## 2023 WDAA Rail Class Guide for Judges

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Suitability</th>
<th>Hack</th>
<th>Eq. on the Rail</th>
<th>Horsemanship</th>
<th>Combined</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Objectives</strong></td>
<td>To evaluate the horse’s potential as a Western Dressage mount.</td>
<td>To evaluate rider’s ability to execute, in concert with their horse a set of maneuvers prescribed by the judge with precision and smoothness while exhibiting poise and confidence and maintaining a balanced functional and fundamentally correct body position.</td>
<td>To evaluate rider’s ability to execute, in concert with their horse a set of maneuvers prescribed by the judge with precision and smoothness while exhibiting poise and confidence and maintaining a balanced functional, and fundamentally correct body position.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Judged on:</strong></td>
<td>70% - gaits and transitions</td>
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<td>Exhibitors to be scored from 0-50 using scoresheet. Patterns to be broken into 5 maneuvers each scored from 0-10 on judge’s impression of: -Rider position, -Correct and effective use of aids, -Harmony, -Accuracy</td>
<td>50% rail work and 50% on pattern work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>30% - rider position, seat, and effective use of aids.</td>
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<td>Exhibitors to be scored from 0-100 using scoresheet. Rail work is scored from 0-50 on judge’s impression of: -Rider position, -Correct and effective use of aids, -Harmony, -Accuracy</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Gaits</strong></td>
<td>WW, WJ, WL, FW one way, may back</td>
<td>WW, WJ, LJ, WL, LL, FW one way, may back</td>
<td>Walk/Jog Class: WW, WJ, back Walk/Jog/Lope Class: WW, WJ, WL, back</td>
<td>No railwork, pattern only to be chosen from USEF Rulebook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Posting</strong></td>
<td>Allowed</td>
<td>Allowed</td>
<td>Not Allowed</td>
<td>Only allowed for LJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Of note</strong></td>
<td>-Enter WJ -Lope transitions thru WJ</td>
<td>-Enter WJ -Lope transitions thru WJ -Only back from line-up</td>
<td>-Judge must walk the line-up -Riders who post must be placed below riders sitting the jog</td>
<td>-Rail work is first. -Judge must walk the line-up -Riders who post must receive a zero “0” maneuver score for those segments of the score sheet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Faults</strong></td>
<td>-Resistance -Tension</td>
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<td>-Posting WJ -See Universal Equitation Faults below</td>
<td>-Posting WJ -Failure to complete the course as written -See Universal Equitation Faults below</td>
</tr>
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<td><strong>Eliminations</strong></td>
<td>-See Universal Eliminations below</td>
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<td>-Off-course (impossible to discern whether the entry is using the correct pattern) -See Universal Eliminations below</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>USEF WD Rule #</strong></td>
<td>132-136</td>
<td>137-141</td>
<td>142, 143, 144</td>
<td>142, 143, 145</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Universal Equitation Faults:
- Break of gait
- Obviously looking down to check leads, Missing leads.
- Not performing the specific gait promptly,
- Loss of stirrup,
- Head carried too low or clearly behind the vertical,
- Loss of rein,
- Holding the saddle,
- Blatant disobedience including kicking, bucking or rearing

### Universal Eliminations:
- Misrepresentation of entry or inappropriate entry
- Failure to display correct number,
- Cruelty including excessive spurring or schooling,
- Fall of horse or exhibitor,
- Illegal equipment or use of hands on reins,
- Horse’s tongue tied down,
- Unauthorized assistance,
- All four feet leave arena,
- Evidence of blood on horse, Lameness
- Concern for the safety

### Key
- **WW-Working Walk**
- **FW-Free Walk**
- **WJ-Working Jog**
- **LJ-Lengthened Jog**
- **WL-Working Lope**
- **LL-Lengthened Lope**