

ORANGE COUNTY INTERSCHOLASTIC EQUESTRIAN LEAGUE, INC.

ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

RULES, POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

DRESSAGE

2021-2022

All classes at the OCIEL shows will be run under the US Equestrian Federation rules and specifications as modified for equestrian competition. If the rules of the OCIEL do not apply to a given situation, then the rules of the USEF shall govern. Dressage will be ruled by the USEF Dressage Division Rule Book.

RULE I MEMBERSHIP

- SECTION A: Any school interested in participating in the OCIEL activities and willing to subscribe to the By-Laws and Rules is eligible for membership.
A school team can be made up of only one rider.
- SECTION B: At the discretion of the school, the school representative may be a parent or a designated coach. Download the TEAM REPRESENTATIVE FORM and submit.
- SECTION C: An eligible student must apply for membership on the official OCIEL Membership Form, signed by that individual and their parent or guardian. The school is not required to sign the rider membership form. Said application must be filed with the OCIEL before the student can compete. Membership fees are non-refundable.
- SECTION D: The membership form must be accompanied by the OCIEL Eligibility form, submitted by the trainer, stating which division that individual is eligible to compete in and must be submitted to the OCIEL prior to their first show. New members are welcome anytime throughout the show season.
- SECTION E: New applicants must provide records of their prior show participation from OCHSA, PCHA, GSDHSA, CDS, IEHJA and USEF sanctioned shows along with the membership application in order to be considered. Results from the organization internet sites are acceptable. It is the responsibility of the rider or rider's parents to provide documentation. The show staff is not responsible to download and print off copies of the rider's show records.
- SECTION F: Any falsification of the membership and eligibility forms may be cause for immediate expulsion of the individual, school and coach from the OCIEL and/or a \$150.00 penalty. Trainers will also receive disciplinary notices.

RULE II REGISTRATION AND FEES

- SECTION A: Membership and Eligibility Forms, Team Representative Forms, Entry Forms and the Release of Liability form must be downloaded from the web site.
- SECTION B: Each competitor (horse/rider) **must** pre-enter using the Entry Forms found at www.ociel.org under “Show Entry Forms.” **Full payment is due at time of entry. Checks may be sent in, however must be received the Tuesday prior to the start of the show. Credit cards will be charged the Tuesday prior to the start of the show.**
- SECTION C: Dressage riders will be placed in order of go by the Dressage show secretary. **Special ride time requests will be an additional \$50 fee per show. The final day for Dressage entries to be accepted is the 10 days prior to the start of the show.** This rule has been incorporated to allow the Dressage Show Secretary time to create the ride time schedule without having to make changes due to late entries.
- SECTION D: **Schooling Rules:** Schooling will be permitted in designated areas only. The word schooling includes but is not limited to riding, lunging, leading, and exercising. In accordance with California State Law, poling and/or the use of offsets will not be permitted. Violations of schooling regulations may be considered cause for fines and/or elimination. Official schooling on Friday shall be from 10am to 5pm, and 45 minutes before the start of the show on Saturday and Sunday. Riding outside of these time constraints is done so at the risk of the rider and trainer.
- SECTION E: The OCIEL will not allow late entries. **All classes must be entered into by the entry deadline date, which is 10 days prior to the start of the Saturday show. Classes may not be added at the show.**
- SECTION F: Checks returned by the bank or credit cards declined for any reason are regarded as a serious offense. Returned checks will be assessed a \$50 fine and must be paid in full; in cash, cashiers check or money order within 5 days of notice to the competitor/trainer that the check has been returned. A declined credit card will be assessed a \$50 fine if the office has to call to obtain a different credit card number. Failure to comply may result in the OCIEL forwarding the information to the competitor’s school for further disciplinary action.
- SECTION G: **Show scratches prior to the show entry deadline will not be charged. Show scratches received after the entry deadline through the Monday prior to the start of the show will be charged a fee of \$50. Show scratches received on or after the Tuesday prior to start of show will be charged a \$50 fee plus the stall/shaving fees will not be refunded. Any monies left over that amount will be forwarded to the next show. Show scratches on the day of the show are non-refundable.**
- SECTION H: If there is a credit balance at the end of the OCIEL season (last show) members have 5 days to submit a written request for a refund. Any requests submitted more than 5 days after the last show will not be considered.

