

2026 USDF Region 9 Report (L. Rohrer)

Membership

- “Test Your Dressage IQ” in every R9 newsletter—thank you to Betty B. for her help!
- New USDF monthly emails to all members (Education, Competition and Publications News)
- No additional USDF Membership benefits at this time
- Discussed a combined Pony Club, Eventing and Dressage activity with Marsha L.; Further discussion and feasibility analysis needed
- New ideas for discussion to engage and support members:
 - **Welcome email or packet** for all new R9 USDF members with National, Regional and GMO resources
 - **R9 Annual Report** (short/one page) of status and achievements for the year
 - Consider a **mentoring program** for new members in each R9 GMO—how to find GMO events, shows, clinics, how to enter a show, etc.
 - Consider an optional **Technical Advisor** for the R9 professionals—training plans, show plans, business plans, industry contacts, etc.
 - **Travel Agent** to organize R9 member group dressage trips to big events e.g., Aachen or Wellington

Region Championships

- 2026 US Dressage Finals qualifying has changed. No “Declaration” required, more qualifying options for each class at Region Championships. Check the rules.
- 2027 two new Region Championship programs:
 - **Adult Amateur Training and First Level Championship classes** will each have two new divisions; one for riders 22-45 years and a second for riders 46+ years.
 - New **USDF Young Adult Equitation Regional Final Class** for riders 19-25 years.

NOTE: Effective 12/1/26, rowel spurs with tines or points will no longer be allowed in USEF/USDF competition. Excludes “disc” type spurs with no points (pizza cutters).

