2027 USDF 4th Level Freestyle

Suggested schedule time: 9 minutes per ride

Event:_____ Date:_____

Judge:_____ Position:_____

Competitor No.:_____

Name:_____

Horse:_____

4

TIME MAXIMUM:

5 minutes

No minimum time

USDF

US EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION

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Scoresheet effective dates:
December 1, 2026 - November 30, 2030

TECHNICAL EXECUTION

Note: Omitted compulsory elements receive a "0". Judges Marks for Technical Execution must be given in **half or full points (no tenths)**. All trot work must be done sitting.

COMPULSORY ELEMENTS & PRELIMINARY MARKS	POSSIBLE POINTS	JUDGE'S MARKS	CO-EFFICIENT	FINAL SCORE	REMARKS
1. Collected walk (20m continuous)	10		2		
2. Extended walk (20m continuous)	10		2		
3. Shoulder-in **RIGHT** in collected trot (12m min.)	10				
4. Shoulder-in **LEFT** in collected trot (12m min.)	10				
5. Trot half-pass **RIGHT** in collected trot	10				
6. Trot half-pass **LEFT** in collected trot	10				
7. Extended trot on straight line	10				
8. Canter half-pass **RIGHT** in collected canter	10				
9. Canter half-pass **LEFT** in collected canter	10				
10. Flying changes of lead, every 4th stride (min. 3)	10				
11. Flying changes of lead, every 3rd stride (min. 3)	10		2		
12. Canter working half-pirouette **RIGHT**	10		2		
13. Canter working half-pirouette **LEFT**	10		2		
14. Extended canter on straight line	10				
15. Halt with salute on centerline, first and final	10				

Further Remarks:

	Total Technical Execution (200 points possible)
	Deductions (forbidden movements)
	Faults (-0.5% from total for Technical Execution)
	Errors (2 points off for each error, not cumulative)
	Final Technical Execution (200 points possible)

Fourth Level

Forbidden: Any movement or transition found only in tests above the level. Exceptions are listed under Additionally Allowed.

Additionally Allowed: Half-pirouettes in canter, half-pass zig-zag in trot and counter-change of hand in canter (only one change of direction), halt to canter, medium trot and/or canter on a curved line, half 20-meter circle max.

Forbidden movements will incur a deduction of 4 points from Total Execution for each forbidden movement, but not for each recurrence of the same movement.

ARTISTIC IMPRESSION

Note: Non-compulsory movements must be rewarded or penalized under Choreography and/or Degree of Difficulty. Judges Marks for Artistic Impression may be given in **tenths.**

	POSSIBLE POINTS	JUDGE'S MARKS	CO-EFFICIENT	FINAL SCORE	REMARKS
1. Rhythm, energy, and elasticity	10		4		
2. Harmony Between Horse and Rider	10		4		
3. Choreography design cohesiveness, use of arena, balance, creativity	10		4		
4. Degree of Difficulty	10		4		
5. Music and Interpretation music expresses gaits, use of phrasing; suitability, cohesiveness, seamlessness	10		4		

Further Remarks:

	Total Artistic Impression (200 points possible)
	Fault penalties Overtime -.5% from total for Artistic Impression
	Final Artistic Impression (200 points possible)
	Final Technical Execution (200 points possible)
	Final Score (400 points possible)
	Percentage (Final score divided by 400) In case of tie: The higher total for Artistic Impression will break the tie.

Signature:_____

Reminders for Freestyle Judges

Time: Movements executed after the 5 minutes limit are not scored, 0.5% is deducted from the total for Artistic Impression for exceeding the time limit.

DR 129: At the beginning and end of a Freestyle Test a halt with a salute is compulsory. Time begins when the horse moves forward after the competitor's halt and ends with the final halt and salute.

Judging:DR 129: All judges of a freestyle test at any level must judge both artistic and technical parts of the test. DR 129: In case of rider's music failing before or during a Freestyle Test and in cases where there is no backup system the rider can, with permission of the judge at "C", leave the arena or start at a later time. There should be minimum interference with the starting times of the other riders and the affected rider should return to complete or restart his/her test during a scheduled break in the competition or at the end of the competition. The rider may decide whether to restart the test from the beginning or to commence from the point where the music failed. Judging must restart at the point of interruption. In any case, the marks already given will not be changed.

DR 122: The judge may stop a test and/or allow a competitor to restart a test from the beginning or from any appropriate point in the test if, in his discretion, some unusual circumstance has occurred to interrupt a test.

Above the Level Movements and Transitions: Movements and transitions "above the level" (found ONLY in a higher-level test) receive a deduction of four points from the total for technical execution for each illegal movement or transition, but not for each recurrence of the same movement or transition.

Errors: The bell is not rung for errors occurring in USDF Freestyle Tests. Errors occur for rising at the trot at Second Level and above. Two points will be deducted for each error, however they are not cumulative and will not result in elimination.
Other penalties (Technical Faults): Athletes not taking the reins in one (1) hand at the salute.

Rules and Guidelines for USDF Training through Fourth Level Freestyles can be found on usdf.org
USEF Rule References current as of October 1, 2026. The most up to date USEF rules regarding Freestyles can be found on usef.org