SECTION I: If the weather forecast calls for rain on or after the Thursday prior to the start of the show the show will be cancelled.

RULE III PROTESTS

SECTION A: Protests may be made to the Show Committee by a rider, handler, agent, trainer, exhibitor, or parent of a junior exhibitor for any violation of the OCIEL Rules. **It must be:**

- In writing, (no telephone calls) and signed by the protestor.
- Addressed to the Secretary of the OCIEL, stating at which show the alleged violation occurred, citing the said violation, and mailed to: OCIEL/Alison Gerami, 24431 Chancellor Ct., Laguna Hills, CA 92653.
- Accompanied by a check of \$100 (payable to the OCIEL), and
- Received 2 weeks before the next show.

The Board will review the evidence and respond in writing with their decision within 10 days of receipt of the complaint. **There will be no verbal or anonymous protests accepted.**

RULE IV DIVISIONS

SECTION A: DRESSAGE DIVISIONS:

Dressage Seat Equitation Medal, Rider Test Training Level, Rider Test First Level and Rider Test Second Level classes will be offered at each show. They are eligible for year-end CLASS awards only. This class does not count toward the three for the day. This class does not count toward year-end high point or overall school high point.

Dressage Novice: USDF Introductory Level A, B and C. Open to horse/rider combinations who have not won the OCIEL Year-End Champion or Reserve Champion Class in which they intend to compete.

Dressage Freshman: Training Level Test 1-3. Open to horse/rider combinations that have not won the OCIEL Year-End Champion or Reserve Champion Class in which they intend to compete.

Dressage Junior Varsity: First Level Test 1-3. Open to horse/rider combinations who have not won the OCIEL Year-End Champion or Reserve Champion Class in which they intend to compete.

Dressage Varsity: Second Level Test 1 and Above. Open to horse/rider combinations that are competent to show at the Second Level Test 1 and above.

Dressage riders and/or horses may enter only 3 classes per show day.

SECTION B: Any deviations from the criteria for the above divisions would need prior approval from the OCIEL Board and proof of show records from approved associations.

SECTION C: If a horse is being shared, the horse may enter a maximum of three (3) dressage classes at one show. Individual and team points will be counted toward the applicable rider. With the exception of an injury occurring to the horse during the show and with a vet note, an exhibitor may only ride one horse per show.

SECTION D: A rider showing in a class for which he or she is ineligible shall forfeit any points, ribbons and prizes won in such class.

SECTION E: It is the responsibility of the team representative and trainer to accurately enter riders in the proper divisions, according to their individual skill and experience levels and in compliance with the definitions and descriptions of those levels as set forth in the Rules. Discrepancies may require proof from above associations.

SECTION F: Any division entered incorrectly may result in a penalty of \$50.

SECTION G: A Year-End Champion or Reserve Champion may repeat the same Dressage Division the next year under the following circumstances:

- The show scores for their OCIEL Championship were below the required qualified score for the CDS Year-End Championship.
- The horse was laid up from injury the majority of the time between the last OCIEL show and the first one of the new season. A Veterinarian's note is required, as well as a letter from the trainer or parent requesting the rider be allowed to campaign the same level as the previous year.

SECTION H: If a rider falls off, they may not remount in the ring.

RULE V CROSS ENTERING

SECTION A: There is no cross-entering between disciplines. A rider may advance up a division but may not go back down. Division advancements must be declared in the show office prior to the start of the show by the rider's trainer. The "Eligibility Form" must be changed, signed and dated by the trainer next to the new division. Exhibitors switching divisions will forfeit points earned in the originally declared division. In an emergency, any rider or horse with a different rider may be allowed to enter a second division with permission from Show Management. The 3 class maximum will still apply.

