



2022 USDF Breeders Championship Series

The USDF Breeders Championship Series (USDFBCS) is a program intent on recognizing quality bloodlines and dressage prospects across the nation. Through a combination of in-hand and materiale classes, the USDFBCS program strives to provide top-notch competition opportunities for dressage prospects and breeding stock.

- The USDFBCS is scheduled on a calendar year basis, which means that the USDFBCS competition year runs from January 1-December 31.
- A series must have a minimum of three qualifying events to host a series final competition.
- Series boundaries are determined by USDF. Please be advised that the boundaries of any given series may cross the regional boundaries established for dressage competitions.
- All Dressage Sport Horse Breeding (DSHB) and USDFBCS exhibitors and management staff are responsible for knowing the rules pertaining to USEF-licensed/USDF-recognized dressage competitions holding DSHB classes, as well as USEF-licensed/USDF-recognized competitions in general. The USEF Rule Book Chapter Dressage, Subchapter DR-2, contains the DSHB class rules, and can found online at www.usef.org. All recent rule changes in the online USEF Rule Book will be noted in color.

I. IN-HAND CHAMPIONSHIP

A. HORSE REGISTRATION AND MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS FOR ELIGIBILITY (IN-HAND CLASSES)

1. All horses entered in any USDFBCS qualifying or series final competition must have either a USDF Lifetime Horse Registration (LHR) or USDF Horse Identification Number (HID) and submit identification information. Horses registered with a breed organization should have a copy of their registration papers submitted directly to USDF.
2. Owner is not required to be a USDF member for qualifying or series final competitions. If the owner does not have a current USDF Group, Participating, or Business Membership, non-member fees will apply. Should non-member fees not be paid by the USDF owner of record and/or not collected by competition management and submitted to USDF following the completion of an in-hand championship class, elimination from the championship class in question may result due to non-compliance with USDF requirements for competition.
3. Neither USDF membership nor a USDF non-member fee is required for the handler.
4. Horses participating in USDFBCS qualifying or final events are not required to be registered with any studbook, but "if a horse is registered with any breed organization, the name of the breed, sire, dam, damsire, and breeder must be given on the entry blank. For unregistered horses competing in DSHB classes, the information is strongly recommended, if available" (GR907).
5. It is strongly recommended that horses not registered with a breed registry be listed as "unregistered".
6. Should any USDF membership or horse registration applications with related fees fail to be submitted to USDF with the completion of a series final competition, elimination of a horse from its relevant series final class may result.

B. REQUIREMENTS FOR USDFBCS IN-HAND QUALIFYING CLASSES

1. Classes must be offered and judged according to DR209.

2. All qualifying competitions must offer every Sport Horse Prospect In-Hand and Breeding Stock In-Hand division of the USDFBCS.
3. Only a single set of Sport Horse Prospect In-Hand and Breeding Stock In-Hand Dressage Sport Horse Breeding classes may be offered to serve as qualifying classes for the USDFBCS per competition. These classes must be open to all horses and ponies of the appropriate age and sex, and not subject to any entry restriction.
4. A separate championship class must be held for all divisions, even those that have only one class or one horse in the division. For example, if there is only one class of mares, the top two mares from that class would then be shown in the championship class. If there is only one stallion in the one stallion class, that stallion would then show again in the championship class. All horses must be reevaluated by the judge(s) at both the walk and the trot in the championship class. If any one of the judges adjudicating this class has not previously judged all of the horses in this class, conformation must also be reevaluated on every horse.
5. **Current Year Foal Championship class:** Each qualifier event must offer a current year filly class, a separate current year colt/gelding class and a current year foal championship class. This current year foal championship class is a series final qualifying class. This class must be held and judged (i.e. reevaluated at the walk and the trot, and conformation if required) in accordance with DR210.

The current year foal championship class, at qualifier events, must be open to first and second place winners of Sport Horse Prospect In-Hand classes for all foals of current calendar year, as listed below. First and second place fillies and colts/geldings of current year will compete against each other in the same class. (Organizers have the option of including third placed horses in qualifier championship classes.) No scores are given. Ties are not allowed.

