



# 2008 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 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.

Grand champions will receive an embroidered cooler, neck sash, and plaque. Reserve grand champions will receive a leather lead, neck sash, and plaque. These are all made possible by the generosity of the Great American Insurance Group/USDF Breeders' Championship Series sponsors.

**Title Sponsor:** Great American Insurance Group

**Event Sponsors:** Harmony Sporthorses; Iron Spring Farm; Stargate Sporthorses; Oldenburg Horse Breeders Society NA Div. of GOV

**Contributing Sponsors:** American Hanoverian Society, DG Bar Ranch, Greengate Sporthorses

Exhibitors compete at qualifying events for the champion and reserve champion filly, colt/gelding, mare and stallion. These horses will be invited to compete 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. Filly champions and reserves from each series qualifying event will compete together in the filly final class, and colt/gelding champions and reserves from each series qualifying event will compete together in the colt/gelding final class. Mare champions and reserves from each series qualifying event will compete together in the mare final class, and stallion champions and reserves from each series qualifying event will compete together in the stallion final class.

For a list of events participating in the Great American Insurance Group/USDF Breeders' Championship Series or the complete guidelines for show managers, 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

Each qualifying event must offer a filly championship class and a colt/gelding championship class. These classes are USDFBC Qualifying Classes.

The filly and colt/gelding championship classes must be open to first- and second-placed\* horses of sport horse prospect in hand classes for all horses age three and under, as listed below:

### Filly Championship:

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

### Colt/Gelding Championship:

Colts/geldings-current calendar year  
Yearling colts/geldings  
Two-year-old colts/geldings  
Three-year-old colts/geldings

**The champion and reserve champion filly from each series qualifying event are eligible to compete in the series filly final class, and the champion and reserve champion colt/gelding from each series qualifying event are eligible to compete in the series colt/gelding final class.\*\***

Each qualifying event must also name a mare champion and reserve and a stallion champion and reserve, which is (1) the first- and second-placed mare, if only one mare class is held; and the first- and second-placed stallion, if only one stallion class is held OR (2) the first- and second-placed mare in the mare championship class, when two or more mare classes are held; and the first- and second-placed stallion in the stallion championship class, when two or more stallion classes are held (classes may be broken into groups based on age, breeding status, or competition status). These classes are USDFBC Qualifying Classes.

Mare and stallion championship classes, if held, must be open to first- and second-placed\* horses of breeding stock in hand classes.

**The champion and reserve champion mare from each series qualifying event are eligible to compete in the series mare final class, and the champion and reserve champion stallion from each series qualifying event are eligible to compete in the series stallion final class.\*\***

Age/sex eligibility is determined as follows:

- Fillies and colts three years of age and under may show ONLY as sport horse prospects.
- Mares and stallions age four and over may show ONLY in breeding stock classes.
- 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.

The USDFBC championship classes must be held and judged. These championships may not be awarded on the basis of previous scores.

Horses in all championship classes must be evaluated according to USEF DR 210, which lists judging specifications for championships classes.

\* Organizers have the option of including third place horses in championship classes.

\*\* If the champion, reserve or both have already qualified for the Final class, the third-place horse will also be invited to compete in the Final

## REQUIREMENTS

Filly champions and reserves from each series qualifying event will compete together in the USDFBC Series Filly Final Class, and colt/gelding champions and reserves from each series qualifying event will compete together in the USDFBC Series Colt/Gelding Final Class. Mare champions and reserves from each series qualifying event will compete together in the USDFBC Series Mare Final Class, and stallion champions and reserves from each series qualifying event will compete together in the USDFBC Series Stallion Final Class.

A grand champion and reserve grand champion filly, colt/gelding, mare, and stallion will be named at each series final event. Grand champions will receive an embroidered cooler, neck sash and plaque. Reserve grand champions will receive a leather lead, neck sash and plaque. Third through sixth-placed horses in the series final classes will receive ribbons. Certificates will be given for all horses that compete in a series final class. Awards will be provided by USDF through the generous support of the series sponsors.

Awards may be withheld by USDF to series winners if the following information is not provided to USDF or show management prior to reporting or competition deadlines: name of horse, age, and sex of horse, USDF Lifetime Horse Registration (LHR) number (or USDF Horse Identification (HID) number for a qualifier), handler and owner. If known, the following must also be provided: breed of horse (even if grade), sire, dam, damsire, and breeder.

