



**RULES**  
**FEI NATIONS CUP™ SERIES**

**Effective for season**  
**2018**

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## **PREAMBLE**

These Rules must be read in conjunction with the FEI Statutes, the FEI General Regulations (GRs), the FEI Jumping Rules (JRs), and all other relevant FEI rules and regulations. In any unforeseen or exceptional circumstance which is not addressed by these Rules, it is the duty of the FEI Jumping Committee to interpret them and render a Decision in a manner compatible to the fullest extent possible with the other provisions of these Rules, the GRs and any other applicable rules of the FEI, as well as sporting spirit.

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

In accordance with the conditions set forth in article 3 herein, the FEI Nations Cup™ season commences with the first FEI Nations Cup™ Competition of the season and finishes with the FEI Nations Cup™ Final. The season consists of Regional qualifying Events from which a limited number of teams as determined by the FEI qualify to take part at the FEI Nations Cup™ Final to be held preferably at the end of September or early October but this may change depending on the Region in which the Final takes place. The qualification system may vary from Region to Region depending on the state of development of the sport in the Region, as well as difficulties relating to horse transportation and quarantine restrictions. Each Regional qualification system provides eligible NFs in that Region equal opportunity to qualify for the FEI Nations Cup™ Final.

### **2. REGIONS FOR 2018 SEASON**

The World is divided into the following Regions for the purpose of qualifying teams for the FEI Nations Cup™ Final:

#### **2.1. Europe**

Europe is divided into Division 1 and Division 2 and comprises the following NFs: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Macedonia, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, Uzbekistan.

*(Refer to 6.1 and 6.2 for composition of Divisions 1 and 2)*

#### **2.2. North and Central America / Caribbean**

North and Central America / Caribbean comprise the following NFs:

Antigua, Barbados, Bermuda, Canada, Cayman Islands, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Puerto Rico, Trinidad & Tobago, USA, Virgin Islands.

#### **2.3. South America**

South America comprises the following NFs:

Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela.



## **2.4. Middle East**

The Middle East comprises the following NFs:

Bahrain, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Pakistan, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, Yemen.

## **2.5. Asia / Australasia**

Asia / Australasia comprises the following NFs:

Australia, Brunei, Cambodia, People's Republic of China, Chinese Taipei, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand.

## **2.6. Africa**

Africa comprises the following NFs:

Algeria, Angola, Botswana, Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Libya, Morocco, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Namibia, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Tunisia, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

## **3. FEI NATIONS CUP™ 2018 SEASON**

### **3.1. Europe Division 1**

The Europe Division 1 FEI Nations Cup™ calendar consists of selected outdoor Events commencing not earlier than two weeks following the FEI World Cup™ Jumping Final unless an exception is granted by the FEI Jumping Committee. The last Competition must finish at least two weeks prior to the FEI Nations Cup™ Final.

### **3.2. Other Regions plus Europe Division 2**

For all other Regions, including Europe Division 2, the FEI Nations Cup™ calendar consists of Events commencing after the FEI Nations Cup™ Final. The last Competition must finish at least two weeks prior to the FEI Nations Cup™ Final.

### **3.3. Date Restrictions – World and Continental Championships, Olympic, Pan-American and Asian Games and FEI World Cup™ Final**

From the Monday of the week preceding and all days during the Jumping Events at the World Equestrian Games, at the Olympic Games and the FEI World Cup™ Jumping Final it is forbidden to host an FEI Nations Cup™ Jumping Event (worldwide).

From the Monday of the week preceding and all days during the Continental Championship for Seniors it is forbidden to host an FEI Nations Cup™ Jumping Event in the same continent as the Championship.

From the Monday of the week preceding and all days during the Jumping Event of the Pan-American Games it is forbidden to host an FEI Nations Cup™ Jumping Event in the Americas.

From the Monday of the week preceding and all days during the Jumping Event of the Asian Games it is forbidden to host an FEI Nations Cup™ Jumping Event in Asia.

### **3.4. FEI Nations Cup™ Calendar 2018 Season**

The allocation of FEI Nations Cup™ qualifiers per Region is decided by the FEI upon the recommendations of the FEI Jumping Committee. CSIO Events at which the Nations Cup Competition does not serve as a qualification for the FEI Nations Cup™ Final are also permitted to be held.

## **4. DECLARATION OF TEAMS**

### **4.1. For the 2018 Season**

All NFs wishing to participate in the FEI Nations Cup™ are required to confirm the following to the FEI by 30 November 2017 at the latest:

- That they will take part in the FEI Nations Cup™ Competitions serving as qualifiers in their Region or in the Division for which they have qualified with a view to qualifying for the FEI Nations Cup™ Final (refer to article 7 on minimum eligibility for NFs);
- Pledge that they will, if qualified, participate at the FEI Nations Cup™ Final;
- For Europe Division 1 NFs, whether they wish to qualify for the FEI Nations Cup™ Final through Division 1 or Division 2.