Current Year Foal Championship:

Fillies of current calendar year
Colts/Geldings of current calendar year

The champion and reserve champion current year foals at each qualifier event are eligible to compete in their respective USDFBCS series final class. A third-place foal in the championship class must be named as well.

6. **Filly and Colt/Gelding Championship classes:** Each qualifier event must offer a Filly Championship class and a Colt/Gelding Championship class. These classes are USDFBCS qualifying classes. These classes must be held and judged (i.e. reevaluated at the walk and the trot, and possibly the conformation) in accordance with DR210. The filly and colt/gelding championship classes must be open to first and second placed winners of Sport Horse Prospect In-Hand classes for all horses, as listed below. (Organizers have the option of including third placed horses in qualifier championship classes). No scores are given. Ties are not allowed.

Filly Championship

Yearling Fillies
Two-year-old Fillies
Three-year-old Fillies

Colt/Gelding Championship:

Yearling Colts/Geldings
Two-year-old Colts/Geldings
Three-year-old Colts/Geldings

The champion and reserve champion filly and the champion and reserve champion colt/gelding at each qualifier event are eligible to compete in their respective USDFBCS series final class. A third-place horse in each championship class must be named as well. Current Year Foals ARE NOT ALLOWED in Filly Championship and Colt/Gelding Championship classes.

7. **Four-Year-Old Prospect Championship class:** Each qualifier event must offer a Four-Year-Old Old Prospect Championship class. This championship class is a USDFBCS qualifying class. This class must be held and judged (i.e. reevaluated at the walk and the trot, and possibly the conformation) in accordance with DR210. The Four-Year-Old Prospect Championship class, at qualifier events, must be open to first and second place winners of Sport Horse Prospect In-Hand classes for all four-year-old prospects, as listed below. First and second place Four-Year-Old Prospect mares and stallions/geldings will compete against each other in the same class. (Organizers have the option of including third placed horses in qualifier championship classes.) No scores are given. Ties are not allowed.

Four-Year-Old **Prospect Championship:**
Four-Year-Old Mare Sport Horse Prospects
Four-Year-Old Stallion/Geldings Sport Horse Prospects

The champion and reserve champion Four-Year-Old Prospects at each qualifier event are eligible to compete in their respective USDFBCS series final class. A third-place Four-Year-Old Prospect in the championship class must be named as well.

8. **Mare and Stallion Championship (Breeding Stock) classes:** Each qualifier event must offer a Mare Championship class and a Stallion Championship class. These championship classes are USDFBCS qualifying classes. These classes must be held and judged (i.e. reevaluated at the walk and the trot, and possibly the conformation) in accordance with DR210. Mare and Stallion Championship classes must be open to first and second placed winners of Breeding Stock In-Hand classes for horses age four years old and over, as listed below. (Organizers have the option of including third placed horses in qualifier championship classes). No scores are given. Ties are not allowed. For details on determining breeding status for competition purposes, please refer to DR203.

Mare Championship (Breeding Stock):

Mare classes may be divided by age, competition and/or breeding status (as of January 1st of the current competition year), as in the following example:

Four-year-old and older maiden mares – never bred
Four-year-old and older yeld mares – previously bred but not currently bred or nursing
Four-year-old and older broodmares – in foal or currently nursing (mare only to be judged).

Stallion Championship (Breeding Stock)::

Stallion classes may be divided by age or competition status, as in the following example:

Four-year-old and older stallions showing only in-hand
Four-year-old and older stallions showing also under saddle

The champion and reserve champion mare and the champion and reserve champion stallion at each qualifier event are eligible to compete in their respective USDFBCS series final class. A third-place horse in each championship class must be named as well.

