

**USDF Membership Benefits:** USDF is dedicated to education, recognition of achievement, and promotion of dressage. For details on member benefits, including educational programs, awards, and other opportunities, refer to the USDF Directory or the USDF Web site at [www.usdf.org](http://www.usdf.org).



**Membership Requirements for USDF-recognized Competitions:** Owners and riders, including foreign riders and owners who are not residents of the US, wishing to participate in a USEF-licensed/USDF-recognized competitions as a rider or owner/lessee, must have either a USDF Group Membership (GM), Intercollegiate/Interscholastic Membership (IM), Participating Membership (PM), or have a USDF Non-Member (NM) identification number and pay the USDF NM fee. (Note: USDF Business Members can own horses but cannot compete as riders with their business membership.)

Horses competing at USDF-recognized/USEF-licensed shows must have either a USDF Horse Identification (HID) number or a USDF Lifetime Horse Registration (LHR). Proper credentials or verification certificates must be presented to the competition secretary.

Riders and owners wishing to participate in a USDF recognized competition, and not able to present either a USDF membership or NM identification card or verification certificate, or a USDF LHR or USDF HID card or verification certificate to the competition secretary, must complete a USDF Affidavit form, and pay the \$5 affidavit filing fee. A copy of a completed affidavit form from another competition may also be used for verification purposes for up to 60 days. (Exception: Affidavits cannot be used at Regional Championships.)

Exceptions:

- Horses competing only in Individual Breed Classes (IBC) at DSHB competitions, horses competing only in breed restricted dressage or DSHB classes at Regular Competitions (e.g. all Arabian, all Friesian, or all Morgan classes), or in USDF Introductory Level tests, Pas de Deux, Quadrille, or FEI ParaEquestrian classes, are exempt from this requirement. Also exempt are horses ridden in leadline, exhibitions, games and races, classes for 4-H members, walk-trot and academy classes. For foreign-owned horses competing in a CDI, USDF accepts copies of the horse identification pages from an FEI passport in lieu of a USDF HID or Lifetime Horse Registration (LHR) number.
- Riders and owners/lessees competing only in classes which are exempt from the USDF HID requirements are also exempt from the USDF Non-Member (NM) identification number and NM fee requirements. Also exempt are Handlers of horses competing in DSHB In-Hand or Group classes.

### Memberships Defined

**Participating Membership (PM):** A membership issued to an individual directly by USDF. The membership year is December 1 through November 30. PMs are available for 1-year (\$62), 5-years (\$250), or life (\$1,000). A Youth Participating Membership (YPM) is available for members under 21 (as of December 1 of the current membership year) for \$35. A PM allows the member to compete at USDF-recognized/USEF-licensed competitions and to participate as a rider and/or owner for all Adequan®/USDF Year-End Awards, Great American Insurance Group/USDF Breeders' Championship Series Finals, and the Great American Insurance Group/USDF Regional Dressage Championship program.

**Group Membership (GM):** A membership issued to an individual by USDF when the member name and dues are submitted to USDF through an affiliate Group Member Organization (GMO). The GM year begins December 1 and ends November 30. A GM allows the member to compete at USDF-recognized/USEF-licensed competitions and participate in the USDF Rider Awards program.

**Intercollegiate/Interscholastic Membership (IM):** A membership issued to an individual by USDF when the member name and dues are submitted to USDF through an affiliate Intercollegiate/Interscholastic Member Organization (IMO). The membership year is December 1 through November 30. An IM allows the member to compete at USDF-recognized/USEF-licensed competitions, and participate in the USDF Rider Awards program.

**Business Membership (BM):** A membership that runs December 1 through November 30 and is issued to a business or organization directly by USDF. The USDF Business Membership (\$175) offers a wider variety of advertising benefits. Business Memberships satisfy requirements of horse ownership only.

**Non-Member (NM) Identification Number:** Effective 10/1/2007: For each USDF non-member owner/lessee and USDF non-member rider there will be a USDF non-member fee of \$20 per competition that must be collected by the show secretary and submitted to USDF in addition to the \$5 affidavit fee if the person cannot provide a copy of their USDF NM card. For persons applying for the first time for a non-member number the \$5 affidavit fee is not required. Owners/lessees or riders exempt from the non-member number requirements are also exempt from paying the USDF non-member fee. An individual with a USDF NM identification number is not eligible for any USDF membership benefits. Once a USDF NM number has been assigned, a USDF NM card can be obtained from the USDF Web site.

**Horse Identification (HID) Number:** A one-time tracking number for horses (\$20). Scores earned by a horse with an HID will be recorded, but will NOT be counted towards Adequan®/USDF Year-End Awards. A horse with an HID is not eligible to compete in Great American Insurance Group/USDF Regional qualifying or championship classes or Great American Insurance Group/USDF Breeders' Championship Series Finals. An HID can be upgraded to a Lifetime Horse Registration (LHR) for a fee of \$65. If a horse has a USDF LHR it does not need an HID. An HID does not need to be renewed.

**Lifetime Horse Registration (LHR):** A horse with a LHR (\$85) is eligible for Adequan®/USDF Year-End Awards, and eligible to compete at Great American Insurance Group/USDF Breeders' Championship Series Finals and Great American Insurance Group/USDF Regional qualifying and championship classes, assuming requirements for the owner and rider are met. If a horse has a LHR it does not need an HID. A LHR does not need to be renewed.

### How to Join USDF

Applications for Participating Membership (PM), Business Membership (BM), Non-Member (NM) identification number, Horse Identification (HID) number, and Lifetime Horse Registration (LHR) may be found in the following locations:

- On the USDF Web site: [www.usdf.org](http://www.usdf.org). You can submit the application online, print, fax or mail it.
- In the show office at USDF-recognized/USEF-licensed competitions classified by USEF as Dressage Competitions, and Regular Competitions which are open to all breeds.
- By calling or writing the USDF office at (859) 971-2277, 4051 Iron Works Parkway, Lexington, KY 40511

The effective date of membership is the date the form and correct fees are received in the USDF office or, if applying at a competition, the date received by the competition secretary.