



Georgia Dressage &  
Combined Training Association

## Presents

### **2022 USDF L Program, Part 1, Hosted by GDCTA, Milton, GA**

Are you interested in becoming a dressage judge? Would you like to better understand the judging process and how to ride better dressage tests? Then the USDF L Program is the place to start!

The L Program consists of two parts, each having 3 sessions. **Part 1- “A Judge’s Perspective” is open to all USDF Members; this is the educational foundation of the program.** It consists of classroom sessions (lecture and video) with live demonstration rides at Shannondale Farm in Milton, Georgia.

#### **Program Goals**

This program has been designed with several goals in mind:

- 1) To give competitors, trainers, instructors, and other interested people greater insight into the evaluative techniques of judging dressage.
- 2) To meet a requirement to enter the USDF/USEF “r” Dressage Judge Training Program.
- 3) To qualify individuals to judge schooling shows.

This well-designed training program takes a systemic and orderly approach to introduce judging, explain the scoring system, review the rules, and present the biomechanics of the horse’s gaits and the rider’s position.

Members can register as Participants (those intending to advance to Part 2), Silent Auditors, or Demonstration Riders. Participants are granted access to training materials and homework on the USDF website. Auditors are provided handouts at the session but do not have to complete any homework. Auditors can listen and view the entire program but are not permitted to ask questions unless time permits. Demonstration Riders are needed for all 3 sessions.

Part 1 Participants may advance to Part 2. Part 2 is open to those who:

- 1) Completed Part 1
- 2) Membership: Must be a current USDF Participating Member.
- 3) Score requirements: Scores must be earned prior to entering Part 2. • The minimum score required to enter Part 2 is three scores from three USEF-licensed dressage judges: two scores of 65% or higher at the highest test of Second Level and one score of 62% or higher at Third Level or above. Three scores of 62% or higher at Third Level or above from three different judges, or any combination of these requirements would also meet the requirements to enter Part 2. Effective 4/15/2016.

Part 2 is conducted at recognized shows and is open to only 10 candidates. There are two practice sessions, and the third session is the exam. Candidates that pass are considered L Graduates and can

judge schooling shows. Candidates that pass with a higher score are L Graduates “With Distinction” and are eligible to advance to the USEF “r” Dressage Judge program, provided they have earned 5 scores of 65% or higher at Fourth Level or higher.

## **Dates**

GDCTA’s L Program, Part 1 will be held at Shannondale Farm in Milton, GA on the following dates

- **April 23 & 24, 2022** - Session A: Introduction to Judging and Biomechanics taught by Joan Darnell
- **July 9 & 10, 2022** Session B: Judging Criteria for Gaits taught by Lisa Schmidt
- **August 20 & 21, 2022** Session C: Basic and Collective Marks taught by Kathy Rowse

Auditors can sign up for individual sessions, but Participants must attend all 3 sessions to apply to Part 2. A maximum of 30 Participants will be accepted, with 10 spots held for those that already have the riding requirement completed for application to Part 2. A maximum of 20 Auditors will be accepted. Application and fee must be received in advance (details on the registration form). Lunch on both days is included in the registration fee for both categories. Part 2 will be organized for Participants that wish to test later in 2023.

## **Costs**

### **Part 1 Participants**

\$750 (all three sessions) for GDCTA members

\$800 (all three sessions) for non-GDCTA participants

### **Part 1 Auditors**

\$75 per session for GDCTA members

\$85 per session for non-GDCTA auditors

### **Demonstration Riders**

There is no demonstration riding cost for test riders. There is a \$30 day fee due to Shannondale Farm or \$100 for a 2-day overnight. Note - If demonstration riders plan to audit any part of that weekend’s session, they must pay for an auditor spot.

**For registration or further information**, contact Caren Caverly, [ccaverly@comcast.net](mailto:ccaverly@comcast.net) 770-713-4025. Checks payable to GDCTA (credit cards cannot be used for payment). Mail application and payment to Caren Caverly, 6370 Spinnaker Lane, Alpharetta, GA 30005.