



## 2009 Great American Insurance Group USDF Breeders' Championship Series



The Great American Insurance Group/USDF Breeders' Championship Series (USDFBC) is a program designed to promote breeders and showcase quality sport horses. Each series will consist of at least three qualifying events in designated geographical areas of the United States, which will lead to a final event in each series. Exhibitors compete at qualifying events for the champion and reserve champion filly, colt/gelding, mare and stallion. These horses are then invited to compete in each of their respective classes, in the final event of that series, which is where the Great American Insurance Group/USDF Breeders' Championship Series Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion Filly, Colt/Gelding, Mare, and Stallion will be determined.

For a list of events participating in the Great American Insurance Group/USDF Breeders' Championship Series or the complete rules and guidelines, contact USDF at (859) 971-2277 or [www.usdf.org](http://www.usdf.org). The list of upcoming events is also included in the USDF Connection.

### Qualifying System

The USDFBC Series is scheduled on a calendar year basis (January 1-December 31).

A series must have a minimum of three qualifying events in order to hold a series final. All shows in the series, including qualifier classes held in conjunction with the final of the series, are qualifying events.

The final event of each series is normally the last USDF-recognized/USEF-licensed dressage competition holding DSHB classes *scheduled* in a particular geographical area of the United States as of July 1 of the year prior to the series final year. However, a series final may also be held at either a separate dressage or DSHB show which does not offer other DSHB classes, and is not a USDFBC qualifying event. Host sites of series finals will be designated on or about July 1.

If a USDFBC Series does not have at least three qualifying events registered with USDF by June 1 of the series final year, or at least 12 weeks before the date of the series final, the final will not be held for that series.

Horses may compete in qualifying events in any series, but if qualified for more than one series final, they may participate in only one final class. Horses must qualify in the series in which they enter the final. Exception: Horses that have qualified for a series final which is either not scheduled or is cancelled may participate in the final of any other USDFBC series in the same calendar year, without having to re-qualify for that series. Owners of horses that have qualified for a final which is not held, may enter another series final, but must indicate on their entry form which series they qualified at.

Series final events must allow late entries in the series final classes for horses that qualified for the series final event after the official closing date for the final event.

Each qualifying event must offer a Filly Championship class, a Colt/Gelding Championship class, a Mare Championship class and a Stallion Championship class. These classes are USDFBC qualifying classes. The champion and reserve champion in each of these four classes, from each series qualifying event, are eligible to compete in their respective USDFBC series final class. A third place horse in each series qualifying championship class must be named as well. If the champion, reserve or both have already qualified for the series final class, the third place horse will also be invited to compete in the series final class. In addition, any other horse receiving a 77% or better in its age/sex class will be eligible to compete in the final class (Effective: 2009 competition year). A list of qualified horses is maintained by series on the USDF Web site.

#### **Filly and Colt/Gelding Championship:**

The Filly and Colt/Gelding Championship classes at qualifying events must be open to first and second place winners of Sport Horse Prospect In Hand classes for all horses age three years old and under, as listed below. (Organizers have the option of including third placed winners in championship classes.)

##### **Filly championship:**

Fillies of current calendar year  
Yearling Fillies  
Two-year old Fillies  
Three-year old Fillies

##### **Colt/gelding championship:**

Colts/Geldings of current calendar year  
Yearling Colts/Geldings  
Two-year old Colts/Geldings  
Three-year old Colts/Geldings

#### **Mare and Stallion Championship:**

The Mare and Stallion Championship classes at qualifying events must be open to first and second place winners of Breeding Stock In Hand classes for horses age four years old and over, as listed below. (Organizers have the option of including third placed winners in championship classes.)

##### **Mare Championship:**

Mare classes may be divided by age, competition and/or breeding status, as in the following example:

- Four-year old and older maiden mares – never bred
- Four-year old and older yeld mares-never bred or not currently bred or nursing
- Four-year old and older broodmares – In foal or currently nursing-(mare only to be judged).