SECTION B: Dressage Cross Entering: According to the USEF Dressage Division Rulebook, Article 1919: Participation in Dressage Competition, Number 2: "Horses may enter no more than two consecutive levels at any one competition" The USEF chart lists TR/1st, 1st /2nd, and 2nd/3rd as approved for cross entering. If a horse/rider combination is ready to move up to compete in the next test, it is permissible for them to move up to the next division with prior office approval. It

is also possible to compete at two different divisions at one show, i.e. a horse/rider combination may ride for the higher test number of one division and the lowest test of the next division. Exhibitors riding in the Novice division, classes Intro A, B or C, may not cross enter into another division at a show. If an exhibitor moves from Novice to Freshman at any time they may not return to Novice at a later show.

SECTION C: There are (2) regional non-profit chapters of the IEL: Los Angeles and Orange County. There will be no cross entering between the regions. Riders from other counties can choose which IEL they would like to show in and must remain showing in the region throughout the show season. The SDSEL is not associated with the above regional non-profit chapters. Memberships will not be accepted from SDSEL riders.

RULE VI COMPETITION OFFICIALS

SECTION A: Present at all competitions shall be:

- Manager
- USEF Judges
- Course Designer
- Announcers
- Farrier (On Call)
- EMT
- Member of the Rules Committee
- Veterinarian (On Call)

SECTION B: A Judge for an OCIEL show must be approved by the Board.

SECTION C: Any complaints must be discussed with Show Management first.

RULE VII CONDUCT AND APPAREL

SECTION A: APPAREL - DRESSAGE: Attire will follow USEF code found in the USEF Rulebook or their web site. No braiding required.

SECTION B: It is expected that exhibitors, spectators, trainers and school representatives behave in a manner that reflects the dignity of the sport. Ill-mannered conduct will not be tolerated. Show management may expel from the grounds any person whose behavior is deemed dishonest, unethical, unsportsmanlike, or detrimental to the health, safety, or wellbeing of any horse, person, or the League during the progress of the show. USEF Rule 7, Chapter 1, Article 701, page 50 under "General Rules".

SECTION C: NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ALLOWED ON THE PROPERTY.

SECTION D: NO DOGS ALLOWED ON THE PROPERTY WITHOUT A LEASH. A fine of \$200 will be levied. No exceptions.

SECTION E: According to USEF Rules: No electronic devices are allowed in performance rings, i.e. cell phones, personal barn communicators. Judges will disqualify an exhibitor found to be carrying an electronic device on their person.

SECTION F: Cruelty and marked lameness will constitute class elimination.

SECTION G: No minors (under age 15) are allowed to operate any motorized vehicle i.e. motorcycle, ATV, scooter, golf cart. Minors (under age 16) with a permit AND an adult may operate a vehicle on the show grounds.

SECTION H: CDFA Drug Rule: The primary goal of OCIEL is to support and develop student equestrian athletes, to encourage knowledge of horsemanship and to promote good sportsmanship and team work in a fair and friendly competition. Because of this mission, OCIEL strongly supports the Equine Medication Monitoring Program administered by the California Drug and Food Administration. OCIEL will follow the rules as prescribed by the California Drug and Food Administration on drug use in all competing horses/ponies at an IEL horse show. We encourage all OCIEL riders, trainers and parents to go to the CDFA website to learn more. (http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/Animal_Health/emmp/) In accordance with CDFA procedure there may be random drug testing administered by CDFA employees at any or all OCIEL horse shows. If any horse/pony is found to have a positive result from this testing, the CDFA will contact the owner and trainer of said horse/pony for further investigation. At the conclusion of that investigation OCIEL will be notified by the CDFA if the CDFA finds that a violation of the CDFA rules has occurred. If OCIEL is notified that a horse/pony has been found by the CDFA to be in violation of the California Medication Rule, the rider of that horse will forfeit all points accumulated at the OCIEL horse show where the sample was collected. OCIEL will not conduct any independent investigation and will rely exclusively on the findings of the CDFA.

RULE VIII TROPHIES, RIBBONS AND POINTS

SECTION A: POINTS will be counted for Individual, Division and School. No rider shall be considered for Year-End Awards unless they attend a minimum of **3 (three)** shows.