9. Age/sex eligibility is determined as follows:
 - a. Fillies, colts, and geldings three years of age or under may show ONLY as sport horse prospects, not in breeding stock classes/categories. Note: Two and three-year-olds are ONLY eligible to compete in the filly or colt/gelding championships. They are NOT eligible for the mare or stallion championships.
 - b. Mares, Stallions and Geldings age four are eligible to compete in the Four-Year-Old Prospect division. Mares and stallions age four and over, may **also** show in breeding stock classes/categories.
 - c. Geldings of any age may NOT show in breeding stock classes/categories. Geldings age four and under may show ONLY in sport horse prospect classes.
10. Scoresheets: Age group classes must be judged using the appropriate scoring categories and percentages. Sport horse prospects four years old and under MUST be evaluated on the current USDF Dressage Sport Horse Prospect In-Hand scoresheets and breeding stock MUST be evaluated on the current USDF Dressage Sport Horse Breeding Stock scoresheets.
11. Horses in all USDFBCS classes must be evaluated for movement according to DR210.
12. Each horse may only enter the USDFBCS qualifying class(es) for which it is eligible and may only qualify for the specific USDFBCS championship class(es) for that division(s). For example, a four-year-old mare must enter and qualify in a mare breeding stock class in order to qualify for the USDFBCS mare championship. For that same mare to qualify for the USDFBCS Four-Year-Old Prospect championship, she must separately enter and qualify in a Four-Year-Old Prospect in-hand class for the Four-Year-Old Prospect championship.
13. During awards ceremonies, the current year foal champion and reserve, the filly champion and reserve, the colt/gelding champion and reserve, the four-year-old prospect champion and reserve, the mare champion and reserve, and the stallion champion and reserve, must be named USDFBCS qualifying champions and reserve champions for the show. A third-place horse in each championship class must be named as well. Ties are not allowed. Announcements must identify sponsors and horses' breeding information.
14. For each USDF Breeders Championship Series qualifier class, the champion and reserve champion must be presented with a qualifier ribbon. These ribbons will be supplied to the show by USDF. Only the champion and reserve champion will receive the qualifier ribbons, even if they have previously qualified. The third-place horse in the qualifier championship class will not receive a qualifier ribbon. The qualifier ribbons for champion and reserve champion are identical.
15. All champions and reserve champions will be eligible to compete in any USDFBCS series final. In the event that a champion and/or reserve has already qualified for a final, the third-placed horse from the pertinent qualifying championship class will be eligible to compete in a final. Competition management is required to have judges place qualifying championship classes to three places, with no ties. In addition, any other horse receiving a 75.000 percent or higher in its age/sex class will be qualified and eligible to compete in the USDFBCS series finals.
16. A list of qualified horses is maintained on the USDF website.
17. Horses may compete in **any** series final competition, regardless of where qualification is earned, but may compete in only **one** series final competition.

