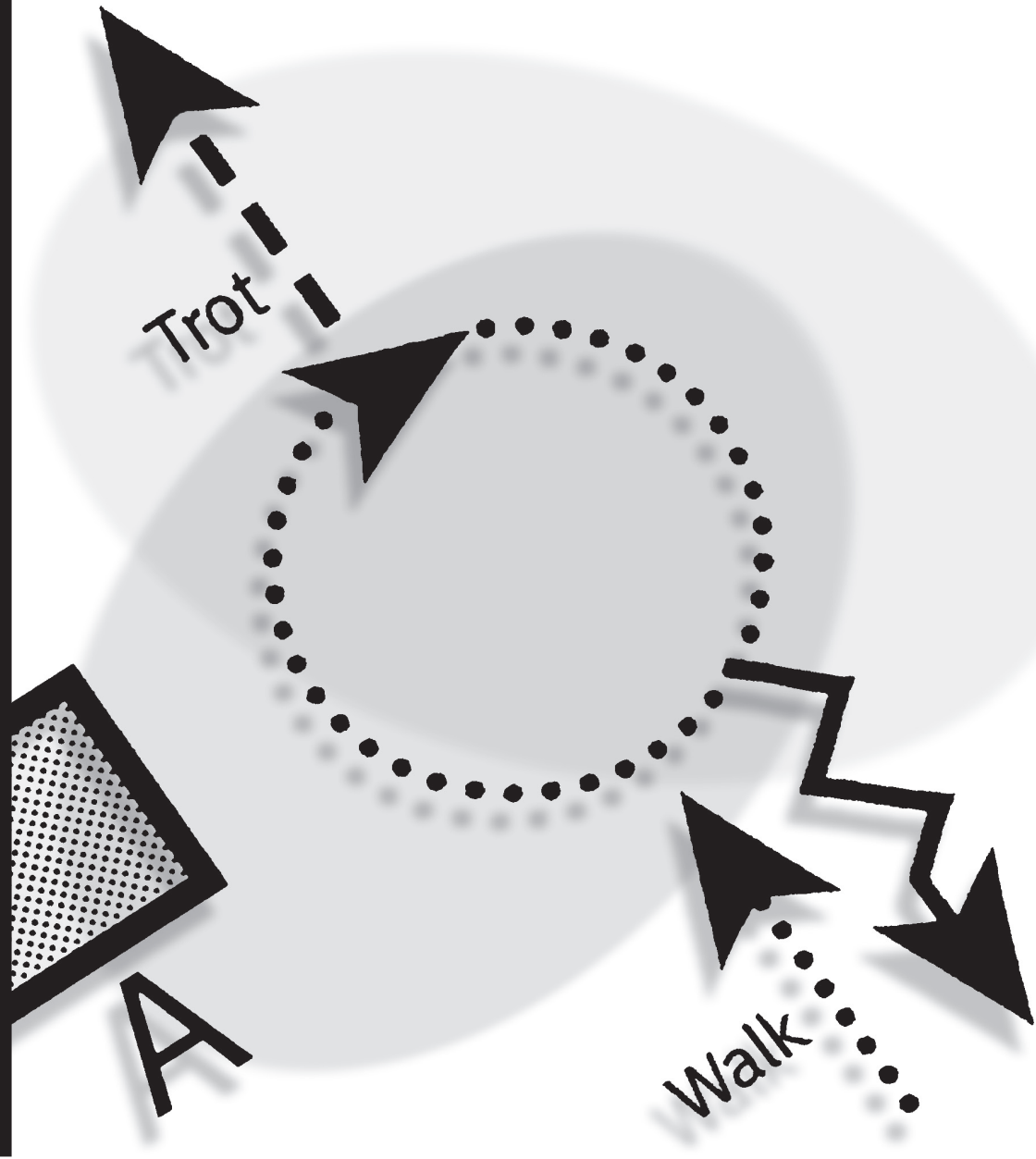


# DRESSAGE SEAT

# AHA EQUITATION MANUAL



## Arabian Horse Association

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**2016 EDITION  
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# Dressage Seat