SECTION B: Ribbons awarded to 12th place and prizes awarded to 1st place in each class.

SECTION C: Points shall be awarded as follows:

Dressage Divisions

In Dressage points will be used to determine school awards. Percentages shall be used to determine the show Champion and the year-end individual and division awards.

1 st	12
2 nd	8
3 rd	7
4 th	6
5 th	5
6 th	4
7 th	3
8 th	2
9 th	1

SECTION D: Only the top two rider's points from a school will count in each class, which will be used to determine Individual School and Overall School points. Individual points will be counted for all riders.

SECTION E: **For Overall School, the Championship is based on points from Hunter, Jumper Dressage, and Gymkhana. The Championship will go to the school with the most first place ribbons over fences.**

SECTION F: Show Division High Point Ribbons:

Points are combined from hunters, jumpers and dressage to determine School High Point Champion and Reserve ribbons. The following High Point Champion and Reserve Champion ribbons will be awarded:

- Novice, Freshman, Junior Varsity and Varsity School
- Dressage High Point Individual (excluding non-USDF/CDS approved Intro Classes A, B and C)

SECTION G: Year-End Division Perpetual Trophies and Ribbons:

Points are combined from hunters, jumpers, and dressage to determine Year-End School High Point Champion.

- Novice, Freshman, Junior Varsity and Varsity School

Dressage Year-End High Point trophies will be:

- Novice Individual
- Freshman Individual
- Junior Varsity Individual
- Varsity Individual
- Dressage Overall

All Perpetual Silver and Gold Cup Trophies must be returned to the show office **in December**. NO EXCEPTIONS!!

SECTION H: Year-End Class Awards: All OCIEL Classes will have a Year-End Champion and Reserve Champion **ribbon**.

SECTION I: Trainer of the Year Award: Trainers receive one point per student per show day. A trainer is eligible to win one division per season. If a trainer wins more than one division, the Award will go to the next trainer with the accumulative points.

SECTION J: DRESSAGE: No rider will be considered for Year-end Awards unless they attend 3 of 4 shows. In order to qualify for Year-End Awards in a particular class, a minimum of 2 show scores from that class must be obtained. Exhibitors must stay within their declared division(s) for the show year unless permission has been granted by the show office to move up or down a division. See "Cross-Entering, Section B." If a rider switches divisions during the show year points from the originally declared division will be forfeited. Scores for Year-End Awards are calculated by taking the rider's top three scores from that class and averaging them. The daily Champion and Reserve Champion will be determined by the highest and second highest score, respectively, of the show day.

RULE IX DELAY OF CLASSES

SECTION A: Riders must be ready to enter the ring at their respective posted time. Management reserves the right to eliminate a competitor if they do not arrive for their class on time.

RULE X DRESSAGE MEDAL

SECTION A: There shall be, at the first three shows, qualifying rounds in Dressage Seat Equitation Medal.

SECTION B: Dressage Seat Equitation Medal will be judged on the following criteria: overall correct design of position, relaxation and suppleness of the rider, unity with the horse, lightness and correct application of aids, ability to maintain tempo and rhythm, and overall quality of performance.

RULE XI DRESSAGE FINAL

SECTION A: The Dressage Seat Equitation Final will be held at the last show of the season. To compete as a medal finalist in the Final, a rider must have attended 3 shows (the Final may be their 3rd show) and have been one of the top 12 riders from a previous qualifying Dressage Seat Equitation class. The top 12 riders are determined by highest percentages throughout the show season.

SECTION B: Dressage Seat Equitation Medal Final. To be eligible to compete in the Medal Final, a rider must have competed in this class a minimum of 2 times during the show year and attended a minimum of 3 shows. The top 12 riders are determined

by the scores received in this class during the show season. The top 12 scores will be invited back to participate in the Final. In the event a rider is in the top 12 multiple times, the next highest score will be invited back.

