

# LEVEL 3 DEFINITIONS

**See USEF Rulebook Chapter WD - WESTERN DRESSAGE**

**HALF-PASS** - This movement is a variation of haunches-in, executed on a diagonal line instead of along the wall. The horse should be slightly bent around the inside leg of the rider and into the direction in which he is moving. The horse should maintain the same cadence and balance throughout the whole movement. In order to give more freedom and mobility to the shoulders, it is of great importance that the impulsion be maintained, especially the engagement of the inside hind leg. The horse's body is nearly parallel to the long side of the arena with the forehand slightly in advance of the hindquarters. The bend in the half-pass should increase with the steepness of the diagonal. In the jog and the lope, the movement is performed in a series of forward/sideways strides with a fluent collected movement on a diagonal line. Fore and hind legs cross balance and cadence are maintained. **Diagram**



**REIN RELEASE** - This is a clear release of contact while the horse maintains self-carriage, rhythm, tempo, straightness, and quality of gait. The rider lets his hand(s) move forward from the elbow. **Diagram**



**RENVERS (HAUNCHES-OUT)** - This is the inverse movement in relation to haunches-in. The hindquarters remain on the track while the forehand is moved inward. To finish the haunches-out, the forehand is aligned with the hindquarters on the track. The horse is slightly bent around the rider's inside leg. The horse is bent in the direction in which he is moving. The forehand is displaced to the inside. Balance and cadence are maintained. **Diagram**



**PIVOT (TURN ON THE HAUNCHES)** - The horse is allowed to pivot on the inside hind leg and step around it with the outside hind leg. The horse pushes off with the outside hind leg. The pivot leg is allowed to pickup and reset when it reaches the point of stress. The horse should maintain correct bend and balance and respond to the rider's leg. A pivot should be performed at a walk tempo with forward intention. Each step backward is penalized. It is not a fault to step forward 1-2 steps into the pivot. **Diagram**



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P.O. Box 460051  
Escondido, CA 92046-0051  
Phone: (760) 744-7952