C. CONDUCT OF IN-HAND CHAMPIONSHIP DIVISION CLASSES AT SERIES FINAL COMPETITIONS

4-Updated April 2022

1. At least two USEF DSHB judges (DR202) must officiate in each series final class; one of the two required judges must be a USEF 'R' DSHB judge. Each judge will evaluate each entry independently, and scribes must be provided for each judge. Winners will be determined by the average of all judges' scores. The highest scoring horses will be declared champions and the second highest will be declared reserve champions of the series final.
2. Ties in series final classes must remain unbroken.
3. There are six in-hand championship classes in USDFBCS series final competitions. Current year foal champions and reserves from each qualifying event will compete together in a USDFBCS current year foal series final class. Filly champions and reserves from each qualifying event will compete together in a USDFBCS filly series final class. Colt/gelding champions and reserves from each qualifying event will compete together in a USDFBCS colt/gelding series final class. Four-year-old prospect champions and reserves from each qualifying event will compete together in a USDFBCS four-year-old prospect series final class. Mare **(Breeding Stock)** champions and reserves from each qualifying event will compete together in a USDFBCS mare series final class. Stallion **(Breeding Stock)** champions and reserves from each qualifying event will compete together in a USDFBCS stallion series final class. Horses that qualified with a score of 75.000% or higher in their respective qualifying classes will also be eligible for these series final championship classes
4. A grand champion and reserve grand champion current year foal, a grand champion and reserve grand champion filly, a grand champion and reserve grand champion colt/gelding, a grand champion and reserve grand champion four-year-old prospect, a grand champion and reserve grand champion mare **(Breeding Stock)**, and a grand champion and reserve grand champion stallion **(Breeding Stock)**, will be named at each USDFBCS series final event. Grand and reserve champions will receive awards and prizes provided by USDF. Third through sixth placed horses in series final classes will receive ribbons provided by USDF. After the last series final competition in a competition year, special certificates will be available from USDF via the website to owners of all horses that competed in USDFBCS series final classes.
5. USDF reserves the right to change, alter, or retract any placings and/or prizes for up to 60 days after the last day of the championship if an error or violation is discovered.
6. Horses must be shown individually on the triangle at the walk and trot and standing for conformation. Each horse must be evaluated in the same manner. Callbacks are permitted. If horses may be recalled, the prize list or program must state that this procedure will be used (DR209).
7. Owner **must enter** the qualified horse in the USDFBCS series final championship class. The horse is NOT automatically entered in the series final championship class because it qualified earlier in the day or at another show.
8. Horses in the current year foal final class, filly final class, colt/gelding final class and four-year-old prospect final class MUST be evaluated using the USDF Dressage Sport Horse Prospect In-Hand scoresheets. Horses in the mare final class and the stallion final class MUST be evaluated using the USDF Dressage Sport Horse Breeding Stock scoresheets.
9. Management must collect all required USDF membership, horse registrations, and related fees prior to the commencement of series final classes for eligible entries that wish to compete in a series final class. Should the required USDF membership, horse recording, and related fees fail to be submitted to USDF following the completion of a series final competition, elimination of a horse from its relevant series final class may result due to noncompliance with USDF membership and horse recording requirements for competition. These applications and related

fees must be submitted to the USDF office within 24 hours of the series final classes. Refer to section I.A for all USDF membership and horse recording requirements for competition.

10. Series final events must agree to allow late entries in series final classes for horses that qualified for the series final event after the official closing date.

II. MATERIALE CHAMPIONSHIP

Materiale Championships will be held at each USDFBCS series final competition. Each USDFBCS series final will hold a Three-Year-Old Materiale Championship class, a Four-Year-Old Materiale Championship Class, and a Five-Year-Old Materiale Championship class. Fillies, colts, mares, stallions, and/or geldings, will compete in the same championship classes of their respective age groups. A Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion will be named for each materiale championship class at each series final event. These specific age categories of three-year-olds, four-year-olds, and five-year-olds are the only eligible categories to be offered as USDFBCS Materiale Championship classes.

A. HORSE REGISTRATION AND MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS FOR ELIGIBILITY (FOR MATERIALE CLASSES)

1. All horses entered in any materiale class or Materiale Championship held at a USEF/USDF recognized Dressage Sport Horse Breeding (DSHB) or dressage competition must have either a USDF Lifetime Horse Registration (LHR) or USDF Horse Identification Number (HID), and submit identification information. Horses registered with a breed organization should have a copy of their registration papers submitted directly to USDF.
2. Owner is not required to be a USDF member for a horse to compete in materiale classes, earn USDFBCS materiale championship qualification scores at USEF-licensed/USDF-recognized DSHB or dressage competitions, or compete in a USDFBCS Materiale Championship class. If the USDF owner of record does not have a current USDF Group, Participating or Business membership, non-member fees will apply. Should non-member fees not be paid by the USDF owner of record and/or not collected by competition management and then submitted to USDF following the completion of a materiale championship class, elimination from the materiale championship class in question may result due to non-compliance with USDF requirements for competition.
3. Rider is required to have a current USDF PM at the time a horse's qualifying score is earned and at the time of the USDFBCS Materiale Championship class.
4. Horses participating in USDFBCS qualifying or final events are not required to be registered with any studbook, but, "if a horse is registered with any breed organization, the name of the breed, sire, dam, dam sire and breeder must be given on the entry blank" (GR907).
5. It is strongly recommended that horses not registered with a breed registry be listed as "unregistered".
6. It is the responsibility of the horse owner to ensure that the owner's and rider's USDF membership and USDF horse registration are correct and current. Should any required USDF membership or horse registration application and related fees fail to be submitted to USDF following the completion of a series final competition, elimination of a horse from its relevant series final class may result due to noncompliance with USDF membership and horse recording requirements for competition.

