

How Do You Qualify for an FEI Competition in 2009?

(Revised - April 15, 2009)

For 2009, Article 506 of the FEI Eventing and Appendix 3 of the USEF Rules for Eventing have been revised including changes pertaining to qualifications for FEI Competitions. **Please read these rules in their entirety.**

It is imperative that you know the qualifications and determine if you and the horse (s) you'll be riding are qualified before entering a CCI or CIC. It is the rider's responsibility to determine his/her qualifications. If you are unsure about your qualifications please call Cindy Stys at 908.326.1162, Sharon Gallagher at 703.779.0440 ext. 3005 or Shealagh Costello at 859.225.6923.

Please note: you and your horse must be registered with the FEI for the current calendar year prior to entering an FEI competition. For 2009, the FEI will not consider a result attained at an FEI Competition as a Qualifying Result if either the horse or rider began the competition prior to FEI registration.

How do I qualify for the different levels of events?

The 2009 qualifying requirements are outlined in the attached tables. These standards became effective December 1, 2008 (USEF Rules) and January 1, 2009 (FEI Rules) respectively. Article 506 and Appendix 3 provide for exemptions from the qualifying standard as noted at the end of this discussion.

When do I have to achieve a qualifying result? *(revised for 2009)*

For CIC's & CCI's:

For 2009, the qualifying period begins on January 1, 2007. **Note: effective December 1, 2008 per USEF Eventing Appendix 3, in all instances one Qualifying Result must have been obtained in the current or preceding calendar year.** For qualifying results obtained at CICs or CNCs they must be completed 10 days prior to the competition for which you are qualifying. For qualifying results obtained at CCIs they must be completed 24 days prior to the Cross-Country test of the event for which you are qualifying. Earlier qualifying dates may be specified in the individual shows' schedule.

What is a qualifying result?

A qualifying result (QR) is achieved by completing the following:

Qualifying result for dressage tests:

FEI Dressage Tests: Not more than 75 penalty points.

USEF Dressage tests: Not more than 50 penalty points.

Qualifying result for cross-country: FEI and National competitions.

*Not more than 20 penalties at obstacles (see exception below).

Not more than 90 seconds exceeding the optimum time. (36 time penalties)

At the CCI**** level – Not more than 120 seconds exceeding the optimum time.

***When qualifying results attained at the CIC are being used to move up a level, all CIC results must be clear on Cross-Country (no XC obstacle penalties-effective April 15, 2009)**

Qualifying result for show jumping: FEI and National competitions.

Not more than 16 penalties at obstacles.

Except where noted in the charts below, qualifications for horse and rider may be achieved separately. Qualifications for FEI Championships must be attained by the horse/rider as a pair.

Attached you will find information outlining the qualifications to compete in the various formats at the various levels. Competitors are strongly encouraged to read Article 506 of the FEI Rules and Appendix 3 of the USEF Rules for Eventing together with these explanations. Article 506 can be found in its entirety on the FEI Web site: (www.horsesport.org), Appendix 3 may be found in its entirety on the USEF Web site: (www.usef.org)

Maintaining Your Qualifications (revised for 2009)

What is the Permanent Athlete-Qualification? (FEI Article 506.8)

Beginning with competitions from January 1, 2002, when a rider has achieved 5 qualifying results at a type/level of event he or she can compete at that type/level (or lower) for life without the need for further qualifying results. CCIs will count toward permanent qualification for CICs of the same level, but CICs do not count towards permanent qualification for CCIs of the same level. Note: The horse ridden by a permanently qualified rider must still fulfill the qualifying standards. A horse *never* obtains a Permanent Qualification.

What is Establishment of Qualification? (FEI Article 506.9)

When the rider and horse obtain a qualifying result at a level of competition then rider and horse are “established” (qualified to compete) at this level. For example when a horse and rider obtain a qualifying result at a CCI** they are “established” at the CCI** level. This establishment lasts for the remainder of the calendar year in which it was obtained and 2 additional calendar years.

How can I extend my Establishment? (FEI Article 506.10)

At the CCI and CIC level an Establishment may be extended by obtaining qualifying results at other events of the same type and level within the two year period granted above. This qualifying result will then maintain the establishment for the remainder of the year in which it was obtained and two additional years.

FOR CCI LEVELS

If an extension is not achieved as described above, it may be renewed at any time, even 2 to 3 years after the establishment has expired. This may be done by obtaining two qualifying results, clear of penalties at obstacles, at either CICs or CNCs if the same level within 12 months before the event you would like to attend.

Should your Establishment expire for a CIC it may not be renewed.

A type/level of qualification can apply to horses, riders, or combinations of horse and rider. Same “type” is a horse trial versus a three day event, e.g. a CIC is not the same type as a CCI. “Level is the star assigned to delineate degree of difficulty.

Exemptions from Qualifying Standards – PLEASE READ THOROUGHLY

Exemptions will only be granted for unqualified horses, RIDERS MUST BE QUALIFIED.

Listed below are the criteria for exemptions. All must be met.

1. Exemptions will only be granted to horses, riders must be qualified.

2. Reason of request must be stated by the NF and exemptions will only be granted for Championship selection purposes and on events that allow qualifications for the level of the specific championship in the same year in which the championship will be held.
3. Reason for exemptions: lack of events in region - further to cancellations, etc. NF will be requested to provide details on reasons.
4. Requests have to be submitted to the FEI at least 10 days before the beginning of the event to be processed. Late requests will not be accepted.
5. Request must be accompanied by a detailed summary of both the rider and horse's performance record, including all the horse's competitions at national and international CICs and CCIs during the current and previous year.
6. NF's must be informed that grant of exemptions is a system for exceptional circumstances and not to be used as a parallel qualifying system.
7. The Organizing Committee of the event in question must agree.

