



FEI World Cup™ Dressage North American League Rules 2016/2017

PREAMBLE

These rules set forth the detailed rules of the FEI World Cup™ Dressage North American League Rules, which are to read in conjunction with the pertinent FEI World Cup™ Dressage 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 World Cup™ Dressage Rules and the FEI World Cup™ Dressage North American League Rules, the later shall take precedence.

1. The North American League will be comprised of all countries within North America: CAN, MEX and USA
2. **Not used**
3. **Qualification for North American League**
 - a) Rider/horse combinations must start in CDI-Ws (“qualifying competitions”) in order to gain qualifying scores. The **two** best results obtained in the qualifying competitions will count. (See point in section #8 of these rules.) In order to qualify for the FEI World Cup™ Dressage Final a rider/horse combination must have started and completed at least two times in the Freestyle to Music at a CDI-W and meet the qualifying criteria within these rules.
 - b) For all qualifying competitions, the final classification will be determined by placing in the Grand Prix Freestyle. All rider/horse combinations will be required to start and complete the Grand Prix competition, which will determine that starting order in the Grand Prix Freestyle (per FEI Art 425). Riders may start two (2) horses if qualified, in the CDI-W Freestyle.

Organizers of CDI-Ws in the NAL may also schedule a Grand Prix Special in addition to the qualifying competition (Grand Prix Freestyle). See also point 8.

- c) A draw for order of starting in the Grand Prix shall be made according to the currently applicable FEI rules for the running of CDI-W competitions. The Freestyle to Music draw shall be in the reverse order of the placing of the Grand Prix competition (in groups of 5).
 - d) The Qualifying period is to begin 01 April 2016 following the FEI World Cup™ Dressage Final 2015/2016 and end 05 March 2017, prior to the World Cup™ Dressage.
 - e) Rider/horse combinations obtain scores to decide the representatives from North America, providing that each combination has met the FEI criteria for eligibility to compete in the FEI World Cup™ Dressage Final.
4. Representation will be determined solely by final score, and no League final will be necessary or held.
5. The FEI will offer two (2) World Cup™ Dressage Final positions to North America. The FEI may in addition extend extra positions in addition to this number for the FEI World Cup™ Dressage Final.

6. QUALIFICATIONS TO COMPETE IN THE FEI WORLD CUP™ DRESSAGE FINAL

Minimum qualification criteria for all Finalists including extra starting positions will be determined by the FEI. FEI Article 487.6

Following the last qualifying NAL CDI-W and upon completion of Final NAL standings for 2015/2016, should a rider become qualified for the FEI World Cup Dressage Final with two horses, he/she may only start one horse in the Final (the horse with the highest total qualifying percentage). 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 percentage is higher than no 4. See example below:

1. Laura Jones	Horse 1	Total % 78.800 Qualified
2. Laura Jones	Horse 2	Total % 76.500 Reserve
3. John A	Horse X	Total % 76.400 Qualified
4. George B	Horse Y	Total % 75.750 1 st reserve

7. QUALIFICATION SCORES

In the qualifying events (CDI-W) the scores of the riders who have competed in the FEI World Cup™ Freestyle to Music will be awarded as follows:

The percentage score from a rider's FEI Grand Prix Freestyle to Music will be used. The top two percentage scores will be added together and divided by two (2) to calculate a rider's final score. For example, a rider has scored 71.000% and 73.000% in the Freestyle to Music at two CDI-W events this will result in a final score of = 72.000%

8. ADDITIONAL QUALIFYING OPPORTUNITY

Riders from the North American League may also earn scores by participating in other Leagues' World Cup events and transferring them to their own League according to the general World Cup Rules Art 1.6.1. A rider can no longer earn points in another league, once the last competition of his/her own league has been held.

9. QUALIFYING TESTS

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

10. NUMBER OF QUALIFYING EVENTS IN NORTH AMERICAN LEAGUE

The number of FEI World Cup™ Dressage qualifying events in the North American League will be proposed yearly by the respective NFs for approval by the FEI.

11. NUMBER OF HORSES

Riders in the North American League may start two (2) horses in the qualifying Grand Prix and if qualified, also in the Grand Prix level Freestyle Test – FEI World Cup™ Dressage qualifier at NAL CDI-Ws. (422.3.2)

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

- a) the remaining horse/horses may compete only in the 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).

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