



Trinidad and Tobago Equestrian Association

Dressage League Rules

***THE TTEA ADHERES TO FEI STANDARDS AND ADVISES THAT
THE WELFARE OF THE HORSE IS PARAMOUNT.***

Revised March 24th, 2017

ARTICLE 1 – PRINCIPLES

1.1 The competition will take place over four (4) legs that will be run from January 1st through December 31st.

1.2. The competition will take precedence over any other classes organized on the day of the show.

1.3 Each Leg is open to a maximum of 40 starters in total with a minimum number of 5 riders.

1.4. At each leg of the competition the following levels may be offered:

i. USDF/USEF Dressage Tests (current editions). (Please note each level has three tests)

- USDF Introductory Level
- USEF Training Level
- USEF First Level
- USEF Second Level
- USEF Third Level
- USEF Fourth Level

ii. FEI Tests- Prix St. George's, Intermediate I and II (current editions)

iii. The following FEI World Dressage Challenge Tests- Junior, Senior I, Senior II, Prix St. George's and Intermediate I – (Current editions FEI WDC) may be offered at any TTEA Dressage League show. However, the scores will not be used towards the Dressage League points. Offering these tests before the FEI WDC will allow riders to practice these tests under show conditions.

1.4. After the final leg, the rider with the most accumulated points in each level will be declared the Champion Rider of that level.

1.5 All levels will be divided into two age divisions: Junior (16 years and younger) and Senior (17 years and older)

ARTICLE II ORGANIZATION OF DRESSAGE LEAGUE

2.1 The Dressage League is sanctioned by the TTEA.

i. The organization of the Caribbean Equestrian Association Dressage Challenge (CEA DC) is the responsibility of the TTEA.

ii. TTEA competitions are organized by the individual member stables. The hosting Stable is to contact the Secretary General of the TTEA at least one month in advance of the competition date. The Secretary General will provide the rules and regulations governing the said competition. The Secretary General will also provide other relevant information such as show protocol, paper work, etc., as it pertains to the Dressage League Competition.

2.2. The Competitions where scores can be earned are as follows

- i. CEA Dressage Challenge and additional levels allowed according to the current CEA Rules
- ii. TTEA Dressage League Competitions

2.3 President of the Ground Jury

- i. For CEA Dressage Challenge the President of the Ground Jury is assigned by the CEA.
- ii. For TTEA Competitions one of the following options may apply:
 - a. Qualified Judge approved by the TTEA executive committee
 - b. The tests may be video-taped and sent overseas to be scored by a TTEA approved Dressage Judge.
 - c. A National Judge (ESEE) may judge USDF Introductory level A, B, and C with a foreign qualified Judge when possible. The local National Judge may solely judge this level if no Foreign Judge is available.

2.4 Entries

2.4.1. All entry fees must be paid to the TTEA at least one week in advance of the competition date. Failure to do so will result in a late penalty fee of \$50 per test

2.4.2 The following applies when the tests are video-taped and sent aboard:

- i. The cost of videotaping will be included in the entry fee for each test.
- ii. The videotaping and sending the filmed tests are the responsibility of the Executive Committee.
- iii. All tests and /or video material must be collected by relevant stable liaison and delivered to a prior designated member of the Executive Committee by the end of the day on which the competition took place.

2.5. Dates and Location of Dressage League competitions

- i. The dates and locations of Dressage League competitions should be finalized in the last month of the previous year.
- ii. The CEA DC may take place at two different show grounds only with written permission from the CEA Executive Committee.
- iii. TTEA Dressage League competitions may take place at each individual member stable.

2.6 The order in which the levels will be ridden will be at the discretion of the Show Organizers and approved by the President of the Ground Jury for each leg.

2.7 The entry level of a rider and horse entering competition after a protracted absence will be at the recommendation of his/her coach and at the discretion of the Executive Committee. An official written request must be submitted to the Secretary General two weeks prior to the competition.