Any NF that commits itself in writing to take part at the qualifying Events and any NF that qualifies for the FEI Nations Cup™ Final but does not respect its commitment to take part at the FEI Nations Cup™ Final or at its designated qualifying Events for any reason, other than Force Majeure (any event or circumstance arising from or attributable to acts, events, omission or accidents which are not reasonably foreseeable, and which are beyond reasonable control and which could not have been reasonably prevented), loses its points for the entire season and the right to take part in the FEI Nations Cup™ series the following year.

It is the responsibility of each NF to select its CSIO. The FEI Nations Cup™ qualifiers are selected by the FEI.

In Europe, not more than one CSIO may be held per season in the same country, unless an exception is granted by the Bureau.

## **5. QUALIFYING EVENTS**

All qualifying events must be named "Longines FEI Nations Cup™ of (name of country) and may have a subtitle, for example "Dublin Horse Show" etc.

The maximum number of qualifying Events worldwide for the 2018 season is 13. The possibility exists to increase this number to 15 in the future.

## **5.1. Europe – Division 1**

Division 1 Events may not clash with each other.

### **5.1.1. List of Events**

Division 1 consists of maximum eight Events selected by the FEI and published on the FEI website that respect the conditions as stipulated in articles 4.1 and 5.1.2:

### **5.1.2. Criteria for Division 1 Events**

The following criteria must be respected for Events held in Division 1:

- a) Each Division 1 CSIO must be of CSIO5\* level.
- b) A maximum global entry fee of 550 Euro per horse and 250 Euro per Young Horse may be charged.
- c) Each Event must respect the CSIO5\* technical requirements in effect at the time.
- d) Each FEI Nations Cup™ Competition must offer at least €250'000 in prize money divided as follows; at least €200'000 as prize money for the for teams placed 1 to 8 in the competition, and at least €50'000 as prize money to the rider(s) with the best performance in both rounds of the FEI Nations Cup™ unless agreed otherwise by the FEI. The prize money for the FEI Nations Cup™ competition must be the highest prize money competition at the event.

The Grand Prix Competition at these Events must also offer a minimum of €150'000 in prize money.

- e) All selected Events must in principle follow a fixed competition format, with the Grand Prix Competition taking place on Friday and the FEI Nations Cup™ Competition on Sunday. Depending on the current proven success of an Event's FEI Nations Cup™ Competition relating to broadcast coverage and spectatorship, an exception may be granted at the sole discretion of the FEI.
- f) Events may be required by the FEI to have flood lights.
- g) Events must be held over at least four days.
- h) In addition to the FEI Nations Cup™ Competition, four other Competitions must count for Longines Ranking points.
- i) The course must be the same for the first and second rounds.
- j) Each team must be invited with five Athletes and 15 Horses.
- k) The maximum number of Athletes permitted to take part is 65.
- l) Each OC must invite at least five Athletes as individuals from NFs not represented by a team, to be selected from the Longines Ranking in effect four weeks before the start of the Event (the number of the Longines Ranking list is to be published in the Event Schedule), in descending order until the 30<sup>th</sup> position. There is no limit on the number of Athletes per NF among these five individuals. If the OC cannot fill the quota of five Athletes from the top 30 on the Longines Ranking, they may invite additional Athlete(s) to fill this quota, while respecting a maximum of two foreign individual Athletes per NF from NFs not represented by a team.
- m) OCs have the right to invite a limited number of home/foreign individual Athletes from the home country and countries not represented by an official team. However, the total number of Athletes must not exceed 65.



n) In addition to the 65 Athletes as mentioned above, three foreign Athletes from countries represented by a team may be invited for the small tour, but no more than one per NF, to take part in all Competitions except the FEI Nations Cup™ Competition and the Grand Prix.

o) Refer to Art. 12.2 for details relating to FEI wild cards for individuals.

## **5.2. Europe - Division 2 FEI Nations Cup™ Qualifier**

Division 2 NFs are divided into four Groups as follows for the purpose of qualifying eight to nine teams for the Division 2 FEI Nations Cup™ qualifier according to the EEF qualification system as approved by the FEI and published on the FEI website.

Group A

Consists of the following NFs: TUR; GRE; BUL; ROU

Group B

Consists of the following NFs: EST; LAT; LTU; RUS; BLR; UKR

Group C

Consists of the following NFs: HUN; SVK; SLO; CZE; AUT; POR

Group D

Consists of the following NFs: NOR; DEN; POL; FIN; LUX

### ***Criteria for Events in Groups A, B, C, D – Division 2***

The criteria as established in the EEF qualification system for the Division 2 qualifier and published on the FEI website must be respected for Events to count for points in Group A, B, C, D in Division 2.

## **5.3. Other Regions**

### **North America**

North America consists of Canada, USA, Central America and the Caribbean Islands and Mexico.

Canada, the USA and Mexico host one qualifier each.

### **The Middle-East**

The Middle-East hosts one qualifier.

FEI selected qualifying Events in other Regions may vary per Region in number depending on the number of CSIOs held in the Region providing they meet the following minimum criteria and any additional requirements as established by the FEI.

