



FEI PARA DRESSAGE WORLD CHALLENGE RULES

Effective, 1 January 2024

Copyright © ~~2023~~-2024 Fédération Equestre Internationale
Reproduction strictly reserved.

Fédération Equestre Internationale
HM King Hussein I Building
Chemin de la Joliette 8
1006 Lausanne
Switzerland

t +41 21 310 47 47
f +41 21 310 47 60
info@fei.org
<http://inside.fei.org>
<https://inside.fei.org/fei/disc/fei-world-challenge/para-dressage>



Table of Contents

ARTICLE 1 – GENERAL PRINCIPLES 3
ARTICLE 2 – TYPE OF COMPETITIONS 3
ARTICLE 3 - FORMULA 4
ARTICLE 4 – PARTICIPATION..... 5
ARTICLE 5 – GROUND JURY 6
ARTICLE 6 – CLASSIFIERS 7
ARTICLE 7 – CLASSIFICATION 7
ARTICLE 8 - ARENA 7
ARTICLE 9 – HEADGEAR, DRESS, SADDLERY, COMPENSATING AIDS..... 8
ARTICLE 10 - HORSE INSPECTION 8
ARTICLE 11 - THE RESULTS & PRIZES 8
ARTICLE 12 - THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE 9
ARTICLE 13 - MISCELLANEOUS..... 9



The FEI Para Dressage World Challenge Series (FEI WCHA-PED) is held from **January to December** in accordance with the FEI Para Dressage Rules (please consult [Inside.FEI.org](https://www.fei.org/inside) Rules > Para Dressage), FEI Para Equestrian Classification Rules, FEI General Regulations and the Veterinary Regulations currently in force.

All articles in these rules must be read in conjunction with the FEI Para Dressage Rules and the FEI Para Equestrian Classification Rules in effect, published on the FEI Website.

ARTICLE 1 – GENERAL PRINCIPLES

- 1.1 The FEI WCHA-PED is open to National Federations, which in the opinion of the FEI, are still in the ongoing progression phase of Para Dressage Development.
- 1.2 The Application Form must be submitted to the FEI before 1st December of the year prior to that in which the Challenge will take place (all forms should be submitted to the FEI and can be downloaded from the website).
- 1.3 A FEI WCHA-PED Event can be organised together with another FEI World Challenge.
- 1.4 A FEI WCHA-PED Event consists of two mandatory phases:
Phase 1: Classification evaluation and Training Competition in order to establish the Grade and Level in which the athlete may officially take part in.
Phase 2: the FEI Para Dressage World Challenge Competition. Athletes will compete in the Grade and Category in accordance with the results of the evaluation and training of phase 1.
There must be a minimum of one (1) month between both phases.
- 1.5 A FEI WCHA-PED Event is open to athletes from the 1st January of the year in which they reach their 14th birthday. There are no maximum restrictions on the age of athletes.
- 1.6 Athletes competing at a FEI WCHA-PED Event must have been Nationally Classified. Otherwise, they must be classified on site by the appointed Classifiers at the FEI WCHA-PED Event at which they intend to compete.
 - 1.6.1 Athletes classified at an FEI WCHA-PED Event, under the FEI Para Equestrian Classification Rules, will hold an equivalent classification to a National Classification, and that classification is valid to compete in FEI WCHA-PED Events only.

ARTICLE 2 – TYPE OF COMPETITIONS

- 2.1 A FEI WCHA-PED Event is open to a maximum of forty (40) starters in total. NFs may make a special request to the FEI in order to increase the number of starters. The request must be submitted at least one week prior to the start of the Event in order to be considered.
- 2.2 Each Grade has its own Test and results. The Official Para Dressage Tests are edited by the FEI and can, in no case, be modified. Please refer to the FEI website for Para Dressage and FEI WCHA-PED Tests.
- 2.3 The following levels of the FEI Para Dressage World Challenge may be organised separately or together:



2.3.1 **FEI Para Dressage Challenge I:**

This Competition Class consists of one Test, the "**Beginner Test**". This Test may be proposed once or twice, on the same day or on two separate days. A minimum of two (2) hours break between the two tests in each Grade must be scheduled when ridden on the same day.

2.3.2 **FEI Para Dressage Challenge II:**

This Competition Class consists of one Test, the "**Foundation Test**". This Test may be proposed once or twice, on the same day or on two separate days. A minimum of two (2) hours break between the two tests in each Grade must be schedule when ridden on the same day.

2.3.3 **FEI Para Dressage Challenge III:**

This Competition Class consists of one Test, the "**Para Novice Test A**". This Test may be proposed once or twice, on the same day or on two separate days. A minimum of two (2) hours break between the two tests in each Grade must be schedule when ridden on the same day.

