

The following Para Reining grades will replace the description of grades as passed in December 2017- moving forward these will be the descriptions of each grade and pattern descriptions.

All USA Para Reining Athletes without a current USEF Classification must obtain a USEF Classification within 6 months of entry into first competition. USEF Classification must be obtained through USEF. Information on classifications may be found by contacting Lauren Johnson at [lkjohnson@usef.org](mailto:lkjohnson@usef.org)

Para- Reining Grades	
ALL GRADES	Ridden independently. Compensating aids, according to Grade, are allowed. May be ridden one or two handed.
Grade I – athlete	Athletes have severe impairments affecting all limbs and trunk. The athlete usually requires use of a wheelchair. May be able to walk with an unsteady gait. Trunk and balance are severely impaired.
Test/pattern .	Walk only patterns. Shortened patterns
Grade II	
Athlete	Athletes have either a severe impairment of the trunk and minimal impairment of the upper limbs or moderate impairment of the trunk, upper and lower limbs. Most athletes in this grade use a wheelchair in daily life.
Test / Pattern	Walk patterns with option to trot. Shortened patterns
Grade III	
Athlete	Athletes have severe impairments in both lower limbs with minimal or no impairment of the trunk or moderate impairment of the upper and lower limbs and trunk. Some athletes in this grade may use a wheelchair in daily life.
Test / Pattern	Trot patterns with the option to lope are included in this grade.
Grade IV	
Athlete	Athletes have a severe impairment or deficiency of both upper limbs or a moderate impairment of all four limbs or are of short stature. Athletes are able to walk and generally do not require a wheelchair in daily life. This grade also includes athletes having a visual impairment equivalent to B1 with IBSA with very low visual acuity

