## 2021 Rail Class Guide for Western Dressage Judges

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Judge the horse</th>
<th>Judge the rider</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Suitability</strong></td>
<td><strong>Hack</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To evaluate the horse’s potential as a Western Dressage mount.</td>
<td>To evaluate the horse’s ability to execute, in concert with their horse a set of maneuvers prescribed by the judge with precision and smoothness while exhibiting poise and confidence and maintaining a balanced functional, and fundamentally correct body position.</td>
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| **Judged on:** | **70% - gaits and transitions** | **30% - rider position, seat, and effective use of aids.** | **70% - gaits and transitions** | **30% - rider position, seat, and effective use of aids.** | **Exhibitors to be scored from 0-50 using scoresheet. Patterns to be broken into 5 maneuvers each scored from 0-10 on judge’s impression of: -Rider position, -Correct and effective use of aids, -Harmony, -Accuracy** |

| **Gaits** | WW, WJ, WL, FW one way, may back | WW, WJ, JL, WL, LL, FW one way, may back | Walk/Jog Class: WW, WJ, back | Walk/Jog/Lope Class: WW, WJ, WL, back | No rail work, pattern only to be chosen from USEF Rulebook. |

| **Posting** | Allowed | Allowed | Not Allowed | Only allowed for LJ | Only allowed for LJ |

| **Of note** | -Enter WJ | -Enter WJ | -Judge must walk the line-up | -Riders who post must receive a zero “0” maneuver score for those segments of the score sheet | -Riders who post must receive a zero “0” maneuver score for those segments of the score sheet |

| **Faults** | -Resistance -Tension | -Resistance -Tension | -Posting WJ -See Universal Equitation Faults below | -Posting WJ -Failure to complete the course as written -See Universal Equitation Faults below | -Posting WJ -Failure to complete the course as written -See Universal Equitation Faults below |

| **Eliminations** | -See Universal Eliminations below | -See Universal Eliminations below | -See Universal Eliminations below | -Off-course (impossible to discern whether the entry is using the correct pattern) -See Universal Eliminations below | -Off-course (impossible to discern whether the entry is using the correct pattern) -See Universal Eliminations below |

| **USEF WD Rule #** | 132-136 | 137-141 | 142, 144 | 142, 143 | 142, 145 |

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**Universal Equitation Faults:**
- Break of gait
- Observe one’s gait 
- Check leads too low, or clearly behind the vertical, loss of rein, holding the saddle, 
- Blatant disobedience including kicking, bucking or rearing.

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**Universal Eliminations:**
- Misrepresentation of entry or inappropriate entry 
- Failure to display correct number, 
- Cruelty including excessive spurting or schooling, 
- Fall of horse or exhibitor, 
- Illegal equipment or illegal use of hands on reins, 
- Horse’s tongue tied down, 
- Unauthorized assistance, 
- All four feet leave arena, 
- Evidence of blood on horse, 
- Lameness 
- Concern for the safety 

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**Key**
- WW-Working Walk
- FW-Free Walk
- WJ-Working Jog
- LJ-Lentnog Jog
- WL-Working Lope
- LL-Lentnog Lope

**This is a reference guide and currently does not fully reflect the rules as per the USEF Rulebook, please see the WD chapter of the USEF Rulebook for the exact rules.**