



**FEI DRESSAGE WORLD CUP™  
NORTH AMERICAN LEAGUE RULES 2021-2022  
~~2020-2021~~**

**The impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic will be monitored and if necessary, amendments will be considered.**

**PREAMBLE**

These rules set forth the detailed rules of the FEI Dressage World Cup™ North American League, which are to read in conjunction with the pertinent FEI Dressage World Cup™ Rules, Statutes, General Regulations, Rules for Dressage Events and Veterinary Regulations. It is acknowledged that every eventuality cannot be provided for in these Rules and in any unforeseen or exceptional circumstances it is the duty of those responsible to make a decision in a sporting spirit and approaching as nearly as possible the intention of these Rules and of the General Regulations. In case of a conflict between the FEI Dressage World Cup™ Rules and the FEI Dressage World Cup™ North American League Rules, the later shall take precedence.

**Art 1 - PRINCIPLES AND GENERAL**

1.1 The North American League will be comprised of all countries within North America: CAN, MEX and USA

1.2 Qualification for North American League:

1.2.1 Athlete/horse combinations must start in CDI-Ws (“qualifying competitions”) in order to gain qualifying points. The three best results obtained in the qualifying competitions will count. (Refer to Art.3 of these rules.) In order to qualify for the FEI Dressage World Cup™ Final a rider/horse combination must have started and completed at least three times in the Grand Prix Freestyle to Music at a CDI-W with scores of at least 68%.

An Athlete may not start in more than six (6) CDI-W Grand Prix Freestyles.

1.2.2 For all qualifying competitions, the final classification will be determined by placing in the Grand Prix Freestyle to Music. All athlete/horse combinations will be required to start and complete the Short Grand Prix competition, which will determine that starting order in the Grand Prix Freestyle to Music (per FEI Dressage Rules Art 425). Athletes may start two (2) horses if qualified, in the Grand Prix Freestyle to Music.

1.2.3 Organizers of CDI-Ws in the NAL may also schedule a Grand Prix Special in addition to the qualifying competition (Grand Prix Freestyle to Music). (Refer to Art. 3).

1.2.4 A draw for the order of starting is compulsory for all qualifying Short Grand Prix and Grand Prix Freestyle to Music.

For the Short Grand Prix, the draw (in Groups of 5) shall be in reverse order of the FEI Dressage World Ranking List (DWRL). Athletes who are not listed on the FEI Dressage World Ranking List shall be drawn first.

1.2.5 For qualifiers, the Grand Prix Freestyle to Music shall be in reverse order of the Grand Prix Competition (in groups of 5).

1.2.6 The Grand Prix Freestyle to Music may be interrupted by a short break or a small display, but never by another competition. All breaks longer than 30 minutes must be approved by the FEI.

The Grand Prix Freestyle to Music Competition must always be the highlight of an event, also as far as prize-money and prizes in kind are concerned and must always be held on a main day at mid-day or in the afternoon or evening. Exceptions to the rules must be approved by the FEI HQ.

One rest day between the Short Grand Prix Competition and the Grand Prix Freestyle to Music Competition is permitted.

1.2.7 The Qualifying period is to begin following the preceding FEI Dressage World Cup™ Final and end two weeks prior to the current season's FEI Dressage World Cup™ Final.

1.3 Representation will be determined solely by final point total, and no League final will be necessary or held.

1.4 The FEI will offer two (2) FEI Dressage World Cup™ Final positions to North America. The FEI may in addition extend extra positions in addition to this number for the FEI Dressage World Cup™ Final.

**Art. 2 - QUALIFICATIONS TO COMPETE IN THE FEI DRESSAGE WORLD CUP™ FINAL**

2.1 Minimum qualification criteria for all Finalists including extra starting positions will be determined by the FEI.

2.2 Following the last qualifying NAL CDI-W and upon completion of Final NAL standings for the current season, should an athlete become qualified for the FEI Dressage World Cup™ Final with two horses, he/she may only start one horse in the FEI Dressage World Cup™ Final (the horse with the highest total points). The second qualified horse will act as a reserve horse, in case of withdrawal for veterinary reasons, for the first horse under condition that the qualifying point total is the next highest.