RULE XII DRESSAGE CLASSES

SECTION A: EXECUTION OF TESTS:

- All trot to be sitting unless specified rising
- Tests may be called, but no coaching is allowed
- The rider's use of voice in any way is a 2-point deduction
- Going off course constitutes a 2-point deduction the first time, a 4-point deduction the second time, and 8 point deduction the third time and elimination the fourth time
- Errors of the test such as rising instead of sitting the trot or saluting with the reins in both hands will be penalized as an error off course
- A competitor who does not enter the arena within 60 seconds after the entry bell is rung shall be eliminated
- No competitor can be required to ride prior to the scheduled time. The assigned ride time is the ride time the rider is expected to enter the arena. It is the rider's responsibility to arrive at the arena on time
- If a rider misses his or her dressage time, he or she will be eliminated from the class and will not receive a refund

SECTION B: ELIMINATIONS: The illegal use of equipment, unauthorized assistance, four (4) errors of the course, late entry into the arena, cruelty, marked lameness, and if all four (4) feet of the horse leave the arena before the test is done. Trainers are not allowed on horses after the show has started.

SECTION C: ENTRIES: All riders must be pre-entered (one horse per rider). No post-entries will be accepted. Entries will be accepted on a "first come, first serve" basis. Riders will be put on a wait-list once the time slots for the day are full. After the show has begun, no refunds will be made.

SECTION D: When an OCIEL Dressage show is CDS sanctioned there will be a CDS non-member fee charged if exhibitor and/or owner are not members of CDS.

SECTION E: Dressage Seat Equitation Medal will be judged on the rider taking into consideration the proper classical position. This includes evaluating leg position, seat, hands, balance and rhythm. The rider is to be relaxed and not interfere with the horse's movement, but able to make full use of all 'riding aids'. The rider and horse should have unity and the rider should use aids correctly and efficiently. Also, instead of a single competitor in the ring, there are several riders in the ring at one time. If you win the Year-End Medal Championship in this class, you are not eligible to ride in this class the following year.

**RULE XIII
SENIOR SCHOLARSHIPS**

SECTION A: It is the duty of the Board of Directors to award scholarships on an annual basis.

SECTION B: Any 12th grade rider who has been a member in good standing for two seasons or more in the OCIEL and has competed in the required number of **three (3)** shows during his/her senior year and meets all of the application requirements is eligible to apply for a Year-End OCIEL Scholarship. All forms are mailed to seniors **in November**.

SECTION C: The criteria for awarding scholarships is based on the following: essays, grades, test scores, years riding, character and sportsmanship, community service, extracurricular activities and other relevant factors.

SECTION D: Any Board member is eligible to serve on the Scholarship Committee as long as he/she does not have a 12th grader applying for the scholarship.

**RULE XIV
CLASSES AND FEES**

DRESSAGE EQUITATION

ENTRY FEE \$25 PER CLASS

Eligible for year-end "class" awards only

- 29. Dressage Seat Equitation (Medal)
- 30. Rider Test Training Level
- 31. Rider Test First Level
- 32. Rider Test Second Level

Medal Class Fee \$35

DRESSAGE NOVICE

ENTRY FEE \$25 PER CLASS

- 33. Intro Level A
- 34. Intro Level B
- 35. Intro Level C

DRESSAGE FRESHMAN

ENTRY FEE \$35 PER CLASS

- 36. Training Level Test 1
- 37. Training Level Test 2
- 38. Training Level Test 3

DRESSAGE JUNIOR VARSITY

ENTRY FEE \$35 PER CLASS

- 39. First Level Test 1
- 40. First Level Test 2
- 41. First Level Test 3

DRESSAGE VARSITY

ENTRY FEE \$35 PER CLASS

- 42. Second Level Test 1
- 43. Second Level Test 2
- 44. Second Level Test 3
- 45. Third Level Test 1
- 46. Third Level Test 2
- 47. Third Level Test 3
- 48. Fourth Level Test 1
- 49. Fourth Level Test 2

**OCIEL BOARD OF DIRECTORS WILL MAKE THE FINAL
DECISION ON THE INTERPRETATION OF THE ABOVE RULES**

Updated 8/2021