B. REQUIREMENTS FOR MATERIALE CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFICATION

1. A horse may qualify for competition in a USDFBCS Materiale Championship class by receiving one score of 72.000% or higher in a materiale class held at any USEF-licensed/USDF-recognized DSHB or Dressage competition during the relative competition year.

2. Scores must be earned at competitions licensed by USEF as dressage competitions. Scores earned at competitions licensed by USEF as Regular or Local competitions are not eligible to be used as qualifying scores for the USDFBCS Materiale Championships.
3. The USDFBCS Materiale Championships will run on the same calendar year as the USDFBCS (January 1-December 31). Qualifications to compete in a USDFBCS Materiale Championship class must be earned in the calendar year that the championship will occur. Any qualifications earned in other calendar years will not apply.
4. Qualifying scores must be earned in materiale classes run under DR134 and DR204. Fillies and/or mares may not be combined in classes with colts, geldings and/or stallions (exception: championship materiale classes – see DR204).
5. At each USDFBCS series final competition, materiale championship classes will be held for three age groups. All qualified horses regardless of sex will compete against one another in their respective age groups. This means that all qualified three-year-olds will compete in one class to determine the USDFBCS Materiale Champion Three-Year-Old, and all qualified four-year-olds will compete in one class to determine the USDFBCS Materiale Champion Four-Year-Old, and all qualified five-year-olds will compete in one class to determine the USDFBCS Materiale Champion Five-Year-Old. Horses will be evaluated according to the criteria listed on the current “USDF Materiale Class” scoresheet, and classes must be conducted according to the current USDF “Procedures to Host USDF Materiale Classes”.
6. Qualifying scores to compete in a class may be earned up until the championship class occurs.
7. Once a horse has qualified to compete in a USDFBCS Materiale Championship class, the horse is eligible to compete at the USDFBCS series final of the owner’s choice. This means that the horse does not have to attend the series final being held within the same geographical area or series that the qualifying score was earned in. However, a horse may only compete in one USDFBCS Materiale Championship class in a given calendar year.
8. A list of qualified horses is maintained on the USDF website.
9. A horse may qualify with a different rider than the rider who competes the horse in the championship class.
10. Dressage competitions with materiale classes scheduled after the USDFBCS series finals are held, are not eligible to participate in the USDFBCS program, and will not be qualifying events for the next year’s series final.

C. CONDUCT OF MATERIALE CHAMPIONSHIP CLASSES AT THE SERIES FINAL

1. At least two USEF DSHB judges must officiate in each USDFBCS Materiale Championship class. One of the two required judges must be a USEF “R” DSHB judge. The other judge may be a USEF “r” DSHB judge. Guest Cards to judge DSHB classes are not allowed, per USEF GR1011. Each judge will evaluate each entry independently, and scribes must be provided for each judge. Winners will be determined by the average of all judges’ scores. The highest scoring horse will be declared grand champion, and the second highest will be declared reserve grand champion for their respective age-group classes. Scores must be awarded to all competitors competing in materiale classes, as well as USDFBCS Materiale Championship classes.
 - a. Ties in USDFBCS Materiale Championship classes must remain unbroken.
 - b. A Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion will be named for the three-year-old, four-year-old, and five-year-old USDFBCS Materiale Championship classes at each series final competition. Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champions will receive awards and prizes provided by USDF. Third through sixth placed horses in these materiale championship classes will receive ribbons provided by USDF.