**Art. 3 - QUALIFICATION SCORES**

In the qualifying events, the points to the athletes who have competed in the Grand Prix Freestyle to Music will be awarded as follows:

<b>Placing</b>	<b># of Points Earned</b>	<b>Bonus points*</b>
1st	13	7
2nd	10	5
3rd	8	4
4th	7	3
5th	6	2
6th	5	1
7th	4	
8th	3	
9th	2	
10th	1	

\* Bonus points are only given when there are 8 or more starting combinations in the CDI-W Grand Prix Freestyle competition.

Ties in overall point totals at the end of the qualifying season will be broken by the highest CDI-W Grand Prix Freestyle score earned by the tied athletes.

[Athletes from non-North American Leagues, who are participating in a NAL qualifier, will not receive any points and their points would be attributed to the next placed athlete. They are, however, eligible for the prizes according to their placings.](#)

**Art. 4 - ADDITIONAL QUALIFYING OPPORTUNITY**

4.1 Athletes from the North American League may also earn scores by participating in other Leagues' FEI Dressage World Cup™ events and

transferring them to their own League according to the general FEI Dressage World Cup™ Rules (Art 1.6.1).

4.2 An athlete can no longer earn points in another league, once the last competition of his/her own league has been held.

#### **Art. 5 - QUALIFYING TESTS**

At any event (CDI-W), the Short Grand Prix Test serves as the qualifying test to the Grand Prix Freestyle to Music, which is the competition in which FEI Dressage World Cup™ scores can be earned.

#### **Art. 6 - NUMBER OF QUALIFYING EVENTS IN NORTH AMERICAN LEAGUE**

6.1 The number of FEI Dressage World Cup™ qualifying events in the North American League will be ten (10) in total divided as following by the FEI:

6-8 in the USA  
1-3 in CAN  
1 in MEX

6.2 A Bid Process may be conducted to determine the qualifiers. An evaluation process may also be conducted of the current qualifiers.

6.3 Maximum of 3 qualifiers per OC (entity recognized by the applicable NF held to be responsible for the management of any event) per World Cup™ qualifying season.

6.4 CDI-W Applications will be required per the normal FEI protocols for calendar submissions.

#### **Art. 7 - NUMBER OF HORSES**

7.1 Athletes in the North American League may start two (2) horses in the qualifying Short Grand Prix and if qualified, also in the Grand Prix Freestyle to Music – FEI Dressage World Cup™ qualifier at NAL CDI-Ws (422.3.2) if the FEI approved schedule for the event permits.

7.2 In the event of a Grand Prix Special also being offered (with opting) (422.3.3) the rider may start additional horses in the Short Grand Prix at the discretion of the OC. A declaration as to the choice of horse for the Grand Prix Freestyle to Music Test - FEI Dressage World Cup™ qualifier must be made prior to entering the Short Grand Prix while at the same time declaring.

a) the remaining horse/horses may compete only in the Short Grand Prix test (if so, stated in the FEI approved schedule) or

b) declaring the other horse/horses for the Grand Prix Special Test (the best placed horse being able to go forward).

7.3 It is advisable for OCs when there are a large number of starters (more than 16 starters) in the Short Grand Prix to divide the competitions into two tours Grand Prix-Grand Prix Freestyle to Music and Grand Prix-Grand Prix Special.

## **Art. 8 - OFFICIALS**

8.1 There must be five Judges for each qualifying Event.

8.2 Three out of the five Judges for the qualifying competitions (both Short Grand Prix and Grand Prix Freestyle to Music) must be of a nationality other than the host country and must be selected from the FEI list of 5\* and 4\* Judges. 3\* may only be exceptionally selected with previous approval of the FEI.

There must not be more than two Judges of the same nationality in the Ground Jury. Exceptions for CDI-Ws outside Europe must be approved by the FEI Dressage Director.

## **Art. 9 – PRIZE-MONEY**

A total Minimum prize-money of \$5'000 (In the coin of realm - USA, CAN or MEX depending on the location of the Event) must be offered for the Grand Prix and the Grand Prix Freestyle altogether.