ARTICLE 3 – PARTICIPATION

3.1 All levels will be divided into two age divisions: Junior (16 years and under) and Senior (17 years and over).

The age of the child competitor will be taken from the 1st of January in which they reach their 16th birthday. The age of the adult competitor will be taken from the 1st of January in which they reach their 17th birthday.

3.2 For the CEA Dressage Challenge their respective rules for rider and horse participation takes precedence over any other rules. (See current rules for this competition.) This means that:

- the horse's first time in the ring only can be part of the team.
- the rider's first time in the ring only can be part of the team.

3.3 For TTEA competitions especially where there may be many riding school horses taking part the following rules apply.

Horse

- i. A riding school horse may be ridden
a total of five times in the USEF Introductory test A,B or C.
OR
once in a Training Level Test and twice in Introductory Level Tests
- ii. For all other levels the following applies
A horse is allowed to start twice with
 - one rider in two consecutive levels.
 - two different riders in the same test.
 - two different riders in different tests within the same level

3.4 Competitors may compete and earn points for multiple levels on different horses in TTEA Dressage League Competitions.

3.5 Competitors may ride more than one horse in a class but the score of only one horse will count for points. This horse must be declared before each leg. The declared horse must be ridden first.

3.6 A rider has the option to ride a different horse as their Dressage League horse for each leg.

3.7 Horse Schooling: On no account and under penalty of elimination, may any horse take part in the Competition which has been schooled by anyone other than the competitor, mounted in the saddle, in or outside the town where the Competition is held, from 6:00 p.m. on the day preceding the start of the Competition until the Competition is finished.

ARTICLE 4 – HEADGEAR, DRESS, SADDLERY

When competing in CEA DC their rules take precedence over any other rules pertaining to head gear, dress, and saddlery

The following rules are a general guide line for headgear, dress and saddlery. For more detailed description please make reference to FEI Dressage Rules current edition Articles 427-428. Also included with these articles are plates that list and give diagrams of permitted bits, nosebands and double bridle.

4.1 Protective Headgear: according to Art. 427.1 dressage rules Protective Headgear has to be worn by all Athletes (as well as any other person) at all times while mounted. Any athlete (as well as any other person) violating this provision must immediately be prohibited from further riding until the Protective Headgear is properly in place.

4.2. Dress: Adult according to Art. 427.2 A black or dark blue tail coat, dark riding jacket, white or off white breeches, stock tie, choker, tie or integrated stand up collar, conservative gloves, riding boots and spurs must be worn. The spurs being used must be in accordance with Art. 427.4, FEI Dressage Rules

4.2.1 Juniors: Dress according to FEI Rules for Pony Riders, Art. P-18. Dark riding jacket, white or fawn breeches or jodhpurs, white shirt with tie or hunting stock, hunting cap. Gloves must be worn. Riding boots are to be worn. Neither top hat nor bowler is allowed. Protective headgear as defined in Art. 427.1 must be worn at all times when mounted.

Spurs for juniors are optional but if used, only blunt metal spurs no longer than three and half centimeter (3.5cm) are allowed. Rowels on spurs are not allowed.

Whip

No whip of any kind may be used whilst competing in the CEA DC competition. For all levels, the whip must be dropped before the entering the space around the competition arena. However, one whip of maximum length 1.00 m is allowed in the warm –up.

4.3 Saddlery: must be as laid down in Art. 428 of the FEI Dressage Current Rules. For Prix St-Georges level and above, a double bridle is compulsory. For USEF Third Level Test and Fourth Level the double bridle is optional. For all other levels, an ordinary snaffle must be used (see permitted snaffles and nose bands in FEI Dressage Rules). This applies in the practice and competition arenas.

4.3.2 For TTEA USEF/USDF tests the following apply

- A rider may compete with a whip in USEF/USDF tests.
- Black gaiters or half leather chaps with matching short boots will be allowed for both adults and children classes through First Level.
- An all-purpose saddle will be allowed through First Level.