- c. After the conclusion of the last scheduled series final competition, special certificates will be available from USDF via the website to owners of all horses that competed in USDFBCS Materiale Championship classes.
- d. USDF reserves the right to change, alter, or retract any placings and/or prizes for up to 60 days after the last day of the championship if an error or violation is discovered.
- e. Owner **must enter** the qualified horse in the horse's appropriate USDFBCS Materiale Championship class prior to commencement of the class. The horse is NOT automatically entered in the class because the horse qualified earlier in the day or at another show.
- f. Management must collect all required USDF membership, horse registrations, and related fees prior to the commencement of materiale championship classes for eligible entries that wish to compete in a materiale championship class. Should required USDF membership, horse recording, and related fees fail to be submitted to USDF following the completion of a series final competition, elimination of a horse from its relevant materiale championship class may result due to noncompliance with USDF membership and horse recording requirements for competition. These applications and related fees must be submitted to the USDF office within 24 hours of the series final classes. Refer to section II.A for all USDF membership and horse recording requirements for competition.
- g. Horse numbers must be provided by management per USEF DR207.
- h. USDFBCS series final events must agree to allow late entries in the USDFBCS Materiale Championship classes for horses that qualified for the championship after the official closing date.
- i. Series final events must hold materiale classes allowing for qualification opportunities prior to holding the USDFBCS Materiale Championship classes.

III. THREE-YEAR-OLD PROSPECT AWARD

The Three-Year-Old Prospect Award will be awarded to the three-year-old horse earning the highest combined scores from their in-hand series final championship class and series final materiale championship class at each USDFBCS Series Final annually. USDF will provide each USDFBCS Series Final competition with the prize for the Three-Year-Old Prospect Award. This award must be presented to the award winner at the competition, and a photo taken of the award winner.

IV. AWARD CEREMONIES

A. REQUIREMENTS

1. For all series finals, a USDF sponsor banner must be prominently displayed. If the banner is misplaced or damaged, the event will be responsible for the cost of repair or replacement. Banners must be returned to USDF within 30 days of the competition.
2. In addition to the general requirements above, the awards presentation ceremonies and award presenters at each series final event must be arranged in cooperation with USDF. USDF will contact sponsors to determine if they or a representative plan to attend the award ceremonies. USDF will forward this information to the appropriate management team.
3. All USDFBCS sponsors (or their representatives) should be invited to participate in the final event award ceremonies. Award ceremony announcements must identify the sponsoring organizations. Any sponsors in attendance at these events should be provided with a complimentary copy of the competition program and be given free admission to the event.
4. Management must send two champion photos of in-hand competitors, two champion photos of materiale championship competitors, and two champion photos of the Three-Year-Old Prospect

award winner, electronically to USDF for publication with the final results. Persons and horses in the photos must be identified. A photographer's release must also be submitted.

5. Public announcements must be made, which credit sponsors and promote the program to the public. These announcements are required to be made throughout the event during the awarding of Current Year Foal, Filly, Colt/Gelding, Four-Year-Old Prospect, Mare, and Stallion Championships and Three, Four, and Five-Year-Old Materiale Championships. The name of the breeder(s) must be announced during award ceremonies. It is also strongly recommended that breeder(s) and owners of placing horses be invited to participate in award ceremonies.
6. All unused ribbons and prizes must be returned to USDF within 30 days of the competition. If awards are misplaced or damaged, the event will be responsible for the cost of replacement. For series qualifiers, USDF will provide twelve qualifier ribbons (two per in-hand division). For series finals, USDF will provide neck sashes and prizes for Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion and ribbons for third through sixth place. Ribbons and prizes will be sent directly to the designated competition contact about two weeks prior to the event.
7. Show management is responsible to have a professional photographer for USDFBCS series final competitions.