ARTICLE 3 - FORMULA

PHASE 1:

Day 1:

- Classifiers' and Judges' arrival
- Classification evaluations

Day 2:

- Training Competition (see guidelines published on the FEI Website)

Day 3:

- Classifiers' and Judges' departure

PHASE 2:

Day 1:

- Judges' arrival
- Horse Inspection (evening prior to the competition day **or** on the morning of the competition)

Day 2/Day 3:

- Challenge Competition Classes, can be organised over one (1) or two (2) days.
- Video Session OR General Discussion (Guidelines for Judges available on the FEI Website)

Note: There is no set order in which the Competition classes need to be scheduled. However, we suggest that the lower level be scheduled first so the participants can watch the performance of higher level of athletes, which would be beneficial for them. In any case, a progression through the levels is preferable.

Day 3/Day 4:

- Judges' departure



ARTICLE 4 – PARTICIPATION

- 4.1 As an exception to the FEI General Regulations, in the FEI Para Dressage World Challenge “Athletes Living outside their country of nationality” (as defined in the FEI General Regulations) may compete for their country of residence.
- 4.2 Foreign athletes from another Challenge NF or from a `non-Challenge´ NF may compete in the Para Dressage World Challenge under the conditions of Art. 101.2, FEI General Regulations. Foreign athletes may only compete for their country of sport nationality.
- 4.3 Whilst FEI Registration is not mandatory, it is highly recommended for horses and athletes. FEI Registration for athletes under 18yo competing in the FEI WCHA-PED is free of charge.
- 4.4 The FEI WCHA-PED event is open to all horses and Ponies of minimum six (6) years old of any origin provided they have successfully passed the Horse Inspection. From this point forth, both horses and ponies will be referred to as “horses”.
- 4.5 The FEI WCHA-PED Event must take precedence over any National competition organised in its framework and, if applicable, athletes and horses entered should not take part in another national competition organised in the framework of the Challenge if organised on the same day (refer to 4.10).
- 4.6 Any athlete that has participated in CPEDI3* or above is no longer eligible to compete in the FEI WCHA-PED.
- 4.7 It is the responsibility of the National Federation to select the participants (horses / athletes) for the FEI WCHA-PED Event in strict accordance with the participation rules above and make sure that athletes and horses comply with these rules.
- 4.8 National Federations are responsible to declare that their athletes and horses have the experience required to take part in the Level in which they have been entered and that their performances entirely satisfy the standards.
- 4.9 Athletes may compete in a maximum of two (2) Tests per day per horse.
One (1) athlete may ride two (2) horses only in the Grade attributed during phase one. If there are too many horses entered, the OC may ballot or otherwise restrict the number that may compete.
- 4.10 An athlete is not allowed to start in a national competition held at the same event prior to the FEI WCHA-PED tests.
- 4.11 For Competitions where shared horses are used please refer to article 8437 of the FEI Para Dressage Rules.
- 4.12 Athletes are required to provide their own necessary personal support staff in order for them to compete. The OC is not responsible for providing transport, staff or helpers for athletes, or grooms for the horses.



ARTICLE 5 – GROUND JURY

- 5.1 As an exception to the FEI Para Dressage Rules, only two (2) Judges will judge the Competition. National Federations are responsible for the appointment of the two (2) Judges. The Ground Jury must be composed of a President who must be an FEI Foreign Judge (minimum Level 2 from the FEI list of Para Dressage Judges: [FEI Officials Lists | FEI](#)) plus a certified National Judge. The FEI Foreign Judge appointed by the NF **should be from the Region where possible**. Should this not be the case prior approval by FEI must be given for the appointment of an FEI Judge from another Region. Without prior agreement the FEI may not contribute towards the travel expense of the FJ as indicated in art. 12.2.

The classes will be judged individually with the President placed opposite the entrance of the arena at table "C" and the Member at "E".

In cases where the WCHA-PED Event is organised in the framework of an Equestrian Sport Educative Event, the President of the Ground Jury will be appointed by the FEI Solidarity Department.

- 5.2 After each competition, the President of the Ground Jury is responsible for establishing a score sheet as to the results and placing of the athletes for each class. This score sheet must be sent to the FEI immediately following the last class with the FEI Foreign Judge's Report (report and other documents are available on the dedicated webpage: <https://inside.fei.org/fei/disc/fei-world-challenge/para-dressage>).

