

ENYDCTA LTD's Winter Series
Demystifying the 2023 USDF/USEF Dressage Tests
with Krystal Wilt, USEF r Dressage Judge
February 5, 2023
Sponsored by Dover Saddlery and Triple Crown

ENYDCTA's clinic, 'Demystifying the 2023 USDF/USEF dressage tests' was well attended by both amateurs and professionals alike. Our host, Dover Saddlery, did a phenomenal job welcoming the auditors with ample seating and door prizes! Our presenter, Krystal Wilt, a USEF r dressage judge, did a thorough job of dissecting and summarizing the latest changes to the new tests. She was clear and concise with the current updates which included video examples and handouts from Intro to Fourth Level.

As we went through the revised tests Kyrstal's mantra resonated and remained consistent, maintaining stating that a steady tempo and a clear rhythm will ultimately lead to a better connection, balance and harmony overall. She emphatically reminded the auditors of the importance of reading and understanding the directives to each sequential level as the tests all build upon themselves.

Starting with the Introductory level, where emphasis is placed on riding a horse that is freely forward and in a steady tempo with clear rhythm and stressing that the horse should demonstrate an understanding of accepting contact with the bit. At this beginning level the rider should display test accuracy and correct geometry.

As the Levels progress, more emphasis is placed on a progression of self carriage, lateral suppleness, increased weight on the hindquarters, and collection with easy of extension.

In summary the new USDF/USEF Dressage Tests are designed to help riders develop a strong foundation in the sport, which they can then build upon as they progress to more advanced levels.

Thank you ENYDCTA for this important and essential continuing educational event. I look forward to more experiences like this one!

With much appreciation,

Ana O'Brien

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