The following criteria must be respected for Events held in other Regions:

- a) Each CSIO must be of CSIO5\* level.
- b) A maximum global entry fee of 550 Euro per horse and 250 Euro per Young Horse may be charged.
- c) Each Event must respect the CSIO5\* technical requirements in effect at the time.
- d) Each FEI Nations Cup™ Competition must offer at least €250'000 in prize money divided as follows; at least €200'000 as prize money for the for teams placed 1 to 8 in

the competition, and at least €50'000 as prize money to the rider(s) with the best performance in both rounds of the FEI Nations Cup™ unless agreed otherwise by the FEI. The prize money for the FEI Nations Cup™ competition must be the highest prize money competition at the event.

The Grand Prix Competition at these Events must also offer a minimum of €150'000 in prize money.

e) All selected Events must in principle follow a fixed competition format, with the Grand Prix Competition taking place on Friday and the FEI Nations Cup™ Competition on Sunday. Depending on the current proven success of an Event's FEI Nations Cup™ Competition relating to broadcast coverage and spectatorship, an exception may be granted at the sole discretion of the FEI.

f) Events may be required by the FEI to have flood lights.

g) Events must be held over at least four days.

h) In addition to the FEI Nations Cup™ Competition, four other Competitions must count for Longines Ranking points.

i) The course must be the same for the first and second rounds.

j) Each team must be invited with five Athletes and 15 Horses.

k) The maximum number of Athletes permitted to take part is 65.

In Regions that do not have a qualifying Event or in a Region where all eligible NFs do not have equal opportunity to qualify for the FEI Nations Cup™ Final, qualification is based on the Nations Cup Ranking established following the FEI Nations Cup™ Final until two weeks prior to the FEI Nations Cup™ Final of the year in question. The best four Nations Cup results count.

## **6. PARTICIPATION**

### **6.1. Europe - Division 1**

#### **6.1.1. 2018 Season – Teams**

For the 2018 FEI Nations Cup™ season the ten NFs permitted to take part in Division 1 are as follows:

- The eight teams that took part in Division 1 in 2017.
- The two Division 2 teams at the 2017 FEI Nations Cup™ Final providing they complete the Challenge Cup competition or the FEI Nations Cup™ Final competition at the 2017 FEI Nations Cup™ Final.

#### **6.1.2. Option of Participation in Division 1 or 2**

NFs qualified for Division 1 have the option to choose whether they wish to participate in either Division 1 or Division 2. Should any of the ten NFs qualified for Division 1 choose not to participate in Division 1 in the 2018 season, it will be replaced by the next best ranked Division 2 team on the 2017 D2 overall standings prior to the 2017 FEI Nations Cup Final and in 2019 by the next best placed D2 team at the 2018 D2 FEI Nations Cup™ qualifier. See Art. 4.1 for the deadline for confirmation of participation of NFs qualified for Division 1.



### ***Withdrawals***

Once the ten qualified NFs are established for the 2018 season as stipulated above they will not be replaced.

#### ***6.1.3. Number of Teams per Event in Division 1***

Eight teams are permitted to take part at each Division 1 CSIO Event; at least six Division 1 teams and Non-Division 1 teams depending on the number of assigned Division 1 teams. A Non-Division 1 team may participate in a maximum of four Division 1 Events. Division 1 teams may only take part at the Division 1 events which they have been assigned.

#### ***6.1.4. Number of Events to count for Points***

NFs participating with a team in Division 1 are guaranteed invitations to Division 1 Events as follows, all results will count towards the Division 1 standings.

- Eight D1 events, five events to be allocated to each team;
- Seven D1 events, four events to be allocated to each team;
- Six D1 events, three events to be allocated to each team;
- Five D1 events, three events to be allocated to each team;
- Four D1 events, two events to be allocated to each team.

In all cases above the home Event for any given team is included in the allocated Events.

#### ***6.1.5. Selection/Allocation of Events for the 2018 Season***

NFs participating in Division 1 must participate at their home qualifying Event, providing the home NF organises a qualifying Event. Additional qualifying Events (for a total as indicated above) are allocated by the FEI for the 2018 season in accordance with the system indicated as follows.

All ten NFs are requested to present to the FEI their choice of Division 1 events. Allocation of Division 1 events will be made by the FEI trying to respect as much as possible the wishes of NFs.

- If there is one or more NFs that does not have a home Event, allocation of the home Event for the NF(s) in question is decided by a draw.
- Every attempt will be made by the FEI while allocating events to respect within reason the choices presented to the FEI.

#### ***6.1.6. Participation at CSIOs outside Division 1***

Division 1 teams may participate at CSIOs in other Regions if invited, but may not earn points at these Events.

#### ***6.1.7. Home Individual Athletes***

The rules for invitation of home individual Athletes as stipulated in the JRs do not apply for Division 1 Events.

## **6.2. Europe Division 1 relegation and promotion**

### **6.2.1. 2019 Season – Teams**

The 10th ranked team on the overall Division 1 standings prior to the 2018 FEI Nations Cup™ Final will be automatically relegated to Division 2 for the 2019 season and the best placed team at the 2018 Division 2 FEI Nations Cup™ qualifier will be promoted to Division 1.