Keep in mind even though Point 4 specifies 10 days, since exemption requests must first be reviewed by the Credentials Committee, requests to Athlete Services should be submitted 6 weeks prior to start date of competition.

Exemptions for the - star levels will not be granted by the Credentials Committee, as the Members feel riders and horses should meet all qualifications for this level.

Article 506.7.4: NO exemptions will be given for Championships.

Under **exceptional circumstances ONLY** if your horse is unqualified you may apply for a waiver of the 2009 qualifying standards. After having determined that you meet the FEI's criteria to request an exemption, please contact Cindy Stys at Athlete Services in Gladstone, N.J: Telephone: 908-326-1162 four weeks prior to the event you wish to compete in.

The applications can be found on the USEF website, under Disciplines and Breeds, under Athlete Services and are entitled:

[2009 Application for Request for Exemption \(Special Permission\) for a Foreign CCI \(for Eventing only\)](#)

[2009 Application for Request for Exemption \(Special Permission\) for a US CCI \(for Eventing only\)](#)

Accompanying your application you must provide:

- A credit card number and authorization for charges of \$75.00 for CCIs in the US and \$200.00 for all foreign CCIs (Canada included).

This request will be reviewed by the Credentials Committee and if approved, sent on to the FEI as a written request from your National Federation requesting an exemption. Once approved by the FEI, the Federation will contact the Organizing Committee of the competition to notify them of your exemption with which they must agree.

NOTE: in all instances, at least one of the QR's must have been obtained in the current or preceding calendar year (USEF EV Appendix 3). The remaining QR's must have been attained in the current or two preceding years.

Where a QR at a CIC is specified, one QR at a CCI of the same level is equally acceptable.

How to Qualify for an International Horse Trial (CIC)
<p>CIC1* - You must have 3 Qualifying Results, clear of cross-country jump penalties (no XC obstacle penalties) from either of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- National Preliminary Horse Trials (CNC)- National One Star Three Day Events (CCN1*)
<p>CIC2* - Having met the following requirements of the FEI both horse and rider, though not necessarily as a combination must have achieved 2 Qualifying Results at a CNC 2* or higher:</p> <p>You must have 1 qualifying result from any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- National Intermediate Horse Trials (CNC2*)- International One Star Horse Trial (CIC1*) <p>*When qualifying results attained at the CIC are being used to move up a level all CIC results must be clear on Cross-Country (no XC obstacle penalties-effective April 15, 2009)</p>
<p>CIC3*-Having met the following requirements of the FEI both horse and rider, though not necessarily as a combination must have achieved 2 Qualifying Results at a CNC3* or higher:</p> <p>You must have qualifying results as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 1 CIC2* and 1 CNC3*(National Advanced Level Horse Trial) <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">3 CIC2* <p>*When qualifying results attained at the CIC are being used to move up a level all CIC results must be clear on Cross-Country (no XC obstacle penalties-effective April 15, 2009)</p>

How to Qualify for a Three-Day Event (CCI or CCIO)
<p>CCI1* - You must have 4 qualifying results clear of Cross-Country jump penalties (no XC obstacle penalties) from any of the following competitions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- National Preliminary Horse Trials (CNC)- National One Star Three Day Events (CCN1*)- International One Star Horse Trial (CIC1*) <p>*When qualifying results attained at the CIC are being used to move up a level all CIC results must be clear on Cross-Country (no XC obstacle penalties-effective April 15, 2009).</p>

CCI2*- Having met the following requirements of the FEI both horse and rider, though not necessarily as a combination must have **achieved 3 Qualifying Results at a CNC2* or higher:**

You must have a total of at least **1** qualifying result from each of the categories as follows:

- **Category 1**
 - 1 CCI1* or 1 CIC2*
- **Category 2**
 - 1 CIC2* or 2 CNC2* (National Intermediate Horse Trials)

Both horse and rider must have a minimum of two qualifying scores.

**When qualifying results attained at the CIC are being used to move up a level all CIC results must be clear on Cross-Country (no XC obstacle penalties-effective April 15, 2009)*

CCI3* - You must have a total of at least 1 qualifying result from each of the categories below:

- **Category 1**
 - 1 CCI2*
- **Category 2**
 - 1 CIC3*
- **Category 3**
 - 1 CIC3* or 1 CNC3* (National Advanced Horse Trial)

Both horse and rider must have a minimum of three qualifying scores.

**When qualifying results attained at the CIC are being used to move up a level all CIC results must be clear on Cross-Country (no XC obstacle penalties-effective April 15, 2009)*

CCI4* - You must have a total of at least 1 qualifying result from each of the categories below:

- **Category 1**
 - 1 CCI3*
- **Category 2**
 - 1 CIC3* or CCI3*
- **Category 3**
 - 1 CIC3* or 2 CNC3* (National Advanced Horse Trial)

Both horse and rider must have a minimum of three qualifying scores.

**When qualifying results attained at the CIC are being used to move up a level all CIC results result must be clear on Cross-Country (no XC obstacle penalties-effective April 15, 2009)*

Where a QR at a CIC is specified, one QR at a CCI of the same level is equally acceptable.