterinary Regulations, 9th edition, 2002

FEI Rules for Dressage Events, including Special Regulations for Young Riders Dressage Events, 7th edition

Qualifications and Memberships

U.S. Riders attempting to qualify for NAYJRC must be U.S. citizens.

BEFORE the first Qualifying Competition is entered and until AFTER NAJYRC: Rider and Owner must be

USDF Participating Members in good standing, and members of USEF in good standing.

Horse must be USDF Registered and USEF Recorded.

You may enter NAJYRC Qualifying Classes at any time you are age eligible. To be considered for selection to participate in the NAJYRC Championships however you must complete a Declaration of Intent which MUST be submitted to USDF by March 1, 2008.

Both horse and rider need to have their FEI Registration numbers. This is available through the USEF website.

If you qualify and are selected to participate in the NAJYRC Championships, the Horse must have a valid FEI Passport. Horse Passports are issued through USEF. The process takes at least 6 weeks from application to issuance.

Step 1: Obtain an Application for FEI Horse Passport from USEF. Call the USEF Passport Coordinator at (859) 258-2472 or download the form for requesting an application from www.usef.org

Simultaneously look at FEI Vet Regs Annex VI and/or ask USEF Passport Coordinator about required vaccinations. These requirements are precise. You may well need to have your horse vaccinated or revaccinated to comply with requirements and you can start that process while awaiting the passport.

Step 2: Complete the blank passport. This requires your veterinarian documenting vaccinations, Coggins, and Description of the Horse, signing and stamping all entries.

Step 3: Return the completed passport to USEF Passport Coordinator who will get it approved by FEI and return the authorized passport to you.

Qualifying for NAYRC

Shows and tests: The Qualifying Year for 2008 NAYRC runs from August 2007 through June 2008.

All of the FEI Junior and YR tests are FEI tests and require an FEI or USEF "S" judge.

FEI Junior and YR Tests are available from USEF. The test order form may be downloaded from www.usef.org

Only certain shows are designated as NAJYRC Qualifying Shows. They are listed and noted in the Region 9 Omnibus and on the Region 9 Web page.

Qualifying rides at NAJYRC Qualifying Shows must be ridden with at least TWO FEI or "S" judges judging each test.

Rules for Qualifying Competitions and for Computing Qualifying Scores are available at the USDF Web site, www.usdf.org.

Note: ANY show that has at least one FEI or "S" judge may offer FEI Junior and YR Tests that you can ride at non-NAJYRC Qualifying shows for practice. Shows that don't offer these tests in their prize lists may add them if you request them and if scheduling allows. Call and ask!

FEI & Special Rules that Apply to You at Qualifying and Championship Competitions: Here are some. Pay attention or face disqualification!

All FEI tests must be ridden from memory. No caller.

At no time during an NAJYRC Qualifying Competition may any horse entered in an FEI Junior or Young Rider Qualifying Class be ridden by anyone other than the rider entered in the FEI Junior or Young Rider Class on that horse. This means from the time you arrive on the show grounds until you leave! Exception : grooms riding on a loose rein.

For NAJYRC qualifying purposes, riders must adhere to prevailing USEF rules regarding whips while competing in Official USDF Qualifying Competitions. However, when riding in a CDI/Y, FEI whip rules supersede USEF rules.

NAJYRC Qualifying Class Withdrawal Form: The only allowable reasons for withdrawing or scratching from an NAJYRC Qualifying Class are veterinary or medical. If withdrawing or scratching you must complete the Withdrawal Form, collect required signatures, attach veterinary or medical report, and submit these to show management prior to the end of the competition. This form, too, is mailed to show managers, is in the NAJYRC Rule Book, and is available in printable form online www.usdf.org. Show managers/secretaries must submit the form to USDF with results. Remind them!

Show secretaries and workers may not know all these rules!! The best of show secretaries may simply be unaware of the special requirements for NAJYRC. It is **your responsibility** to know them and to make sure the show secretary understands and has everything needed for your qualifying rides. If not the show secretary will feel bad but you will have missed a qualifying opportunity.

Be prepared: Contact the show secretary BEFORE the closing date. Advise that you plan to enter NAJYRC Qualifying Classes, make clear which tests (including current date on tests) you will ride, remind of the requirement for TWO FEI or "S" judges to judge each test.

Get extra copies of the tests and always take them with you to shows in case the secretary doesn't have them!

Print out the Rules for Qualifying Competitions and for Computing Qualifying Scores. Understand them. Bring copies to the show and give them to the secretary. Explain, especially Computing Scores, as needed. Bring Your Calculator. Check your scores and the computing of them IMMEDIATELY after receiving your score sheets. If you find an error report it to the secretary immediately.

If a problem with rules or scoring remains unresolved after discussion with the secretary find the TD and discuss the problem. If still not resolved ask the TD for permission to speak with the judge. (NEVER approach a judge without permission from the TD.) If all this fails request from the TD and complete an Official Charge/Protest Form.

These are not the complete rules, but only some of the more important ones. It is your responsibility to know and understand the rules and ask if you have questions.