A Division 1 NF placed 10<sup>th</sup> on the 2018 Division 1 overall classification has the right to select either Group C or D when relegated to D2 for the following season, with a view to qualifying for the D2 FEI Nations Cup™ qualifier.

An NF that is relegated from D1 to D2 for the following season that is listed in one of the Groups indicated in paragraph 5.2 of these rules will be relegated to the same Group.

## **6.3. Europe - Division 2**

### **6.3.1. Requests for Invitations**

Division 2 OCs in Group C and D must accept requests for invitations from Division 1 NFs that have declined to take part with a team in Division 1 and the NF that has been relegated from Division 1 providing it meets the minimum eligibility requirements (refer to article 7) for NFs and providing it has declared its intention to take part in the series.

All OCs in Division 2 Groups A, B, C, and D must accept requests for entries from NFs in their own Group, providing they meet the minimum eligibility requirements (refer to article 7) for NFs and providing they have declared their intention to take part in the series.

### **6.3.2. Participation at CSIOs outside Division 2**

Division 2 teams may participate at CSIOs in other Regions and at Division 1 CSIOs if invited but may not earn points at these Events.

### **6.3.3. Number of Teams – Division 2 Qualifier**

The maximum number of teams that may participate in the Division 2 FEI Nations Cup™ qualifier is eight, plus the home team if not qualified.

### **6.3.4. Number of Athletes and Horses per Team**

The OC must invite at least five Athletes and at least 12 Horses per team.

### **6.3.5. Invitations of Teams and Individuals**

For the avoidance of doubt, the current JRs relating to invitation of teams and individuals apply.

## **6.4. North America and the Middle-East**



All OCs in North America and the Middle-East must accept requests for entries from NFs in their own Region, providing they meet the minimum eligibility requirements (refer to article 7) for NFs and providing they have declared their intention to take part in the series.

Teams may take part at CSIO Events outside their own Region but may not earn points at these Events.

OCs of FEI Nations Cup™ qualifiers in North America, the Middle East must invite teams of five Athletes. The maximum number of teams that may be invited is eight.

For the avoidance of doubt, the current JRs relating to invitation of teams and individuals apply.

If there are four or less teams entered, each NF may enter two teams; the Chef d'Equipe must declare in advance which teams will compete for points.

## **6.5. Participation in the First and Second Round**

In all FEI Nations Cup™ qualifying Events, four Athletes per team take part in the first round of the FEI Nations Cup™ Competition. Unless eliminated in the first round, eight teams take part in the second round with four Athletes each. In the second round of the D2 FEI Nations Cup™ qualifier nine teams (if the home team participates as the ninth team) return for the second round providing they are not eliminated or retired in the first round.

## **7. NF MINIMUM ELIGIBILITY**

In order to be eligible to attempt to qualify for the FEI Nations Cup™ Final, an NF must have at least four Athletes on the Longines Rankings at the end of October of the previous season (Ranking N° 202 for the 2018 season).

## **8. POINT SYSTEM**

### **8.1. Points**

Points may only be obtained by eligible teams in their own Region or Division. In order to determine the list of NFs that qualify for the FEI Nations Cup™ Final, the following point system will be used for all qualifying Competitions:

| Placing | Points |
|---------|--------|
| 1st     | 100    |
| 2nd     | 90     |
| 3rd     | 80     |
| 4th     | 70     |
| 5th     | 60     |
| 6th     | 55     |
| 7th     | 50     |
| 8th     | 45     |
| 9th     | 40     |
| 10th    | 35     |

In accordance with the invitation system established for each Region/Division, the points obtained in the FEI Nations Cup™ qualifier(s) are added together in order to establish Regional/Division standings. The points obtained in the Nations Cup Competition at the qualifying Events in Division 2 Groups A, B, C and D are added together to establish the Group standings to determine the NFs that qualify for the Division 2 qualifier.

## **8.2. Division 1**

For Division 1 teams, points are distributed according to the team's classification in the Competition. In case Division 1 teams are placed equal with any other team during any of the FEI Nations Cup™ Competitions, the points set forth in article 8.1 for the places in question are added and divided equally among the teams concerned, the Division 1 team(s) thereby obtaining its/their portion of the points. The second decimal place is rounded up from .005 and rounded down from .004.

## **8.3. Division 2 FEI Nations Cup™ qualifier and Middle-East FEI Nations Cup™ qualifier**

Points are distributed in the Division 2 FEI Nations Cup™ qualifier and Middle-East FEI Nations Cup™ qualifier according to the team's classification in the Competition. In case there is a tie on penalties for first place after both rounds there will be a jump-off with one rider per team. In case there is a tie for any other place following both rounds in the Division 2 FEI Nations Cup™ qualifier and Middle-East FEI Nations Cup™ qualifier, the times of the best three riders in the second round will be used to decide team classification. In case of a further tie, the teams in question are placed according to the times of the best three riders in each team in the first round.

