

2010 Great American Insurance Group/USDF Breeders' Championship Series



The Great American Insurance Group/USDF Breeders' Championship Series (USDFBC) is a program designed to promote breeders and showcase quality sport horses. Each series will consist of at least three qualifying events in designated geographical areas of the United States, which will lead to a final event in each series. Exhibitors compete at qualifying events for the champion and reserve champion current year foal, filly, colt/gelding, mare and stallion. These horses

are then invited to compete in each of their respective classes, in the final event of that series, which is where the Great American Insurance Group/USDF Breeders' Championship Series Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion current year foal, filly, colt/gelding, mare, and stallion will be determined.

For a list of events participating in the Great American Insurance Group/USDF Breeders' Championship Series or the complete rules and guidelines, contact USDF at (859) 971-2277 or www.usdf.org. A list of upcoming events is also included in the *USDF Connection*.

Qualifying System

The USDFBC Series is scheduled on a calendar year basis (January 1-December 31).

A series must have a minimum of three qualifying events in order to hold a series final. All shows in the series, including qualifier classes held in conjunction with the final of the series, are qualifying events.

The final event of each series is normally the last USEF-licensed/USDF-recognized dressage competition holding DSHB classes scheduled in a particular geographical area of the United States as of July 1 of the year prior to the series final year. However, a series final may also be held at either a separate dressage or DSHB show which does not offer other DSHB classes, and is not a USDFBC qualifying event. Host sites of series finals will be designated on or about July 1 of the year prior to the series final.

If a USDFBC Series does not have at least three qualifying events registered with USDF by June 1 of the series final year, the final will not be held for that series.

Horses may compete in qualifying events in any series, but they may participate in only one final class. Horses must qualify in the series in which they enter the final. Exception: Horses that have qualified for a series final which is either not scheduled or is cancelled may participate in the final of any other USDFBC series in the same calendar year, without having to re-qualify for that series. Owners of horses that have qualified for a final which is not held, may enter another series final, but must indicate which series they qualified at on their entry form.

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

If there is a change of ownership of the horse, the new owner(s) may choose to participate in the series final where they reside, regardless of where they qualified, provided that the new owner contacts the USDF office and initiates the change at least 30 days prior to the new Series Final date. (BOG 12/08)

Each qualifying event must offer a current year foal class, a filly championship class, a colt/gelding championship class, a mare championship class and a stallion championship class. These classes are USDFBC qualifying classes. The champion and reserve champion in each of these classes, from each series qualifying event, are eligible to compete in their respective USDFBC series final class. A third place horse in each series qualifying championship class must be named as well. If the champion, reserve or both have already qualified for the series final class, the third place horse will also be invited to compete in the series final class. In addition, any other horse receiving a 77% or better in its age/sex class will be eligible to compete in the final class. A list of qualified horses is maintained by series on the USDF Web site.

Current Year Foal Championship

The current year foal championship class at qualifying events must be open to first and second place winners of Sport Horse Prospect In Hand classes for all horses of current calendar year, as listed below. First and second place (and third if desired) fillies and colts/geldings of current year will compete against each other in the same class. (Organizers have the option of including third placed winners in championship classes.)

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

Filly and Colt/Gelding Championship

The Filly and Colt/Gelding Championship classes at qualifying events must be open to first and second place winners of Sport Horse Prospect In Hand classes for all horses as listed below. (Organizers have the option of including third placed winners in championship classes.)

<i>Filly Championship:</i>	<i>Colt/Gelding Championship:</i>
Yearling fillies	Yearling colts/geldings
Two-year-old fillies	Two-year-old colts/geldings
Three-year-old fillies	Three-year-old colts/geldings

Mare and Stallion Championship

The Mare and Stallion Championship classes at qualifying events must be open to first and second place 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 winners in championship classes.)

Mare Championship:
Mare classes may be divided by age, competition and/or breeding status, as in the following example:

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

For details on determining breeding status for competitor purposes, please refer to USEF DR203.16.

Stallion Championship:

Stallion classes may be divided by age, competition and/or breeding 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

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.
- b. Mares and stallions age four and over may show **ONLY** in breeding stock classes/categories.
Note: Two and three-year olds are **ONLY** eligible to compete in the filly or colt championships. They are **NOT** eligible for the mare or stallion championships.
- c. Geldings of any age may **NOT** show in breeding stock classes/categories. Geldings age three and under may show **ONLY** in sport horse classes/categories.

No geldings may compete in the USDFBC classes for stallions even if they are gelded after qualifying for the finals and are breeding via frozen semen.

Horses and ponies of any origin may compete.

Horses participating in USDFBC 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. For unregistered horses competing in DSHB classes, the information is strongly recommended, if available.” (USEF GR907.1)

The USDFBC championship classes must be offered and judged at each qualifying event according to USEF DR209 and DR210. These championships may not be awarded on the basis of previous scores.

The champion and reserve champion in each championship class at a qualifying event will be presented with a qualifier ribbon. Only the champion and reserve champion will receive the qualifier ribbon, even if they have previously qualified. A third place horse in each championship class must be named as well, but will not receive a qualifier ribbon.

Membership/Registration Requirements for Qualifying Events (These are minimum requirements)

- Horse:* USDF Horse Identification (HID) number
Owner: USDF non-member (NM) number and fee
Handler: Exempt
USEF Membership is not required, but non-member fees apply.

Great American Insurance Group/USDF Breeders' Championship Series Final Events

Five championship classes will be offered at a Great American Insurance Group/USDF Breeders' Championship Series Final Event. These are: current year foal, filly, colt/gelding, mare and stallion. All champions and reserve champions in each of the five championship classes from each qualifying competition are eligible to participate in the Great American/USDF Breeders' Championship Series Final Event. A grand champion and reserve grand champion current year foal, filly, colt/gelding, mare, and stallion will be named at each series final event.

At least two judges qualified to judge a Federation Licensed Dressage Sport Horse Breeding division (one of whom must be a licensed USEF DSHB judge) must officiate in each series final class. 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 placed horse in each class will be declared grand champion and the second-highest placed horse will be declared reserve grand champion. Ties in USDFBC Finals classes must remain unbroken.

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. DSHB sport horse prospects are evaluated on yellow score sheets; DSHB breeding stock horses are evaluated on pink score sheets. Call backs are permitted.

Grand champions and reserve grand champions will receive awards and prizes provided by USDF. Third through sixth-placed horses in the series final classes will receive ribbons. After the final event, special certificates will be available from USDF via the USDF web site to owners of all horses that compete in a series final class.

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, after which no changes will be made.

Membership/Registration Requirements for Final Events

- Horse:* USDF Lifetime Horse Registration (LHR)
Owner: USDF Participating Membership (PM) or USDF Business Membership (BM)
Handler: Exempt
USEF Membership is not required, but non-member fees apply.

Verification of USDF Participating or Business membership and Lifetime Horse Registration must be provided to management prior to the series final class.

Please note that when qualifying classes are held prior to the final classes at the series final event, it is the exhibitor's responsibility to apply for, or provide proof of, proper memberships and horse registrations to competition manager prior to the final class.