- 5.3 Conflict of interest: A Judge must avoid any actual or perceived conflict of interest. A Judge must have a neutral, independent and fair position towards athletes, owners, trainers, OCs and other Officials and integrate well into a team. Financial and/or personal interest must never influence or be perceived to influence their way of judging.

It is the responsibility of the Judge to be in good health and fit to officiate throughout the duration of the Event.

Activities which will lead to or may lead to a "conflict of interest" when officiating at an FEI WCHA-PED event, include but are not limited to:

- In any case coaching or training by all FEI Officials at the particular Competition must be avoided after arriving at the Event grounds.
- An FEI Official may not participate in any other capacity in any competition(s) taking place at an Event at which they are officiating. Exceptions to this rule may only be permitted if granted by the FEI further to a written request from the FEI Official. The request must be received by the FEI no later than three (3) months prior to the relevant Event and must set out the specific reason(s) for the exception request. The FEI shall be under no obligation to grant an exception and the decision of the FEI shall be final.
- Acting as Team Chef of National teams at international level or being responsible/co-responsible for selecting teams and/or individuals.
- To be owner/part-owner of horses taking part in the Event.
- Being in a situation of financial dependence or gaining financial profit from owners, athletes, trainers, OCs or other related persons or organisations.
- Having a close personal relationship with an athlete or owner.
- Nationalistic judging.

A Judge has the responsibility to notify the FEI in writing of any of the above or other possible conflicts of interest or situations that may be perceived as such.

For more details: refer to the FEI Para Dressage Rules and FEI GRs.



ARTICLE 6 – CLASSIFIERS

- 6.1 Two (2) Classifiers must be on site for athlete evaluations and matters pertaining to Classification for Phase one of WCHA-PED. As an exception to the FEI Para Dressage Rules, one Classifier must be of FEI Level (including FEI Level 1 Classifier) and the second Classifier may be national (from any NF). National Federations are responsible for the appointment of the two (2) Classifiers. It is recommended that the FEI Classifier appointed by the NF **should be from the Region whenever possible**, should this not be the case, prior approval by FEI must be given for the appointment of an NF Classifier from another Region. Without prior agreement the FEI may not contribute towards the travel expenses of the FEI Classifier as indicated in art. 12.2.

ARTICLE 7 – CLASSIFICATION

- 7.1 All aspects of Classification, including determining eligibility for classification; athlete evaluation; allocation of Grade and Grade Status, Protests and Appeals will be conducted as per the FEI Classification Rules.
- 7.2 The nominated FEI Classifier will be the Chief Classifier for the event
- 7.3 New athletes undergoing athlete evaluation at the event for the purpose of classification will have their eligibility to be classified determined by the nominated classification panel for the event. **This must be done at least four (4) weeks prior to Phase one of the event.** The NF of the athlete must ensure the request for classification and medical documentation is provide to the nominated FEI Classifier.
- 7.4 Following athlete evaluation, which may or may not include an Observation Assessment, the athlete is allocated a Grade and Grade status for an equivalent to a National Classification, valid to compete in FEI WCHA-PED only. competition. The result will be recorded on the Classification Master List for the NF of the athlete.

ARTICLE 8 - ARENA

- 8.1 The arena, flat and level, must be 40 meters long and 20 meters wide.
- 8.2 A practice arena is compulsory and must be as in the paragraph above, but it is recommended that there should be two or more practice circles. If the Competition takes place indoors the possibility for practicing indoors must be available to all athletes. As per the FEI Para Dressage Rules, provision must be made for athletes with a Nationally Classified Vision Impairment to train alone and warm up alone if the athlete requires it.
- 8.3 There must also be at least one suitable area for riding, in close proximity to the competition/practice arenas, available during the times that Para Dressage arenas are open to athletes for practice and warm-up.
- 8.4 The Judges are placed in order to give them a good view of the arena. They should be a maximum of five (5) metres and minimum three (3) metres from the arena.
- 8.5 The Organiser must make provision for Judges who require a scribe who speaks and writes the same official language.