## **8.4. North America**

For North America, points are distributed according to the team's classification in the Competition. In case teams from the same Region are placed equal with any other team during any of the FEI Nations Cup™ Competitions, the points set forth in article 8.1 for the places in question are added and divided equally among the teams concerned, the team(s) participating for points thereby obtaining its/their portion of the points. The second decimal place is rounded up from .005 and rounded down from .004.

The number of Events to count for points for North America is three.

## **8.5. Other Regions**

Other regions qualify for the FEI Nations Cup™ Final through the Nations Cup Ranking according to the following point system with the best four results counting per team.

For the purpose of qualification for the Final the time period for the Nations Cup Ranking will start with the first CSIO following the previous Final until two weeks prior to the following Final.

*NB : Any Group in D2 that does not host a Nations Cup competition may qualify the NF(s) of that Group for the D2 FEI Nations Cup™ qualifier through the Nations Cup Ranking. However, only points earned following the previous FEI Nations Cup™ Final until two weeks prior to the Division 2 qualifier of the year in question at CSIO3\*/4\*/5\* events with the best four results counting will be taken into consideration; points earned at CSIO1\* CSIO2\* and CSIO3\* held in Groups A, B, C or D will use the point scale for CSIO4\* or CSIO5\* as*

applicable, as the Nations Cup Competition at these Events must be built to minimum 4\* specifications.

**Point Scale for allocating points per CSIO for the Nations Cup Ranking:**

|               | 1 <sup>st</sup> | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | 3 <sup>rd</sup> | 4 <sup>th</sup> | 5 <sup>th</sup> | 6 <sup>th</sup> | 7 <sup>th</sup> | 8 <sup>th</sup> | 9 <sup>th</sup> | 10 <sup>th</sup> | 11 <sup>th</sup> - ... |
|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------------|
| CSIO5*:<br>** | 120             | 100             | 90              | 80              | 70              | 65              | 60              | 55              | 50              | 45               | 40                     |
| CSIO4*:       | 100             | 90              | 80              | 70              | 60              | 55              | 50              | 45              | 40              | 35               | 30                     |
| CSIO3*:       | 90              | 80              | 70              | 60              | 55              | 50              | 45              | 40              | 35              | 30               | 25                     |
| CSIO2* :      | 20              | 18              | 16              | 14              | 12              | 10              | 8               | 6               | 4               | 2                | 1                      |
| CSIO1*:       | 10              | 9               | 8               | 7               | 6               | 5               | 4               | 3               | 2               | 1                | 0.5                    |

**8.6. Overall Classification Tie Breaker**

In case of a tie for any place on the overall Regional classification, teams are separated by:

- giving preference to the team with the greater number of first place classifications;
- in case there is still a tie the number of second place classifications will count and if necessary the number of third place classifications and so on until the tie is broken.

If after applying this method there is still a tie for any place at the conclusion of the last Event of the season, preference will be given to:

- the team with the greater number of clear rounds among the scores counting (i.e. maximum three scores per round per team) from each Competition throughout the season;
- if there is still a tie the scores counting (i.e. maximum three scores per round per team) for each team from each Competition will be added together and preference will be given to the team with the lowest overall score.

In case of a tie for a qualification place from Regions with only one qualifying Event, the following method will be used to break the tie:

- the team with the greater number of clear rounds among the scores counting in the Competition (i.e. maximum three scores per round per team);
- if there is still a tie the combined times of each team’s best three athletes in the first round if the teams concerned have taken part only in the first round or both rounds if the teams concerned have taken part in the second round (i.e. the times of the three Athletes whose result counted in each round) will be used to break the tie, preference being given to the team with the lowest combined time.

**8.7 Cancellation of a 2018 Qualifying Competition**

In the case of a qualifying Competition being cancelled in any Region or Division where teams are allocated Events counting for points the following procedure applies.

Teams whose result would have counted for points at the cancelled Competition are distributed points for the cancelled Competition, based on the total number of points obtained at their other allocated Events divided by the number of Events at which they have participated for points. This calculation is carried out at the end of the season.

## 9. PRIZE MONEY

The prize money for the teams in each FEI Nations Cup™ Competition must not be less than €200'000.

Only teams (eight) competing in the second round of each Competition receive prize money.

**The prize money is distributed as follows (the amounts for each placing are based on prize money of €200'000; if more prize money is offered, the relevant percentages must be respected):**

|                | 1 <sup>st</sup> | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | 3 <sup>rd</sup> | 4 <sup>th</sup> | 5 <sup>th</sup> | 6 <sup>th</sup> | 7 <sup>th</sup> | 8 <sup>th</sup> |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>8 teams</b> | <b>64'000</b>   | <b>40'000</b>   | <b>32'000</b>   | <b>24'000</b>   | <b>16'000</b>   | <b>11'000</b>   | <b>8'000</b>    | <b>5'000</b>    |
|                | <b>32 %</b>     | <b>20 %</b>     | <b>16 %</b>     | <b>12 %</b>     | <b>8 %</b>      | <b>5.5 %</b>    | <b>4 %</b>      | <b>2.5 %</b>    |

A team which is eliminated (see JRs Art. 264.8.1 and 264.8.2) in the first round of a Competition is not entitled to receive prize money or points for that Competition.