## CLASS DESCRIPTION

### Refer to Current USEF/EC Rules

1. Must be judged by a licensed Dressage judge.
2. Dressage Seat Equitation to be conducted in accordance with Dressage Chapter, DR133, except as stated herein:
  - a. Classes may be offered for juniors and adult amateurs as defined in AR 110
  - b. Classes may be divided into age groups, at the discretion of competition management
  - c. Any exhibitor may ride stallions in Dressage Seat Equitation classes unless restricted in the prize list.
  - d. DR133.2-a-g and DR133.2.i (6-8) do not apply  
BOD 9/29/15 Effective 12/1/15
3. At AHA National Championships, two Federation Registered (R) or Senior (S) judges will officiate together, using scribes and the same class score sheet. Judges should evaluate riders separately from different positions in the ring and then all judges must consult together prior to arriving at final scores.
4. USEF Dressage Seat Equitation class score sheets must be used. In National Championship classes, the Medal class score sheet must be used. The final score for each rider must be posted at the conclusion of the class. Ties for Champion, Reserve, 10th in the Top Ten at National Championship or 5th in the Top Five at Regional Championship will be broken by the judges.
5. Dressage Division rules will apply, in particular:
  - a. Saddlery, Equipment and Dress as required for First Level
  - b. Unauthorized Assistance as defined in DR122.10 is prohibited
  - c. Use of voice will be penalized
  - d. Horses may be eliminated for lameness
6. Horses must be ridden in a plain snaffle as pictured in DR121 Figure 1A. Whips and spurs are permitted in both Regional and National Championship classes, and all riders must wear a short jacket as described in DR120. Protective headgear, as described in AR111, is required.
7. Class Specifications. The rider's position, seat and use and effect of the aids will be judged as described in DR117. Movements shall be performed by the exhibitors simultaneously; however, the judges may ask for independent execution of certain tests. All instructions must be publicly announced.

Please visit USEF website AR 242 at  
<https://www.usef.org/documents/ruleBook/2016/05-AR.pdf>

# Dressage Seat

## CLASS DESCRIPTION

8. Riders must be judged at the medium walk, working trot (sitting and rising), and working canter in both directions. When rising trot is permitted or requested, the rider should change the diagonal when changing directions, except during a lengthening. The correct diagonal is considered to be when the rider is sitting when the outside front foot and inside hind foot are on the ground.
9. In judging the position, seat and use of aids, judges may include the following movements and exercises as required at Training and First Level:  
May be ridden as a group:
  1. Free walk
  2. Transitions from one gait to the next in both directions
  3. Transitions from walk to halt and vice versa
  4. Change of direction across the diagonal, down the centerline, across the arena, and/or by making a half-circle at the walk or trot
10. Additional tests from which judges may choose movements and exercises, as required at Training and First Level, to be ridden in small groups or independently:
  - a. Transitions
  - b. Leg yield
  - c. Changes of lead through trot
  - d. Serpentine at the trot
  - e. Shallow loop serpentine with counter canter
  - f. Trot lengthening and/or canter lengthening
  - g. Riding without stirrups
11. In Regional and National Championship shows, all riders in a class must perform independent tests. The judges may, at their discretion, choose to require independent tests in Recognized shows, and they may select any number of riders in the class to perform one or more independent tests.
12. The number of horses required to work at the same time shall be limited to no more than 25. Groups may be divided into smaller sections, at the discretion of the judges, for safety and convenience. Judges may also limit the number of horses required to canter at the same time, at their discretion.

For USDF diagrams for individual workouts go to <https://www.usef.org/documents/disciplines/dressage/AllPatterns.pdf>

**Refer to Current  
USEF/EC Rules**

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