



FEI DRESSAGE NATIONS CUP™ RULES

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PREAMBLE.

These Rules must be read in conjunction with the FEI Statutes, the FEI General Regulations (GRs), the FEI Dressage Rules (DRs), 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 Dressage 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 the sporting spirit.

1 FEI DRESSAGE NATIONS CUP™ SEASON.

The FEI Dressage Nations Cup™ season commences with the first FEI Dressage Nations Cup™ Event of the relevant year and finishes with the last FEI Dressage Nations Cup™ Event of the relevant year.

The FEI Dressage Nations Cup™ calendar consists of a maximum of twelve (12) CDIO3*/CDIO4*/CDIO5* Events in any calendar year; however, a CDIO is not automatically part of the FEI Dressage Nations Cup™ series. Each National Federation must inform the FEI when the FEI Calendar is approved, which CDIO should be designated as a "CDIO-NC". The list of CDIOs-NC will be reviewed by the FEI Dressage Committee and submitted to the FEI Board for final approval.

The weekend prior to and all days during the FEI Dressage European Championships for Seniors, the FEI Dressage World Championships, FEI Dressage World Cup™ Final and the Olympic Games must be kept free of FEI Dressage Nations Cup™ Events.

FEI Dressage Nations Cup™ events on the same Continent must not clash in the Calendar.

The final result and winner of the FEI Dressage Nations Cup™ will be announced following the last FEI Dressage Nations Cup™ Event of the year based on the standings after the last FEI Dressage Nations Cup™ Event of the season.

2 FEI DRESSAGE NATIONS CUP™ EVENTS.

2.1 List of Events.

The FEI Dressage Nations Cup™ Series consists of CDIO outdoor events that fulfil the calendar criteria stated under point 1, and that have declared that they would like to be part of the Series. The FEI Board approves the Events participating in the series.

Each National Federation can only organise one (1) CDIO-NC in any calendar year.

2.2 Competitions Format.

The Team classification of the CDIO-NC qualifier event must be based on the Grand Prix results only, but it is compulsory for the CDIO-NC Organiser to schedule the Grand Prix Special and the Grand Prix Freestyle tests as Individual Competitions.

All team Athletes must participate in the Grand Prix as Team Competition.

It is up to the Organizers to determine which scheduling possibility to choose for the Individual Competitions: Championship format or Alternative Format (opting between Grand Prix Special and Grand Prix Freestyle in accordance with the FEI Dressage Rules).

Championship Format		
Competitions	Dressage Test	Participation
Team Competition	Grand Prix	All entered Athletes
Individual Competition	Grand Prix Special	Open to and compulsory for the thirty (30) highest ranked combinations from the Grand Prix
Individual Freestyle	Grand Prix Freestyle	Open to the eighteen (18) highest ranked combinations from the Grand Prix Special, including ties for the 18 th place.
Alternative Format		
Team Competition	Grand Prix	All entered Athletes
Individual Competition	Grand Prix Special	Open to the eighteen (18) highest ranked combinations from the Grand Prix, including ties for the 18 th place, who opted for the Grand Prix Special*.
Individual Freestyle	Grand Prix Freestyle	Open to the eighteen (18) highest ranked combinations from the Grand Prix, including ties for the 18 th place, who opted for the Grand Prix Freestyle*.

* After the Grand Prix, the repartition of starters must be as equal as possible between the Grand Prix Special and the Grand Prix Freestyle (i.e. twenty-five (25) combinations in the Grand Prix – twelve (12) in the Grand Prix Special and thirteen (13) in the Grand Prix Freestyle).

2.3 Team Classification.

The FEI Dressage Nations Cup™ Team Classification is based on the results of the Grand Prix competition.

For teams of four (4) Athletes, the result of the Athlete with the lowest percentage (%) will be the drop score. If a team has less than three (3) Athletes that recorded a score (due to elimination, withdrawal or disqualification), the team will not be classified in the FEI Dressage Nations Cup™ Classification for that Event.

The Team Classification will be determined by the total sum of three (3) best results in percentages (%) in accordance with the following table:

	Athlete 1		Athlete 2		Athlete 3		Athlete 4	Total Team result
Teams of 4	75,217%	+	70,043%	+	68,413%	+	67,348% drop score	213,673
Teams of 3	75,217%	+	70,043%	+	68,413%	+	_____	213,673

The winning team is the one having the highest total score of their three (3) best Athletes, the second placed team is the one with the next highest score and so on.

Ties. In case of equality of scores, the higher ranked team will be the one whose lowest classified Athlete out of the three (3) has the best result.

