

FIELD GUIDE TO DRESSAGE PONY MEASUREMENT

STEP 1: BEFORE THE COMPETITION - CHECK WITH COMPETITION MANAGEMENT

- Are there ponies to measure?
- Does the competition have a USEF measurement stick?
- What time is the measurement scheduled and where/what is the location they utilize?
- Have they arranged for the vet?

STEP 2: AT THE COMPETITION

- Is the pony entered in the competition?
- Has the office given the individual(s) the form to fill out?
- Locate and physically check the measurement surface area with the stick.
- Where will the jog be able to be done?
- Assemble the stick and position it in a safe spot.

STEP 3: INTRODUCTIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

- Introduce yourself and the vet to the adult involved.
- Explain the process that will be taking place – Today we are going to measure your pony...
- Ask if the pony is prepared for the measurement – shoes, lunge, ‘once we start, we will proceed forward without stopping...’

STEP 4: FORM REVIEW

- Go over the top of the form with the presenter.
- Is the information correct?
- Is the person presenting the pony over 18 or is an adult with them?

STEP 5: FORM COMPLETION

- Date/Name of Competition/Pony's entry #/Stick #
- Purpose of Measurement - 1st or re-measurement/Competition Only?
- Pony's sex, color, breed (ask the presenter).
- Determine shoeing status.

STEP 6: VERIFICATION OF AGE BY VET (TEETH)

- Check the appropriate box for age – Over or under 8.

STEP 7: JOG THE PONY – VET DETERMINES IF SOUND OR NOT

- If sound, go forward. Check appropriate box.
- If lame, measurement stops. Check appropriate box.
 - ◊ Explain why the measurement has stopped to the presenter.
 - ◊ The animal is barred from competing at that show.
 - ◊ Send non-completed form (you do not do height or markings) into USEF.

STEP 8: MEASURE PONY

- Position the pony four square on the area previously determined to be level.
- Determine highest point of withers – make sure you are on the highest point.
- Measure – have vet verify bubbles/show measurement height to presenter.
 - ◊ Pony measures as pony – proceed forward to complete measurement.
- Indicate height on form in centimeters.
 - ◊ Animal does not measure – stop measurement.
- Indicate height on form and then discontinue form completion.
- Explain that the animal did not measure and cannot show in pony classes.
- Send form into USEF – do not put owner's email on uploaded form – put yours.
 - ◊ **Tell owner that they must apply for an appeal with USEF within 7 days** if they want a re-measurement done, they cannot just go to another show.
- Vet may leave at this point.

STEP 9: COMPLETE MARKINGS

- Keep this to four minutes or less. Take pictures for reference if needed.

STEP 10: FINAL EXPLANATION

- Explain to the presenter that the form will be good for 45 days from the measurement.
- They will receive a copy from USEF via email. Enter their email address on the uploaded form
- You could also give them a copy of the completed form.
- Explain that if they do not hear from/receive their measurement card in 30 days, then they must contact USEF.