ARTICLE 5 ARENA

A MEMBER OF THE FEDERATION EQUESTRE INTERNATIONALE, THE TRINIDAD & TOBAGO OLYMPIC COMMITTEE,

5.1 The arena, flat and level, must be 20 meters wide and 40 meters long for the USEF Introductory level tests. USEF Training Level tests may also be ridden in the small or standard arena. The Organizing committee must notify the competitors in advance which arena size will be used. Also note that if more than one stable is hosting the same leg of the competition, all stables must agree upon the size of arena for Training Level Tests before the start of the competition.

5.2 The arena, flat and level, must be 60 meters long and 20 meters wide for all other tests (Art. 429 FEI Dressage Rules and Annex II)

5.3 The enclosure for the arena must consist of a low fence which is about thirty centimeters (30) cm high. The part of the fence at letter A must be movable and the width of the entrance should be at least 2 meters.

5.4 The letters outside the enclosure should be placed fifty centimeters (50 cm) from the fence and are clearly marked.

ARTICLE 6 – DRAW AND STARTING ORDER CLASSES

6.1 A draw will take place to decide the starting order.

6.2 The draw may be done ahead of time. The draw is to be conducted in the presence of members of the management and/or organizing committee and/or judge.

ARTICLE 7 – DRESSAGE LEAGUE POINTS

7.1 Points are awarded to riders only (not rider/horse combination) for each Dressage League leg in respect of tests on their declared mount. Points are awarded to the 9 best placed riders in each level.

7.2 All riders receive participation points on attempting a test at the competition. If a rider is eliminated any time after the first salute to the President of the Ground Jury the rider will only receive participation points (10 points) A test is considered attempted when the following occurs: the bell must be rung by the ground jury, the rider must enter the arena, and salute the judge.

7.3 A rider must declare their competition level(s) at the beginning of the year.

7.4 The following allocation of Dressage League points will be used:

- a. At the Introductory Level where a horse/pony may be ridden up to five times, by different riders, all entries on that horse/pony will be counted for Dressage League points based on final placings regardless of draw.
- b. When a horse/pony may be ridden by three different riders in a Training level test and two Introductory level tests, all entries on that horse/pony will be counted for Dressage League points based on final placings regardless of draw.
- c. For Training Level where a horse/pony may be ridden by two different riders all entries on that horse/pony will be counted for Dressage League points based on final placings regardless of draw.
- d. From First level and all levels above, the horse's first time in the arena will count for Dressage League Points

7.5 In order to encourage riders to ride tests offered within any level a percentage system will be applicable for TTEA Dressage Competitions.

E.g. First level Test 1 add 0 % to score

First Level Test 2 add 2% to the score

First Level Test 3 add 3 % to the score

7.6 The following points are awarded at each of the each leg of the Dressage League:

- 1st Place – 100 points
- 2nd Place – 90 points
- 3rd Place – 80 points
- 4th Place – 70 points
- 5th Place – 60 points
- 6th Place – 50 points
- 7th Place – 40 points
- 8th Place – 30 points
- 9th Place – 20 points
- 10th Place or Lower – Participation Points Only
- Participation Points – 10 points

For example, the first place rider gets 100 points plus 10 participation points for a total of 110 points.

ARTICLE 8 – CHANGES BETWEEN LEVELS DURING A DRESSAGE LEAGUE YEAR

8.1 If a rider changes, i.e. moves up or down *within a level* during a Dressage League Year, there will not be a loss of accumulated points. This means that riders may move up or down a test number within a level e.g. Training Level Test One move up to Training Level Test Two

8.2 During any Dressage League Year, a rider may change their level in which they first competed. There will be a loss of accumulated points once a rider changes their level.

Please note the following definitions

Dressage Level- There are six USDF/USEF Levels and each level has three tests, 1, 2, 3. E.g.

- USDF Introductory Level Test A, Test B and Test C
- USEF Fourth Level Test 1, Test 2, Test 3

Class will be the name of the test for each level. e.g.

- Second Level Test 2 Class,
- FEI Prix St. George's Class