V. COMPETITION MANAGEMENT

A. APPLYING FOR AND SCHEDULING QUALIFIER AND FINAL EVENTS

1. The USDFBCS is scheduled on a calendar year basis (January 1-December 31).
2. A series must have a minimum of ~~three~~ **two** qualifying events to hold a series final. All shows in the series, including qualifier classes held in conjunction with the series final, are qualifying events for any series final. **(Effective 4/20/2022)**
3. Competitions intending to host USDFBCS qualifying classes must submit their USDFBCS qualifier application to USDF no less than sixty days prior to the start of the competition. Any competitions submitting USDFBCS qualifier applications less than sixty days prior to the start of the competition will be considered on a case-by-case basis and subject to a \$50 late application fee.
4. Competitions may not advertise themselves as being qualifying opportunities for the USDFBCS prior to submitting a qualifier application and related \$75 fee to USDF.
5. The official USDFBCS host site application form for qualifiers and series finals will be available from the USDF office during the summer, prior to the start of the next competition year. USEF-licensed/USDF-recognized dressage competitions interested in hosting a final for a series must submit a completed USDFBCS event application form and contract to the USDF office by October 1 of the year prior to the series final to request consideration for hosting the series final.
6. The final event of each series is often the last USEF-licensed/USDF-recognized dressage competition holding DSHB classes scheduled in a particular geographical area of the United States. However, a series final must also be held in conjunction with a USDFBCS qualifying event. Host sites of series finals will be designated on or about November 1 of the year prior to the series final year. Competitions which submit a host site application for a series final after November 1 of the year prior to the series final year will be subject to a \$50 late application fee and reviewed on a case-by-case basis.
7. The series final must meet the minimum requirements for a series final: 1) minimum USEF Level 2 competition 2) Show manager and secretary must both be members of USEF and USDF (USDF Participating or Group Membership is required) at the time of championships. 3) all other requirements as stated in the USDFBCS Series Final Host Site Application.

8. It is recommended that a series final be held in conjunction with a USEF-licensed/USDF-recognized competition unless it has a proven stand-alone history.
9. All applications for a series final will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
10. A series final will be considered “definite” when at least ~~three~~ **two** qualifying events have registered with USDF to participate in the series for the year. If it meets the minimum requirements, a series final will be considered “tentative” until at least ~~three~~ **two** events have registered for the series. (Effective 4/20/2022)
11. If two or more qualified events in the same series wish to host the series final, a working group appointed by the Sport Horse Committee, will select the host site of the series final, after consultation with the chair of the Sport Horse Committee, the regional director(s) of the region(s) with qualifying events in the series and the Sport Horse Committee liaison. Priority for the final will be given to 1) the date of event, which must be after all qualifying events are normally scheduled, and ideally, between August 1 and October 1 of the series final year, 2) the most prestigious DSHB show, or USDF Regional Dressage Championship in the geographical area, 3) location and accessibility to competitors, 4) experience of the competition management with DSHB competitions and 5) history of rule compliance with USEF and USDF.
12. All USEF-licensed/USDF-recognized dressage competitions with DSHB classes scheduled prior to the series final in the same calendar year and geographical area are eligible to participate in the USDFBCS program. Dressage competitions with DSHB classes scheduled after the series final in their area are not eligible to participate in the USDFBCS program and will not be qualifying events for the next year’s series final.
13. Only one USDFBCS series, or part of a series, may be held in any particular geographical area in the same calendar year. The boundaries of a series will be determined by USDF in consultation with regional directors and the chair of the Sport Horse Committee. Series will include clusters of DSHB shows and may cross the regional boundaries established for dressage competitions.
14. If a USDFBCS series does not have at least ~~three~~ **two** qualifying events recognized by USDF by June 1 of the series final year, the final will not be held. Exceptions will be considered in extenuating circumstances. (Effective 4/20/2022)