At least two judges (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.

Series final events must agree to allow late entries in the series final classes for horses that qualified after the official closing date for the final event. When qualifying classes are held in addition to the final class at the series final event, management must collect USDF LHR number and/or participating or business membership applications and fees for ineligible entries that wish to participate in the series final classes and submit these applications and fees to the USDF office within 24 hours of the final class.

Results of USDFBC Series Final classes must include name of horse, USDF LHR number (if fees and forms are not collected), age, sex, owner, and handler. If known the following must also be provided: breed of horse, sire, dam, damsire, and breeder.

## RULES AND ELIGIBILITY

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

If champions and/or reserve champions in any qualifying event have already qualified to compete in the USDFBC Series Final class, only the third-placed horse in the qualifying class(es) (filly, colt/gelding, mare or stallion championships), will also be permitted to compete in their respective final class at the series final event. However the qualifier ribbons may only be given to the champions and reserve.

A series final will be considered tentative until at least three qualifying events have been registered for the series. If a USDFBC Series does not have at least three qualifying events registered with USDF by June 1 of the final's year or at least twelve weeks before the date of the series final, the series final will not be held for the series. USDF reserves the right to combine series without the minimum number of qualifying events, and horses that have qualified for a series final in this case may participate in the series final of any other USDFBC Series in the same calendar year.

## MEMBERSHIP/REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR QUALIFYING AND FINAL EVENTS

### Horse:

- Horse must have a USDF LHR or pay a \$20 USDF HID number fee for qualifying events. The \$20 horse HID number fee is applicable toward USDF LHR.
- Horse must have a USDF LHR to compete in a USDFBC Final Class at the series final event.
- Horses and ponies of any origin may compete.
- Registration with a breed registry is not required.

### Owner:

- USDF membership is not required for qualifying events but non-member fees apply.
- Owner must have a current USDF Participating (PM) or Business membership (BM) to compete at the series final class.

### Handler(s):

- Handler: USDF membership not required.

**Verification of USDF membership and registration must be provided to management prior to the series final class.**

USEF MEMBERSHIP NOT REQUIRED, BUT NON-MEMBER FEES APPLY.

USDF HID OR USDF LHR NUMBER MAY BE USED AS THE USEF HORSE ID NUMBER.

**USDF Membership Benefits:** USDF is dedicated to education, recognition of achievement, and promotion of dressage. For details on member benefits, including educational programs, awards, and other opportunities, refer to the USDF Directory or the USDF Web site at [www.usdf.org](http://www.usdf.org).



**Membership Requirements for USDF-recognized Competitions:** Owners and riders, including foreign riders and owners who are not residents of the US, wishing to participate in a USEF-licensed/USDF-recognized competitions as a rider or owner/lessee, must have either a USDF Group Membership (GM), Intercollegiate/Interscholastic Membership (IM), Participating Membership (PM), or have a USDF Non-Member (NM) identification number and pay the USDF NM fee. (Note: USDF Business Members can own horses but cannot compete as riders with their business membership.)

Horses competing at USDF-recognized/USEF-licensed shows must have either a USDF Horse Identification (HID) number or a USDF Lifetime Horse Registration (LHR). Proper credentials or verification certificates must be presented to the competition secretary.

Riders and owners wishing to participate in a USDF recognized competition, and not able to present either a USDF membership or NM identification card or verification certificate, or a USDF LHR or USDF HID card or verification certificate to the competition secretary, must complete a USDF Affidavit form, and pay the \$5 affidavit filing fee. A copy of a completed affidavit form from another competition may also be used for verification purposes for up to 60 days. (Exception: Affidavits cannot be used at Regional Championships.)

Exceptions:

- Horses competing only in Individual Breed Classes (IBC) at DSHB competitions, horses competing only in breed restricted dressage or DSHB classes at Regular Competitions (e.g. all Arabian, all Friesian, or all Morgan classes), or in USDF Introductory Level tests, Pas de Deux, Quadrille, or FEI ParaEquestrian classes, are exempt from this requirement. Also exempt are horses ridden in leadline, exhibitions, games and races, classes for 4-H members, walk-trot and academy classes. For foreign-owned horses competing in a CDI, USDF accepts copies of the horse identification pages from an FEI passport in lieu of a USDF HID or Lifetime Horse Registration (LHR) number.
- Riders and owners/lessees competing only in classes which are exempt from the USDF HID requirements are also exempt from the USDF Non-Member (NM) identification number and NM fee requirements. Also exempt are Handlers of horses competing in DSHB In-Hand or Group classes.