The 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> placed teams at the D2 FEI Nations Cup™ qualifier received 2,500 Euro (1.25% of the Competition prize money) each.

FEI Nations Cup™ qualifiers with less than eight teams will have the remaining prize money divided equally among those teams placed.

Each Nations Cup competition hosted in each Group of D2 which counts as a qualifier for the Division 2 FEI Nations Cup™ qualifier must offer the following minimum amount of prize money (refer to the EEF qualification system for the Division 2 FEI Nations Cup™ qualifier for exceptions):

- CSIO3\* and CSIO4\* Nations Cup Competitions 30'000 CHF;
- CSIO5\* Nations Cup Competitions 80'000 CHF.

## 10. GRAND PRIX PARTICIPATION

### 10.1. Qualification Format

The Grand Prix competition is held on Friday unless an exception is granted by the FEI and is open to 50 riders.

When the Grand Prix competition is held on Friday the following qualifying system applies. All official team members (maximum 40 – 8 teams with five members per team, D2 Final maximum 45 – 9 teams) are automatically qualified for the Grand Prix, as well as those riders in accordance with article 261 of the FEI Jumping rules.

The OC must hold a qualification competition of 150 cm in height for the remaining places on a day prior to the day of Grand Prix for the individual riders.

For Grand Prix competitions taking place on Sunday the following qualification system applies.

Each OC must provide two opportunities for each Athlete to qualify for the Grand Prix Competition. The first qualifier is held prior to the FEI Nations Cup™ Competition and is open to all Athletes. The FEI Nations Cup™ Competition counts as a qualifier for the team Athletes. The third qualifier is held following the FEI Nations Cup™ Competition and counts as a qualifier for the non-team Athletes plus individuals and those Athletes not taking part in the second round of the FEI Nations Cup™ Competition. Both the first and third qualifiers must have a minimum standard of 1.50m.

## **10.2. Number of Athletes in the Grand Prix**

The Grand Prix at all FEI Nations Cup™ Events is open to 50 Athletes.

## **10.3. Qualified Athletes** (for CSIO Dublin refer to Art. 10.4)

### **10.3.1. FEI Nations Cup™ Athletes**

The 18 best-placed Athletes following rounds one and two of the FEI Nations Cup™ Competition are automatically qualified to take part in the Grand Prix Competition at the same Event. Those equal on penalties for 18th place are separated by their combined times in the first and second rounds of the FEI Nations Cup™ Competition. In case of a further tie the Athletes concerned are permitted to take part in the Grand Prix.

### **10.3.2. Non-Team Athletes and Individuals**

The four best-placed Athletes, taken from the non-team Athletes plus individuals, in the third qualifier are also automatically qualified for the Grand Prix.

### **10.3.3. Automatically Qualified**

10.3.3.1. Notwithstanding the above, the following Athletes are automatically qualified for the Grand Prix at all Division 1 Events, the Division 2 FEI Nations Cup™ qualifier and North American, Middle East FEI Nations Cup™ qualifiers, as per JR Art. 261.4.1.1:

- The individual medal winners (Athletes) of the last Olympic and Pan American Games and World and Continental Championships, as well as the first placed Athlete/Horse combination in the last FEI World Cup™ Final, and
- The winner (Athlete/Horse combination) of the Grand Prix at any CSIO5\* Event during the previous twelve months.

Should a pre-qualified Athlete under the provisions of 10.3.3 be placed among the best 18 after the two rounds of the FEI Nations Cup™ Competition, his qualification place under 10.3.1 will not be given to another Athlete.

### **10.3.4. Completing the Quota**

The quota of Athletes established by the Organising Committee for the Grand Prix Competition must be filled from Athletes from the first qualifier.

## **10.4. Grand Prix Qualification System for Athletes at CSIO Dublin**

#### **10.4.1. FEI Nations Cup™ Athletes**

The 18 best-placed Athletes following rounds one and two of the FEI Nations Cup™ Competition are automatically qualified to take part in the Grand Prix Competition at the same Event. Those equal on penalties for 18<sup>th</sup> place are separated by their combined times in the first and second rounds of the FEI Nations Cup™ Competition. In case of a further tie the Athletes concerned are permitted to take part in the Grand Prix.

#### **10.4.2. Automatically Qualified**

Notwithstanding the above, the following Athletes are automatically qualified for the Grand Prix at all Division 1 Events, as per JRs Art. 261.4.1.1:

- The individual medal winners (Athletes) of the last Olympic and Pan American Games and World and Continental Championships, as well as the first placed Athlete/Horse combination in the last FEI World Cup™ Final;
- The winner (Athlete/Horse combination) of the Grand Prix at any CSIO5\* Event during the previous twelve months.
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Should a pre-qualified Athlete under the provisions of 10.3.3 be placed among the best 18 after the two rounds of the FEI Nations Cup™ Competition his qualification place under 10.4.1 will not be given to another Athlete.

