

RMDS BY-LAWS SECTION XIV. RMDS CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW

A. General:

1. The RMDS Championship Show shall be held in the fall of each year on a date & at a location selected by the Championship Show Committee with the concurrence of the RMDS Executive Board. Duties of the Championship Show Committee may include:
 - a. Selection of all judges, the technical delegate and the show manager for approval by the Executive Board.
 - b. Selection of a suitable venue appropriate for the competition for approval by the Executive Board.
 - c. Solicitation of trophies, awards, and other items as needed in cooperation with the Awards Committee and/or the individual designated to do the soliciting on behalf of RMDS.
 - d. Primary liaison between all of the above and the RMDS Executive Board.
 - e. Any other duties and responsibilities as outlined in the current job description for the Committee Chair.
 - f. The Championship Show Committee shall recommend the Show Manager & Show Secretary to the RMDS Executive Board
2. Scores from Championship Classes shall count in the RMDS Awards Program.
3. Horse/rider combinations may compete in Championship Classes at a maximum of 2 levels, which must be sequential.
4. For pony championships, scores can be earned in any rider's division class (AA, Open, or Junior) as long as the pony is registered with RMDS as a pony and meets the standards stated in Sec XIV, B.5.
5. For Training through Fourth Level & First through Fourth Level Freestyle Championship Classes, horse/rider combinations are not eligible to compete in any Championship Classes if they have previously participated in any RMDS, US Equestrian Federation or USDF recognized competition at two or more levels higher. For FEI Championship Classes, horse/rider combinations may have previously competed at any FEI level.
6. Horse and rider combinations, which are champions from previous years and received an RMDS qualifying score in that championship class for Training Level through Fourth Level & Training Level through Fourth Level Freestyle, are not eligible to compete again in Championship Classes at the same level at which they were champions more than three times.
7. Except for Musical Freestyle Classes, the Annual Level Champions for Adult Amateur, JR/YR, and Open divisions will be determined by riding the highest test at the level that shall be judged by at least two (2) judges. The horse and rider combination with the highest average for each division at each level shall be the champions.
8. Musical Freestyle Level Champions shall be determined by riding a single freestyle test at the qualified level that shall be judged by at least two (2) judges. The horse/rider combination with the highest average score for the test at each level shall be the champion.

9. Only the rider that has qualified on a specific horse may ride that horse during the Championship Show (Only 1 rider per horse for the show)(groom with a loose rein excepted).

10. The championship awards shall be presented at the Championship Show in a formal awards ceremony. Failure of the horse and rider recipients to appear in costume and full tack for the ceremony (unless excused for cause by the show management) shall result in immediate disqualification. In event of disqualification, each affected award shall be presented to the next lower average score.

11. No whip may be carried by a rider in an RMDS Championship Class. (Exception: Riders riding sidesaddle may carry a whip in RMDS Championships.)

12. Championship tests must be ridden from memory.

13. Rider must submit a copy of their current US Equestrian Federation Adult Amateur card to be eligible to ride as an Adult Amateur.

14. In the event of a tie for Champion or Reserve Champion, the collective marks will determine 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. Otherwise a tie will remain unbroken.

B. Qualification For Dressage Championship Classes:

Championship Classes shall be open to all Society members in good standing who meet the qualifying criteria specified below:

1. Membership requirements: The horse, owner, & rider must be current RMDS members prior to qualifying rides.

2. If open classes are held, horse/rider combinations may qualify to ride in Championship Classes by receiving a qualifying score in a US Equestrian Federation open show class at the Championship show at the level of the Championship class to be shown and by having one (1) additional qualifying score from previous shows.

3. All entries that wish to ride in the Championship Class at any level must enter the Championship class on or before the close date for entries for the Championship competition. This includes those riders who will try to earn their final qualifying score as defined above in 1. Post entries may be accepted at the discretion of show management.

4. If the horse/rider combination competes in a US Equestrian Federation open class and fails to receive the final qualifying score, the horse/rider combination will automatically be scratched from the championship class by show management. The rider will not be eligible to receive a refund for the championship class due to their failure to qualify.

5. Horse/rider combinations may qualify for Championship Classes by submitting scores meeting the following criteria:

- a. Only scores meeting the acceptance criteria of the RMDS Year-End Awards Program (see Section V. of these Standing Rules) may be used to qualify for the Championship Classes. These scores may be from any test at the specified level.

- b. Horse/rider combinations may qualify for Musical Freestyle Championship Classes by submitting two scores of 60% or higher from a recognized musical freestyle class at the same level from two shows and two judges.
- c. The horse/rider combination must receive two (2) qualifying scores from RMDS recognized competitions at the level of the Championship Class that they wish to qualify to ride in the current RMDS show year; one of the tests must be the highest test at that level. The scores must be from two (2) different judges at two (2) different shows.

The minimum qualifying score for each level for RMDS Championships ONLY shall be (not to exceed USDF requirements):

Level Open Adult Jr/YR Amateur

- i. Training 62% 60% 60%
- ii. First 62% 60% 60%
- iii. Second 60% 58% 58%
- iv. Third 60% 58% 58%
- v. Fourth 60% 58% 58%
- vii. PSG 58% 56% 56%
- viii INT I 58% 56% 56%
- ix. INT II 57%
- x . GP 56%

C. Qualification for Sport horse Breeding Championship Classes:

1. General

- a. The RMDS Sport horse Breeding Championship will be held in conjunction with the RMDS Championship Show.
- b. The Championship Awards shall be presented at the Breeding Championship in a formal awards ceremony. Failure of the horse to appear for the ceremony shall result in immediate disqualification. In event of disqualification, each affected award shall be presented to the next lower average score.
- c. The horse with the highest average score, to be judged by more than one judge with each judge scoring separately, in each class will be the Champion of that class. The following Championship Divisions will be awarded through 8th place:
 - i. Current Year Foal (fillies and colts)
 - ii. Yearling & Two-Year-Old Fillies and Colts
 - iii. Three-Year-Old Fillies & Colts
 - iv. Mares (4 years and older)
 - v. Stallions (4 years and older)
- d. The Young Horse Champion will be determined by calling back all of the Champions in the Young Horse categories.
- e. The Mature Horse Champion will be determined by calling back all of the Champions in the Mature Horse categories.
- f. Grand Champion will determined by calling back the Champion and Reserve Champion from the Young Horse and Mature Horse Champion classes.

2. Eligibility

- a. The first and second place horse from an RMDS-recognized sport horse breeding class is eligible to attend the RMDS Sport Horse Breeding Championship Show in that class.

b. The horse must be RMDS registered the owner must be RMDS members in good standing at the time the placing was earned.
(As Amended November 2, 2019)