

# MEASUREMENT GUIDE

## Guidelines for Dressage & Combined Driving Measurements



### BEFORE THE COMPETITION

- ✓ Confirm that your horse/pony needs to be measured.
- ✓ Confirm the date, time, and location where the measurements will be taking place. If you have questions, please contact competition management, or refer to the competition prize list.
- ✓ The pony must be entered into the competition before it can be measured.
- ✓ It is the responsibility of the Owner to have the pony accustomed to the application of a measurement stick.
- ✓ The owner must be an active USEF member.

### ELIGIBILITY FOR MEASUREMENT CARDS

#### DRESSAGE

- Animals 8 years old or older will receive a **Standard card** which will not need to be renewed.
- Animals 7 years old and under will receive a **Temporary card** and must be measured each year from ages 3 to 8. Temporary cards expire at the end of the competition year.
- Animals are measured in centimeters. The height limit is 148cm barefoot or 149cm with shoes.

#### COMBINED DRIVING

- Animals 8 years old or older will receive a **Permanent card**.
- Animals 7 years old and under will receive a **Temporary card** and must be measured each year from ages 4 to 8. Temporary cards expire at the end of the competition year.
- Animals are measured in centimeters. The height limit is 148cm barefoot or 149cm with shoes.
  - **Large Pony:** 120cm – 148cm without shoes or 149cm with shoes
  - **Small Pony:** 99cm - 119cm with or without shoes
  - **Very Small Equine:** under 99cm

### WHO WILL BE CONDUCTING MEASUREMENTS?

#### DRESSAGE

- The measurement is performed by the **Dressage Technical Delegate** and the **Competition Vet**. If the Vet is unavailable, the measurement will be for competition only.
- The animal is jogged for soundness.

#### COMBINED DRIVING

- The measurement is performed by the **Certified Measuring Official** and the **Competition Vet** or a **Judge**.
- The animal is not jogged for soundness.

## BEFORE THE MEASUREMENT

- Consult the prize list or contact show management for measurement schedule at the competition.
- Pony must be entered to compete.
- It is the responsibility of the owner to ensure that the pony is prepared for measurement.
  - Pony should be calm and relaxed and accustomed to the application of the measurement stick.
- The presenter of the pony must be 18 years old or older.

## PRESENTATION OF ANIMAL

### DRESSAGE

- The animal **must be presented in a halter**.
- The animal must stand square with its front legs vertical to the ground and the back of the hocks vertical with the point of the quarters.
- The head may be lowered to find the highest point of withers and then returned to natural position.
- The measurement surface must be a flat, level, hard surface, preferably a concrete slab or paved area. If no suitable surface is available, a thick sheet of plywood may be used but will result in a 'competition only' measurement.

### COMBINED DRIVING

- The animal must stand square with its front legs vertical to the ground and the back of hocks vertical with the point of the quarters.
- The measurement surface must be level. A concrete or paved surface is most desirable, but a sheet of heavy plywood can be used. If no suitable surface is available, measurement will be for competition only.

## DURING THE MEASUREMENT

### DRESSAGE

- The Dressage Technical Delegate will review the form with the presenter. Any missing or incorrect information will be corrected.
- The Dressage Technical Delegate will conduct the measurement and complete the measurement form. Height is recorded in centimeters.
- The Competition Vet will confirm age and observe the jog to determine soundness.
  - If sound, the measurement will proceed.
  - If lame, the measurement will be stopped, and the animal is barred from showing in any classes at the competition. A non-completed form will be sent to USEF.

### COMBINED DRIVING

- The Certified Measuring Official will review the form with the presenter. Any missing or incorrect information will be corrected.
- The Certified Measuring Official will conduct the measurement and complete the measurement form. Height is recorded in centimeters.

## APPEALS

### DRESSAGE

Appeal request must be made to the Federation office in writing within fourteen days of the measurement. The owner will supply a list of at least three competitions with a three week notice of start date, and the Federation will select a location as convenient as possible. Testing Vet fees will apply, blood and urine samples will be taken. Lasix may be administered. Please review DR135.10. All inquiries should be sent to [measurements@usef.org](mailto:measurements@usef.org).

### COMBINED DRIVING

Appeal requests must be made to the Federation office in writing within seven days of the measurement. Testing Vet fees will apply. Lasix may be administered. Please review GR515 and GR516. All inquiries should be sent to [measurements@usef.org](mailto:measurements@usef.org).