2027 USEF FOURTH LEVEL TEST 1

PURPOSE

In addition to the Third Level requirements, the horse now has improved balance, equal lateral suppleness (bend), throughness, and elasticity. The horse should maintain a consistent uphill balance and self-carriage with ease. Increased engagement facilitates clear differences between the collected, medium and extended gaits. Cadence is clearly shown in all trot and canter work. Transitions should be well defined, balanced and harmonious. The horse should demonstrate confidence, throughness, and engagement so that all movements are performed with straightness, impulsion, harmony, and ease.

All trot work must be ridden sitting.

READER PLEASE NOTE: Anything in parentheses should not be read.

INTRODUCE

Canter to halt; collected walk; trot counter change of hand; very collected canter; walk pirouettes; multiple flying changes on diagonal

ENTRY NO:

ARENA SIZE: Standard
AVERAGE RIDE TIME: 6:00
(from entry at A to final halt)
Suggested to add at least 2 min. for scheduling purposes

MAXIMUM PTS: 380

		TEST	DIRECTIVES	POINTS	COEF	TOTAL	REMARKS
1.	A X	Enter collected canter Halt, salute Proceed collected trot	Engagement, collection and quality of gaits; well defined transitions; straightness; attentiveness; immobility (min. 3 seconds)				
2.	C H-X-F Over X F	Track left Change rein, medium trot 6-7 steps collected trot Collected trot	Moderate lengthening of frame and stride with engagement, elasticity, suspension, straightness and uphill balance; regularity and activity in collected steps; consistent tempo; well defined transitions		2		
3.	K-X	Half pass right	Alignment, bend, fluency and crossing of legs; engagement and collection		2		
4.	X-H	Half pass left	Alignment, supple change of bend; fluency and crossing of legs; engagement and collection		2		
5.	M-X-K K	Change rein, extended trot Collected trot	Utmost ground cover with lengthening of frame, engagement, elasticity, suspension, straightness and uphill balance				
6.	K-A-F	(Transitions M and K) Collected trot	Well defined, maintaining tempo and balance				
7.	F-B B	Shoulder-in left Turn left	Angle, bend and balance; engagement and collection				
8.	E E-H	Turn right Shoulder-in right	Angle, bend and balance; engagement and collection				
9.	C M Between G & H	Collected walk Turn right Half pirouette right, proceed collected walk	Regularity; activity of hind legs; bend; fluency; size; self-carriage				
10.	Between G & M H	Half pirouette left, proceed collected walk Turn left	Regularity; activity of hind legs; bend; fluency; size; self-carriage				
11.	(Collected walk)	CMG(H)G(M)GHS	Regularity; suppleness of back; activity; collection; self-carriage		2		
12.	S-P P	Extended walk Collected walk	Regularity; suppleness; activity; overtrack; freedom of shoulder; extended walk shows utmost ground cover with horse stretching to the bit; well defined transitions		2		
13.	F	Collected canter right lead	Precise, fluent transition; engagement; collection; quality of canter				
14.	A D-B	Down center line Half pass right	Alignment and bend while moving fluently forward and sideways; engagement and collection				
15.	B-M M	Counter canter Flying change of lead	Straightness, engagement and collection; clear, balanced, fluent flying change				
16.	C	Circle left 20m, 5-6 strides of very collected canter between quarterlines	Well defined transitions; engagement and collection throughout; shape, size of circle and bend		2		
17.	H-K K	Medium canter Collected canter	Moderate lengthening of frame; elasticity; engagement; suspension; straightness and uphill balance; consistent tempo; well defined transitions				
18.	A D-E	Down centerline Half pass left	Alignment and bend while moving fluently forward and sideways; engagement and collection				
19.	E-H H	Counter canter Flying change of lead	Straightness, engagement and collection; clear, balanced, fluent flying change				
20.	M-F F	Extended canter Collected canter	Utmost ground cover with lengthening of frame, engagement, elasticity, suspension, straightness; maintaining tempo and balance				
21.	F-A-K	(Transitions at M and F) Collected canter	Well defined, maintaining tempo and balance				
22.	K-X-M	Change rein, 3 single flying changes of lead, near first quarterline, near X, and near last quarterline	Quality of canter; clear, balanced, fluent, straight flying changes; engagement		2		
23.	H	Collected trot	Well defined transition maintaining tempo and balance				

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24.	E X G	Turn left Turn left Halt, salute	Bend and balance in turns; engagement, collection and quality of trot; Straightness; attentiveness; immobility (min. 3 seconds)				
Leave arena at A in a free walk.							

COLLECTIVE MARKS				
GAITS (Freedom and regularity)		1		
IMPULSION (Desire to move forward; elasticity of the steps; suppleness of the back; engagement of the hindquarters)		2		
SUBMISSION (Willing cooperation; harmony; attention and confidence; acceptance of bit and aids; straightness; lightness of forehand and ease of movements)		2		
RIDER'S POSITION AND SEAT (Alignment; posture; stability; weight placement; following mechanics of the gaits)		1		
RIDER'S CORRECT AND EFFECTIVE USE OF AIDS (Clarity; subtlety; independence; accuracy of test)		1		
FURTHER REMARKS:				

To be deducted Errors of the course and omissions are penalized 1st Time = 2 points 2nd Time = 4 points 3rd Time = Elimination Other Penalties - Technical faults: 0.5% (percentage points) to be deducted per fault.	**SUBTOTAL:** **ERRORS:** (-) **FAULTS -.5%** (-) **TOTAL POINTS:** (Max Points: 380)

United States Equestrian Federation, Inc.
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Name of Competition _____

Date of Competition _____

Name and Number of Horse _____

Name of Rider _____

Final Score
Maximum Pts: 380

Points _____

Percent _____

Name of Judge _____

Signature of Judge _____

Dressage Riding Standards Guidelines

Score Sheet effective date: December 1, 2026 - November 30, 2030

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