

Online Show Guidelines

1. Use arenas that are as close to regulation size as possible and be sure letters are set appropriately to be viewed by the judge. Cones with large letters on them and poles on the ground to delineate the corners are acceptable. For arena measurements, please visit the following link: <https://dressagetoday.com/instruction/proper-dressage-arena-setup-30274> Arenas used may be slightly smaller than regulation size but not larger. A 60 foot by 120 or 140 foot indoor arena is acceptable for USDF Intro and Training level and WDAA Intro and Basic level. Be sure to measure the corner letters accurately from the actual corner (M K H F) and then center B and E.
 - a. Intro and Basic – Western and Green-as-grass through Training – traditional Dressage may use a 20 x 40-meter arena
 - b. First through Grand Prix, and Western Dressage Level 1 through Level 4 must use a 20 x 60 meter arena
 - c. All Freestyles are in a 20 x 60-meter arena
2. Videos of tests must be unedited from start to finish, including the equipment, attire, and bit check. They must always be one continuous recording with the horse and rider visible.
3. Videos must be filmed in LANDSCAPE orientation.
4. The test must be videoed from behind C, where the judge would normally be seated.
5. Prior to beginning the test, a specific sign for each show and class (including the DATE filmed) must be videoed for at least 5 seconds. Remove the sign just before the ride begins. The videographer can hold the sign then move back to behind the camera or hold the sign in front of the camera at arm's length while also holding the camera.

The sign must include:

Name of the show and video date

Name of horse and rider

Class number - level and test numbers

6. Keep the horse in frame, paying close attention to the near corners. You may zoom in slightly on the far corners. Videos must be in focus.
7. Make sure to keep the letters in the frame that are elements of the test being performed.
8. As soon as the test is finished, the camera must slowly circle the horse and rider showing all equipment and attire, including spurs and whip if used, and a zoomed in image of each side of the horse where the rider's heel touches. If the videographer is unable to enter the arena, at G the rider may turn the horse slowly, wait five seconds, then turn slowly to show the second side, and wait an additional 5 seconds to complete filming of the equipment.
9. Following equipment check, the rider will dismount and show that two fingers can fit under the cavesson and flash attachment (if used), then drop the bit so it can be evaluated. NOTE: If using a double bridle, hold the bridle so as not to obscure the curb strap or curb chain. Demonstrate that the curb strap or chain is flexible and is at least ½ inch wide. Make sure the judge can see all parts of the bridle, including bit and reins clearly. Hold the bridle so the camera clearly shows the bit for 5 seconds from both front and back views.
10. WDAA Exceptional riders are exempt from the dropping the bit requirement.
11. Coaching during the test is not allowed EXCEPT for WDAA Exceptional Rider tests.
12. The natural background sound for the test must be audible. Tests with no sound at all will not be accepted. Freestyles must have music in the background but not digitally added to the video itself.
13. No horse may be ridden more than once in any class.
14. The test may be called.
15. The video may not be a ride from a previous show.

PLEASE NOTE – Show Management will review all submissions to ensure adherence to the guidelines as stated above. If a test is submitted that does not comply with these guidelines, Show Management will contact the exhibitor immediately via email or phone, and will give the exhibitor one opportunity within a limited amount of time to re-do the test.

A sample video can be seen here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ukeSDHt2ebo&t=193s>