ARTICLE 9 – HEADGEAR, DRESS, SADDLERY, COMPENSATING AIDS

9.1 Please refer to articles 8427, 8431, 8432 of the FEI Para Dressage rules.

ARTICLE 10 - HORSE INSPECTION

- 10.1 Any horse participating must have previously passed a Horse Inspection carried out by an FEI Veterinary Delegate to be appointed by the OC in accordance with Art. 1036 of the current FEI Veterinary Regulations. The Horse Inspection must be undertaken as much as possible in accordance with the FEI General Regulations and FEI Veterinary Rules (see VRs articles 1030-1042).
- 10.2 As an exception to Article 137.2 of the FEI General Regulations, horses taking part in the FEI WCHA-PED event in their own country do **NOT** need to be registered with the FEI and therefore are **NOT** required to have an official, valid FEI Passport, or a National Passport approved by the FEI accompanied by an FEI Recognition Card, as a mean of identification and to establish ownership.
- 10.3 All such horses must be properly identifiable by diagram. Unless there is no national requirement for equine influenza vaccination in the host country and in the country of origin, all horses must have a valid vaccination certificate. The Inspection must take place on a firm, level and clean but not slippery surface. The horse must be walked and trotted on a loose rein. A Re-inspection is allowed (FEI Veterinary Regulations: <https://inside.fei.org/content/fei-veterinary-rules> > Article 1040).
- 10.4 At least one (1) Member of the Ground Jury must be present and the Horse Inspection must take place in principle on the day preceding the Competition. Please refer to FEI Veterinary Regulations, Art. 1036. (See FEI website: <https://inside.fei.org/content/fei-veterinary-rules>).
- 10.5 The NF may, at its discretion, award a Special prize to the best presented horse based on the Ground Jury & Veterinarian's decision.

ARTICLE 11 - THE RESULTS & PRIZES

- 11.1 The Results will be calculated for each Grade separately.
- 11.2 **The Individual Results** are decided as follows: the winner is the athlete having the highest total points converted into percentage, the second the one with the next highest total and so on. In case of equality of points for the first, second and/or third places, the highest marks attributed by the President of the Ground Jury will be decisive for the placing. If a further tie exists, the highest collective mark will be decisive.

In case of equality of points for places other than the first three, the athletes concerned are given the same rank.
- 11.3 The Organising Committee within each country is responsible for the distribution of prizes in the normal way (at least one prize for every four (4) athletes in each grade).
- 11.4 FEI WCHA-PED Rankings lists will be established in accordance with the guidelines published on the FEI Website. One for each Grade and class.



ARTICLE 12 - THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE

12.1 **Two Months prior to the competition:**

A. Confirmation of Competition dates

B. Name & Status of FEI President of the Ground Jury (FEI Foreign Judge), Ground Jury Member and Classifiers.

Before the Competition:

NFs/OC must if necessary **create** the athletes and horses' profiles in the FEI World Challenges IT Platform (<http://worldchallenges.fei.org/login>) and then **enter** them in the corresponding Category. All names (athlete and horse) must be provided in English.

Entries will be **open two (2) weeks prior to the Event** and will **close one (1) day prior to the Event**.

Immediately after the competition: Results to be entered on the official FEI World Challenges IT Platform (<http://worldchallenges.fei.org/login>); Individual results of each athlete that has started must be provided.

Results for each Competition will be available on the FEI World Challenges IT Platform and the FEI will establish the World Rankings which will be published on the web site.

No later than fourteen (14) days after the competition:

- One copy of the competition programme, including start lists.
- Copy of the results signed by the official Judges
- The FEI Foreign Judge's report.
- The FEI Classifier report
- Photographs of the competition **with the file names containing the full names of the persons featured on it, or with a separate list containing their full names.**
- Press clippings relating to the competition.

12.2 The National Federations are responsible for the travelling arrangements of the Judges and the Classifiers as well as for their per diem and expenses for accommodation, travel and food during their stay (as per Article 8443 of the FEI Para Dressage rules "Expenses and Privileges").

The FEI will reimburse the air travel expense for the President of the Ground Jury (Foreign Judge, see art. 5.1) up to a maximum amount of EUR 1'500.- and the PGJ per diem for three days at EUR 100.- (per day) to the National Federations upon receipt of the proper documentation (flight invoice).

The FEI will reimburse the air travel expense for the Chief Classifier for Phase 1 up to a maximum amount of EUR 1'500.- and per diem for two days at EUR 100.- (per day) to the National Federations upon receipt of the proper documentation (flight invoice).

12.3 While preparing publications for the competition (programmes, flyers, etc.) the OC is requested to follow the FEI Brand Guidelines when using the FEI Logo, which you will find on the FEI website under: <http://www.inside.fei.org/fei/about-fei/commercial/branding>.

ARTICLE 13 - MISCELLANEOUS

13.1 Bell: A bell must be provided for the President of the Ground Jury.

13.2 Copy Rights: any athlete entered by their NF in the FEI WCHA-PED concedes the rights of any photographs of the athlete and/or horse and accepts their publication in the FEI website or relevant FEI publications.

13.3 The FEI WCHA-PED must be organised strictly according to FEI Rules.

13.4 The FEI is entitled to make reasonable amendments to the present rules