

TIPS FOR FREESTYLE JUDGES

▼ **Time:** USDF Freestyle time limit—5 minutes. There is no minimum time. Timing and judging commence when the horse moves off after the entry salute and ceases at the final salute. **No bell is sounded at the end of the time limit. *Movements executed after the time limit are not scored.*** The rider must enter the arena or signal the sound engineer within 45 seconds of the entry bell, or will be eliminated. The rider must enter the arena within 20 seconds of the start of the music, or will be eliminated.

▼ **Judges:** If two or more judges officiate in a class, all judge both Technical and Artistic categories.

▼ **USEF Rule:** Except for USEF/USDF Championship classes and for Prix St. Georges Freestyles, in order to **enter a freestyle class at any level** [recognized show], a horse/rider combination must have received a minimum score of 60% in the highest test of the declared freestyle level or any test of a higher level at a USEF recognized show. A photocopy of the test verifying eligibility must be submitted with the entry for a freestyle class.

▼ **QCDC Rule:** riders are advised that while it is not necessary to qualify for a schooling show entry, the USDF freestyle score sheet will be used and will require *movements* that include those from the highest test of the level.

▼ **Music Failure:** If music fails during a Freestyle Test, the rider may leave the arena with permission of the judge at 'C.' The rider may decide whether or not to restart the test from the beginning.

Clearly Allowed: Training Level

- Free walk
- Medium walk
- Stretch circle
- Trot circle no smaller than 15 meters
- Canter circle no smaller than 15 meters

- Trot-halt-trot
- Trot-walk-trot
- Trot-canter-trot
- Trot serpentine single loop or larger; serpentine(s) of loops no smaller than 15 meters.

Movements “Above the Level”

Penalized by a four point deduction from the total for Technical Execution for each illegal movement, but not for each recurrence of the same movement.

Omitted compulsory elements receive a “0” and are averaged into the “Judge’s Marks.”

Judge’s marks for Technical Execution must be given in half points or full points (no tenths).

Posting will be allowed; sitting is optional.

Must be ridden in a standard arena (20 x 60 meters).

*🐾 This is a summary of requirements. Riders are responsible for downloading and reading the original USDF score sheet rules.