

Navigating the Membership Maze

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The show season is almost here and the questions regarding requirement memberships and horse registrations are starting to come in. The membership you need depends on your overall goals for 2020. Therefore, I have organized this list around goals.

Local Level Goals – Central Plains Dressage Society Programs

CPDS Year End Awards Program

- No horse registration is required
- You must be a member of CPDS to earn a year end award.

CPDS Schooling Show or Recognized Show Championship

- You do not need to be a CPDS member, but will be assessed a \$25 non-member fee to enter championship classes.

Compete at a CPDS schooling show

- No membership required

Compete at a CPDS recognized dressage show

- USDF participating or GMO membership (CPDS is sufficient)
- USDF horse identification (can obtain this at the show)
- USEF competing membership (can join at the show)

Note: if entering only introductory level tests or opportunity classes, no memberships are needed!

Compete at a CPDS recognized Lite western dressage show

- No memberships or horse registrations are required

Regional Level Goals –Great American/USDF Regional Championships

- USDF participating membership (join USDF directly) for rider and owner
- USDF lifetime horse registration
- USEF competing membership – for rider and owner
- USEF horse registration (annual or lifetime)

National Level Goals

- USDF Rider Goals (including bronze, silver and gold medals)
 - Rider membership (GMO or participating) – your CPDS membership is all that is needed
- USDF Horse of the Year and All-Breeds Awards
 - Rider/Owner Participating membership; horse lifetime USDF membership
- WDAA World Championship – WDAA membership
- WDAA Lifetime Points Program – Horse must be registered with WDAA and rider must be a member.

Helpful Links

- USDF – United States Dressage Federation – www.usdf.org
- USEF – United States Equestrian Federation – www.user.org
- WDAA – Western Dressage Association of America – www.wdaa.org