#### **10.4.3. Completing the Quota**

The quota for the remaining qualification places must be filled according to the conditions set forth in the Event Schedule.

### **11. TITLE OF THE FEI NATIONS CUP™ COMPETITION**

It is obligatory for FEI Nations Cup™ Competitions to be called: Longines FEI Nations Cup™ of "the name of the country".

### **12. WILD CARDS**

#### **12.1. FEI Team Wild Cards**

The FEI has the right to nominate one wild card team for all CSIO events except D1, D2 FEI Nations Cup™ qualifier, North American FEI Nations Cup™ qualifiers and the Middle-East FEI Nations Cup™ qualifier..

Requests for wild card invitations from NFs are screened by:

- CSIO representative;
- FEI Headquarters representative.

In case of a dispute, the OCs' and the Chefs d'Equipe representatives will be consulted prior to a decision being taken by the FEI.

#### **12.2. FEI Wild Cards for Individuals**



The FEI has the right to nominate a maximum of two individuals as wild cards for all CSIOs. The individual wild cards may only be allocated to individuals from NFs not represented by a team. For Division 1 and North American Events the individual wild cards must be included in the maximum quota of 65 Athletes permitted to take part in the CSIO. If the FEI does not allocate one or both of these wild cards at Division 1 and North American Events, the places are returned to the OC, which may extend the invitation(s) to NF(s) not represented by a team. (see JRs Art. 249.8.2)

**12.3.** Requests for all wild cards must be made at least nine weeks before the Event in question is due to commence. Wild cards are allocated by the FEI eight weeks before each Event is due to take place. Requests for wild cards are co-coordinated by the FEI Director of Jumping.

## **13. QUALIFICATION SYSTEM FOR THE FEI NATIONS CUP™ FINAL 2018**

The qualification system for the FEI Nations Cup™ Final may vary from Region to Region and will fall into one of the following categories:

- One qualifier for the entire Region at which all eligible NFs or qualified NFs from the Region may participate, the OC does not have the right to refuse an entry from an eligible or qualified NFs;
- A (limited) number of qualifiers in the Region at which all eligible NFs may participate, the OCs do not have the right to refuse an entry from an eligible NF;
- A larger number of qualifiers in the Region where eligible NFs from the Region that wish to qualify for the FEI Nations Cup™ Final are given the opportunity to participate at a fixed number of qualifiers (Division 1);
- For Regions without a FEI Nations Cup™ Competition, teams are selected through the Nations Cup Ranking.

## **14. FEI NATIONS CUP™ FINAL**

### **14.1. Date**

The FEI Nations Cup™ Final is organised preferably on the last weekend of September or in early October but this may change depending on the Region in which the Final takes place.

### **14.2. Withdrawal of a team following the deadline date for definite entries for the FEI Nations Cup™ Final**

There is a withdrawal fee of Euro 2000 per horse for teams withdrawing following the date for definite entries. The team in question loses its points for the entire season and the right to take part in the FEI Nations Cup™ series the following year.

### **14.3. Allocation of Quota Places for the FEI Nations Cup™ Final**

- Europe Division 1: 7
- Europe Division 2: 2
- North and Central America: 2
- South America: 2
- Middle East: 2
- Asia: 2
- Africa: 1



## **14.4. Bidding Process**

The FEI Nations Cup™ Final is allocated by the Bureau following consideration of bids received from OCs/NFs.

## **14.5. Number of Teams**

Eighteen teams plus the home team if not qualified are allowed to participate in the FEI Nations Cup™ Final, providing it has declared its intention to participate and has participated in the qualifying Events in its Region or Division or is selected through the Nations Cup Ranking.

## **14.6. Number of Athletes**

Each team is allowed to participate with five Athletes with two Horses per Athlete. No individual Athletes may be invited in addition to the team members except for the home team.

Maximum 10 individual Athletes may be invited with one or two Horses each from NFs not represented by a team. This number includes home and foreign Athletes.

## **14.7. Substitution of Qualified NFs**

In case a qualified team withdraws from the Final, substitutions will be made insofar as possible from the same Region or Division in descending order of the overall standings of the Region or Division as follows:

- Europe Division 1: substitution to 10<sup>th</sup> place in the overall standings
- Europe Division 2: substitution to 9<sup>th</sup> place at the D2 FEI Nations Cup™ qualifier
- Middle East: substitution to 4<sup>th</sup> place at the Middle-East FEI Nations Cup™ qualifier
- North/Central America & Caribbean: substitution to 4<sup>th</sup> place in the overall standings
- South America: substitution to 4<sup>th</sup> position on the Nations Cup Ranking of South American NFs
- Asia/Australasia: substitution to 4<sup>th</sup> position on the Nations Cup Ranking of Asian/Australasian NFs
- Africa: substitution to 3<sup>rd</sup> position on the Nations Cup Ranking of African NFs

If a Region cannot fill its quota, the vacant place(s) will revert to Europe Division 1.