Per USEF DR203.16. “For competition purposes, a mare’s breeding status on January 1 will remain the same until December 31 of the same calendar year (i.e., a mare that is in foal or nursing will remain a broodmare for competition purposes after her foal is weaned, regardless of her actual breeding status, until December 31 of the same year. If she is not in foal on January 1 of the next calendar year, she will remain a Yeld mare, for competition purposes, throughout the next calendar year even if she is successfully re-bred during that year) Exception: During the calendar year in which an embryo-transfer recipient mare is due to foal, the embryo-transfer donor mare must compete according to her breeding status the year prior to being bred.” (Effective 4/1/08)

##### **Stallion Championship:**

Stallion classes may be divided by age, competition and/or breeding status, as in the following example:

- Four-year old and older stallions showing only in hand
- Four-year old and older stallions showing also under saddle

Age/sex eligibility is determined as follows:

- a. Fillies, colts and geldings three years of age or under may show ONLY as sport horse prospects, not in breeding stock classes/categories.

- b. Mares and stallions age four and over may show ONLY in breeding stock classes/categories.  
Note: Two and three-year olds are ONLY eligible to compete in the filly or colt championships. They are NOT eligible for the mare or stallion championships.
- c. Geldings of any age may NOT show in breeding stock classes/categories. Geldings age three and under may show ONLY in sport horse classes/categories.

No geldings may compete in the USDFBC classes for stallions even if they are gelded after qualifying for the finals and are breeding via frozen semen.

Horses and ponies of any origin may compete.

Horses participating in USDFBC qualifying or final events are not required to be registered with any studbook, but “if a horse is registered with any breed organization, the name of the breed, sire, dam, dam sire and breeder must be given on the entry blank. For unregistered horses competing in DSHB classes, the information is strongly recommended, if available.” (USEF GR 907.1)

The USDFBC championship classes must be offered and judged at each qualifying event according to USEF DR 209 and DR 210. These championships may not be awarded on the basis of previous scores.

The champion and reserve champion in each championship class at a qualifying event will be presented with a blue and white qualifier neck ribbon. Only the champion and reserve champion will receive the qualifier ribbon, even if they have previously qualified. A third place horse in each championship class must be named as well, but will not receive a qualifier ribbon.

### **Membership/Registration Requirements for Qualifying Events**

(These are minimum requirements)

Horse: USDF Horse Identification (HID) number

Owner: USDF non-member (NM) number and fee

Handler: Exempt

USEF Membership is not required, but non-member fees apply.

### **Great American Insurance Group/USDF Breeders’ Championship Series Final Events**

Four championship classes will be offered at a Great American Insurance Group/USDF Breeders’ Championship Series Final Event. These are: filly, colt/gelding, mare and stallion. All champions and reserve champions in each of the four championship classes from each qualifying competition are eligible to participate in the Great American/USDF Breeders’ Championship Series Final Event. A grand champion and reserve grand champion filly, colt/gelding, mare, and stallion will be named at each series final event.

At least two judges qualified to judge a Federation Licensed Dressage Sport Horse Breeding division (one of whom must be a licensed USEF DSHB judge) must officiate in each series final class. Each judge will evaluate each entry independently, and scribes must be provided for each judge. Winners will be determined by the average of all judges’ scores. The highest placed horse in each class will be declared grand champion and the second-highest placed horse will be declared reserve grand champion.

Horses must be shown individually on the triangle at the walk and trot and standing for conformation. Each horse must be evaluated in the same manner. DSHB sport horse prospects are evaluated on yellow

score sheets; DSHB breeding stock horses are evaluated on pink score sheets. Call backs are permitted.

Grand champions will receive an embroidered cooler, neck ribbon and plaque. Reserve grand champions will receive a leather lead, neck ribbon and plaque. Third through sixth-placed horses in the series final classes will receive ribbons. Certificates will be provided for all horses that compete in a series final class. Awards will be provided by USDF through the generous support of the series sponsors.

USDF reserves the right to change, alter, or retract any placings and/or prizes for up to 60 days after the last day of the championship if an error or violation is discovered, after which no changes will be made.

### **Membership/Registration Requirements for Final Events**

Horse: USDF Lifetime Horse Registration (LHR)

Owner: USDF Participating Membership (PM) or USDF Business Membership (BM)

Handler: Exempt

USEF Membership is not required, but non-member fees apply.

Verification of USDF Participating or Business membership and Lifetime Horse Registration must be provided to management prior to the series final class.

Please note that when qualifying classes are held prior to the final classes at the series final event, it is the exhibitor's responsibility to apply for, or provide proof of, proper memberships and horse registrations to competition manager prior to the final class.