B. ADVERTISING AND PROMOTION

1. In order to receive full promotional benefits from USDF, qualifying and final events must be approved at least six months prior to the competition.
2. Qualifiers and final events must be approved by USDF in writing each year before they advertise that they are participating as qualifying or final events in the USDFBCS program.
3. “USDFBCS” or “USDF Breeders Championship Series” must be used in its entirety if included as the title of an event, or if referred to anywhere within the prize list or program. (In other words, you cannot title a competition the “XYZ Breeders Competition”).
4. The title “USDF Breeders Championship_____ Series Final” must be prominently listed in the final event official prize list, show program, promotional materials, and advertisements once the competition has received written approval of its status as a designated USDFBCS Final competition.
5. Series final prize lists must include the prize list insert for the USDFBCS program as provided by USDF.
6. Unless a competition has received written confirmation from USDF of the Federation’s approval to host a USDFBCS series final competition, the competition cannot utilize any competition name or title that would include a USDFBCS series final designation. Any failure on the part of the competition management to follow this protocol will result in a \$100 fine.

C. PRIZES

10-Updated April 2022

1. Prizes will be awarded during the finals competition award ceremonies.
2. Prizes and/or other awards may be withheld by USDF to series winners if the following information is not provided to USDF or show management by required deadlines: name of owner; name, age and sex of horse; and if known, the breed of horse, sire, dam, damsire, and breeder.
3. Prizes and/or other awards may be withheld by USDF if it is found that a series award winner or owner was not in compliance with USDF series final membership, horse registration requirements, and related fees, for competition. These requirements can be seen at I.A and II.A.

D. RULES REGARDING CONTRACTS AND RECOGNITION

1. Qualifying and final events must be USEF-licensed/USDF-recognized dressage competitions and all classes must be conducted under USEF rules.
2. USDFBCS event application, contract and rules for the upcoming competition year will be available to show managers during the summer of the year prior to each USDFBCS competition year.
3. Rule changes and requirements will be fully approved and publicized by July 1 of the year prior to each USDFBCS competition year.
4. Changes of rules, requirements, or contract obligations for competition management (and/or competitors, if applicable) are not permitted after August 1 of the year prior to the start of the USDFBCS competition year, except when changed by the USEF and/or USDF Executive Board.
5. USDFBCS rules and procedures must be listed in the official prize list for the event and must be available sufficiently in advance to all potential competitors, or the event may be in violation of USEF rules.
6. For qualifying events whose dates fall after the closing date for their series final event, the results must be emailed to USDF at results@usdf.org within 24 hours of completion of the qualifying event. USDF will verify those horses who have qualified with the series final event secretary.

E. CONDUCT AND COMPETITION STANDARDS FOR USDFBCS QUALIFYING AND FINAL EVENTS

Series Final events must meet the minimum requirements for a series final:

1. A minimum Level 2 competition.
2. Show manager and secretary must both be members of USEF and USDF (USDF Participating or Group Membership is required) at the time of championships. All other requirements are as stated in the USDFBCS Finals Host Site Application.
3. DSHB competitions are not permitted to exclude horses from competing in an event that have previously qualified for a USDFBCS series final. Such exclusion is not permitted by USEF rules, and penalties could result.
4. Neither foals nor horses of any other age may be shown loose.
5. Note the following clarification on "stallion": No geldings may compete in the USDFBCS classes for stallions even if they are gelded after qualifying for the finals and are breeding via frozen semen.

VI. LICENSED OFFICIALS

A. REQUIREMENTS

1. According to DR202 a competition with a USEF- licensed Dressage Sport Horse Breeding (DSHB) division must have a USEF- licensed DSHB judge and a USEF- licensed dressage technical delegate (TD). Guest Cards to judge DSHB classes are not allowed, per USEF GR1005.
2. Apprentice judging is NOT permitted during USDFBCS series final classes.

3. Hunter Breeding judges or USEF judges with other licenses or in other disciplines are NOT permitted to judge DSHB classes.
4. It is recommended that the USEF (TD) officiating at a USDFBCS series final have significant experience officiating as a TD at DSHB shows.

VII. UNITED STATES EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION RULES

Please note that competition management, licensed officials and competitors must be aware of all USEF DSHB and applicable USEF general rules. Be sure to check the online version of the rules for any clarifications or changes that may have occurred for the current competition year.

USEF Rule Book Subchapter DR-2 Dressage Sport Horse Breeding