### Memberships Defined

**Participating Membership (PM):** A membership issued to an individual directly by USDF. The membership year is December 1 through November 30. PMs are available for 1-year (\$62), 5-years (\$250), or life (\$1,000). A Youth Participating Membership (YPM) is available for members under 21 (as of December 1 of the current membership year) for \$35. A PM allows the member to compete at USDF-recognized/USEF-licensed competitions and to participate as a rider and/or owner for all Adequan®/USDF Year-End Awards, Great American Insurance Group/USDF Breeders' Championship Series Finals, and the Great American Insurance Group/USDF Regional Dressage Championship program.

**Group Membership (GM):** A membership issued to an individual by USDF when the member name and dues are submitted to USDF through an affiliate Group Member Organization (GMO). The GM year begins December 1 and ends November 30. A GM allows the member to compete at USDF-recognized/USEF-licensed competitions and participate in the USDF Rider Awards program.

**Intercollegiate/Interscholastic Membership (IM):** A membership issued to an individual by USDF when the member name and dues are submitted to USDF through an affiliate Intercollegiate/Interscholastic Member Organization (IMO). The membership year is December 1 through November 30. An IM allows the member to compete at USDF-recognized/USEF-licensed competitions, and participate in the USDF Rider Awards program.

**Business Membership (BM):** A membership that runs December 1 through November 30 and is issued to a business or organization directly by USDF. The USDF Business Membership (\$175) offers a wider variety of advertising benefits. Business Memberships satisfy requirements of horse ownership only.

**Non-Member (NM) Identification Number:** Effective 10/1/2007: For each USDF non-member owner/lessee and USDF non-member rider there will be a USDF non-member fee of \$20 per competition that must be collected by the show secretary and submitted to USDF in addition to the \$5 affidavit fee if the person cannot provide a copy of their USDF NM card. For persons applying for the first time for a non-member number the \$5 affidavit fee is not required. Owners/lessees or riders exempt from the non-member number requirements are also exempt from paying the USDF non-member fee. An individual with a USDF NM identification number is not eligible for any USDF membership benefits. Once a USDF NM number has been assigned, a USDF NM card can be obtained from the USDF Web site.

**Horse Identification (HID) Number:** A one-time tracking number for horses (\$20). Scores earned by a horse with an HID will be recorded, but will NOT be counted towards Adequan®/USDF Year-End Awards. A horse with an HID is not eligible to compete in Great American Insurance Group/USDF Regional qualifying or championship classes or Great American Insurance Group/USDF Breeders' Championship Series Finals. An HID can be upgraded to a Lifetime Horse Registration (LHR) for a fee of \$65. If a horse has a USDF LHR it does not need an HID. An HID does not need to be renewed.

**Lifetime Horse Registration (LHR):** A horse with a LHR (\$85) is eligible for Adequan®/USDF Year-End Awards, and eligible to compete at Great American Insurance Group/USDF Breeders' Championship Series Finals and Great American Insurance Group/USDF Regional qualifying and championship classes, assuming requirements for the owner and rider are met. If a horse has a LHR it does not need an HID. A LHR does not need to be renewed.

### How to Join USDF

Applications for Participating Membership (PM), Business Membership (BM), Non-Member (NM) identification number, Horse Identification (HID) number, and Lifetime Horse Registration (LHR) may be found in the following locations:

- On the USDF Web site: [www.usdf.org](http://www.usdf.org). You can submit the application online, print, fax or mail it.
- In the show office at USDF-recognized/USEF-licensed competitions classified by USEF as Dressage Competitions, and Regular Competitions which are open to all breeds.
- By calling or writing the USDF office at (859) 971-2277, 4051 Iron Works Parkway, Lexington, KY 40511

The effective date of membership is the date the form and correct fees are received in the USDF office or, if applying at a competition, the date received by the competition secretary.