## **14.8. Competition Format**

The FEI Nations Cup™ Final consists of three Competitions. Each team competes in two of the three Competitions.

All three Competitions are conducted at a maximum height of 1.60 m and a speed of 400 m/minute. The water jump must be included in the initial round of all three Competitions.

Each team's five Athlete/Horse combinations for the FEI Nations Cup™ Final must be declared prior to the start of the first Competition of the Event at a time to be decided by

the FEI and the OC. Between the declaration of the Athlete/Horse combinations and one hour before the start of the first Competition of the Event, Horses may be substituted only in case of illness or accident, with the permission of the Veterinary Commission and the approval of the Ground Jury. Following that no further changes may be made to the Athlete/Horse combinations. Each Athlete may only ride one Horse per Competition and this must be his declared Nations Cup horse; each Horse may only compete in one Competition per day.

The Competition format is as follows:

#### **14.8.1. First FEI Nations Cup™ Competition**

All teams take part in the First Competition with four Athletes per team, the starting order of teams is established by a draw. On the day preceding the First Competition at a time to be decided by the FEI and the OC, Chefs d'Equipe must declare their four Athlete/Horse combinations for this Competition, including their starting order; these are to be selected from the team's five declared Athlete/Horse combinations. In case of accident or illness to an Athlete and/or Horse between the declaration of the combinations for this Competition and one hour before the start of the Competition, the Athlete/Horse combination may, upon presentation of a certificate from an officially recognised medical doctor and/or with the permission of the Veterinary Commission and after approval by the Ground Jury, be replaced by the fifth Athlete/Horse combination of the team in question. In case of substitution, the starting order remains unchanged.

Teams that are equal on penalties for eighth place in this Competition are separated by the times of the best three Athletes in each team.

This Competition is run at 400 m/min and consists of 13 obstacles.

#### **14.8.2. Second FEI Nations Cup™ Competition (Challenge Cup)**

The Second Competition is open to the teams placed 9-18 or 19 in the First Competition, with four Athletes per team. Chefs d'Equipe must declare their four Athlete/Horse combinations for this Competition at a time to be decided by the FEI and the OC. These combinations are to be selected from the team's five declared Athlete/Horse combinations; they are not required to retain the same order of starting within their team as in the First Competition. In case of accident or illness to an Athlete and/or Horse between the declaration of the combinations for this Competition and one hour before the start of the Competition, the Athlete/Horse combination may, upon presentation of a certificate from an officially recognised medical doctor and/or with the permission of the Veterinary Commission and after approval by the Ground Jury, be replaced by the fifth Athlete/Horse combination of the team in question. In case of substitution, the starting order remains unchanged.

This Competition is run with an initial round not against the clock with a jump-off against the clock in case of equality of penalties for first place. The starting order in this Competition follows the reverse order of results in the First Competition, in case of a tie on penalties teams retain the same starting order as in the First Competition. Teams retain the same starting order in the jump-off as in the initial round. One Athlete per team selected by the Chef d'Equipe from those that have either taken part in the First

Competition or in the initial round of the Second Competition is permitted to take part in the jump-off. Teams not taking part in the jump-off are placed according to the penalties of their best three Athletes in the initial round. Teams with equality of penalties are placed equal and will share the prize money for the place(s) concerned.

All teams start in this Competition on zero penalties.

The Competition is run at 400 m/min and consists of 13 obstacles in the initial round.

The jump-off if any consists of six to eight obstacles.

### **14.8.3. Third FEI Nations Cup™ Competition (Final Competition)**

The Final Competition is open to teams placed 1-8 in the First Competition, with four Athletes per team. This Competition is run with an initial round against the clock with a jump-off against the clock in case of equality of penalties for first place. Chefs d'Equipe must declare the four Athlete/Horse combinations for this Competition at a time to be decided by the FEI and the Organising Committee. These combinations are to be selected from the team's five declared Athlete/Horse combinations; they are not required to retain the same order of starting within their team as in the First Competition. In case of accident or illness to an Athlete and/or Horse between the declaration of the combinations for this Competition and one hour before the start of the Competition, the Athlete/Horse combination may, upon presentation of a certificate from an officially recognised medical doctor and/or with the permission of the Veterinary Commission and after approval by the Ground Jury, be replaced by the fifth Athlete/Horse combination of the team in question. In case of substitution, the starting order remains unchanged.

The starting order in this Competition follows the reverse order of penalties obtained in the First Competition; in case of a tie on penalties teams retain the same starting order as in the First Competition. Teams retain the same starting order in the jump-off as in the initial round. One Athlete per team, selected by the Chef d'Equipe from the Athletes that have either taken part in the First Competition or in the initial round of the Final Competition is permitted to take part in the jump-off. Teams not taking part in the jump-off are separated by the times of their best three Athletes in the initial round.

All teams start in this Competition on zero penalties.

The Competition is run at 400 m/min and consists of 13 obstacles in the initial round.

The jump-off, if any, consists of six to eight obstacles.