

Part 2 – Schooling Show and Awards Policies, Procedures and Rules

I. NMDA Schooling Shows

A. General Show Policies

1. Show judges must be "L" graduates or licensed judges.
2. Show management reserves the right to:
 - a. cancel, rearrange, and/or change classes or officials;
 - b. refuse any exhibitor for cause, have any horse removed from the grounds for cause, and/or return any entry fee and eliminate the exhibitor for cause, all without being liable for damages or compensation; and
 - c. allow or disallow competitors around or in show arenas prior to or during competition.
3. Show Cancellation - if a show manager is considering canceling a show for reasons other than weather or insufficient entries (less than 20 rides at show closing), he/she must notify the Board, ideally a week before the show. (6/14/11)
4. Show Prizes - awarding Schooling Show Hi-Point Awards/Ribbons are up to the discretion of each Schooling Show manager. (9/7/10)
5. Dogs are not welcome on show grounds. However, if dogs *must* be brought to the show, they must be on a leash, no longer than 6 feet, at all times and attached to a human for the safety of all concerned. No exceptions.
6. Manure and other waste must be picked up from the parking area before leaving the show grounds.
7. It is appreciated if show participants stay to help pick up the competition arena(s). (1/7/16)

B. Show Entry Requirements and Information:

1. Entries will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. In general, 50 rides is considered a full show - but final decision regarding number of rides per show is at show management's discretion. (1/7/16)
2. Schooling Show Opening and Closing dates are determined by show management. Shows are open as soon as the show information is posted on the NMDA website. Entries must be postmarked or received electronically no later than Closing date. (1/7/16)
3. Entries must be entirely filled out, signed and full payment of fees must accompany the entry form. No phone or fax entries will be accepted. A class entry will be presumed to be an Open class unless specifically marked otherwise.
4. Riders may be classified as Juniors (JR) until the end of the calendar year they turn 18, thereafter, they may compete as Adult Amateurs (A/A) or Open competitors. (1/7/16 & 4/13/16)
5. A rider may not enter Open and Adult Amateur at the same Schooling Show. (5/7/08)
6. Non-member fees: A fee will be charged for each Non-member rider and owner for each horse/rider combination Entry Form submitted. Non-member Junior riders and horse owners may waive the Non-member fee for their first NMDA Schooling Show. (3/8/16)
7. No horse may be shown in more than three classes per day with the exception of one additional group class. (1/7/16)
8. A horse may not be ridden in more than two adjoining levels. (For example: USDF Introductory Level tests A, B and C are one level below Training Level). (1/7/16)
9. A horse may not be ridden more than once in the same class unless the second ride is ridden Hors de Concours. (Note: Open, A/A and JR are different classes.) (1/7/16)
10. Payment: If entries are mailed or hand delivered, checks must be made payable to NMDA. Checks returned for non-payment may incur a fee of \$25. Only entries electronically submitted may be paid with credit card. (1/7/16)
11. Ride times will be posted on the NMDA website approximately three (3) days before the show. (1/7/16)
12. Group classes (e.g. Equitation) may be entered at the show – time permitting.
13. Substitutions: Substitution of rider, horse, or times will be made only at the discretion of show management.
14. Refunds and Scratches: Full refunds will be made if withdrawals are received prior to the Closing Date. (1/7/16)
15. Non-competing Horses: All horses brought to the show grounds must be entered in the show, or pay a \$20 fee plus the \$10 office fee. This rule applies to all horses brought to the show for any reason. A liability form must be signed for all horses and their numbers displayed. (1/7/16)

C. Schooling Show Rules:

1. Shows will be run in accordance with some of the USEF rules, and USEF/WD Division rules; especially bits, bridles, tack, and equipment (no training reins, illegal bits, etc.) with the following exceptions: (6/8/16)
 - a. A REGULATION HELMET and riding boots or paddock shoes with a distinguishable heel are REQUIRED while mounted. (5/14/13 & 1/7/16)

- b. Informal dress is allowed, although neatness is requested (no tank tops, inappropriate t-shirts). Half chaps are allowed. Coats are not required.
 - c. Judges are allowed to talk with the exhibitors – judge to initiate the conversation.
 - d. Judges are allowed to judge students horses that the judge has bought or sold.
2. All horses will be judged according to USDF guidelines regardless of breed or discipline. (1/7/16)
 3. Horses shown in Western Divisions must ride the Western Dressage Association of America (WDAA) tests and will be judged by the USEF rules, except that all Western Division riders must wear a helmet whenever mounted (see #1 above).
 4. Tack may be checked before or after entry into the arena, or in the warm-up at the discretion of the gate keeper or show management.
 5. Schooling, riding or lunging is permitted only in designated areas.
 6. A horse on the show grounds (including non-competing horses) must wear its assigned number at all times except when in its stall or trailer. If two numbers are provided, numbers must be visible on both sides of the horse. (1/7/16)
 7. Tests will not be released until a class is completely scored and posted. No test will be released to anyone other than the rider or the rider's representative. Riders are urged to check their tests for errors before leaving the show grounds.
 8. Ribbons: In A/A and Open classes of only one entry (both Classical and Western Dressage classes), a first place ribbon will be given only if the rider has a score equal to or greater than USDF Qualifying Scores (see table below). A/A and Open classes of 2 or more entries and Junior classes will receive the usual place ribbons. (11/12/16)

NMDA Minimum Qualifying Scores (as of 2016; to be used in 2017 and beyond)

	Adult Amateur	Open
Intro* - (Classical and WD)	63%*	68%*
Training Level/WD Basic*	63%	68%
First Level/WD Level 1*	62%	66%
Second Level/WD Level 2*	61%	64%
Third Level/WD Level 3*	60%	62%
Fourth Level/WD Level 4*	60%	62%
FEI (all classes)	60%	60%

*Minimum percentages assumed by NMDA, as no USDF Qualifying Scores available for Introductory Classical and all Western Dressage tests.