The final team result counts towards the overall FEI Nations Cup™ Standings.

Percentages: all percentage calculations must be rounded up or down to three (3) decimals after the decimal point as per the following principle: 0.0011-0.0014 down; 0.0015 – 0.0019 up.

2.4 Draw for the starting order.

At each CDIO-NC Event, the draw for the Grand Prix must be done in accordance with the FEI Dressage Rules – as for CDIOs and FEI Championships.

At each CDIO-NC Event, the draw for the Grand Prix Special and the Grand Prix Freestyle must be done in reverse order of result from the qualifying competition in groups of five (5), in accordance with the FEI Dressage Rules.

2.5 Prize Giving

Prize-giving ceremonies for the Individual Classifications must take place following the conclusion of the Grand Prix, the Grand Prix Special and the Grand Prix Freestyle.

The Prize-giving ceremony for all ranked Teams must take place following the conclusion of the Grand Prix.

2.6 Judges

Judges must be appointed according to Art 441 of the FEI Dressage Rules.

3 PARTICIPATION.

3.1 Invitations of Teams and Individuals.

The maximum number of combinations permitted is Forty (40). Invitations are issued as follows:

- 1 Invitation for the Home NF (*)
- 2 Invitations to be issued by the CDIO-NC Organiser (**)
- In addition to the Invited NFs and the Home NF, each CDIO-NC Organiser must invite all remaining NFs (the "Other NFs") (***)).

* NFs taking part in the FEI Dressage Nations Cup™ series must participate at their home CDIO-NC Event (the "Home NF"), provided their NF organises a qualifying Event.

** Each CDIO-NC Organiser shall be permitted to directly issue two (2) invitations to NFs of their choice (the "Invited NFs"). The CDIO-NC Organiser must receive approval from the FEI prior to issuing these invitations.

*** If the number of Teams applying to enter would lead to the maximum total number of combinations allowed (40) being exceeded, the CDIO-NC Organiser must accept the best Teams from among the Other NFs based on the average of the points of the participating team athletes on the FEI Dressage World Ranking list for Athletes.

It is at the discretion of each CDIO-NC Organiser whether Teams of three (3) or four (4) Athletes will be allowed to enter (to be stated in the schedule).

The same invitation system (three (3) or four (4) Athletes) must be equally applied to all Teams.

Only one team per NF can participate in the FEI Dressage Nations Cup™ Event.

3.2 Participation of Teams.

A minimum of three teams shall take part in each CDIO-NC Event in order to include this event in the Nations Cup™ standings.

There is no maximum limit to the number of FEI Dressage Nations Cup™ Events that Athletes/Horses can compete in.

A team may consist of min. three (3) and max. four (4) athletes. No reserve combinations are permitted. The three (3) best NFs of the total series from the previous year must be invited for each CDIO-NC Event.

3.3 Participation of Individuals.

CDIO-NC Organisers have the right to invite a number of home/foreign individual Athletes from the home country and countries not represented by an official team.

A maximum number must be mentioned in the approved schedule and all individual Athletes are invited based on their rank on the FEI Dressage World Ranking List for Athletes, in descending order.

3.4 Number of Events counting for Points.

NFs may participate at several (or all) Events with only the best team scores to count for the FEI Dressage Nations Cup™ Rankings.

Scores from a maximum of four (4) events will count towards the NF's Dressage Nations Cup™ standing.

4 FEI DRESSAGE NATIONS CUP™ STANDINGS POINT SYSTEM.

4.1 Points.

Points are distributed based on the team's classification in the FEI Dressage Nations Cup™ Event according to the following point system:

Placing \ Points	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
CDIO3* Points	10	8	7	6	5	4	3	2
CDIO4* Points	12	10	9	7	6	5	4	3
CDIO5* Points	15	13	11	9	7	6	5	4

In case teams are placed equal during any of the FEI Dressage Nations Cup™ Competitions, the points set forth above for the places in question are added and divided equally among the teams concerned.

Overall Classification Tie Breaker:

In case of a tie for any place on the overall FEI Dressage Nations Cup™ standings, 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.

5 PRIZE MONEY.

The prize money for each FEI Dressage Nations Cup™ Team Classification (in addition to the standard prize money for the individual classification, refer to the FEI Dressage Rules) must be:

CDIO3*-NC	no minimum amount but not more than €15'000
CDIO4*-NC	not less than €15'000
CDIO5*-NC	not less than €20'000

A team which is eliminated is not entitled to either prize money or points for the respective Competition.

6 TRANSPORT, STABLING AND ACCOMODATION

For the CDIO-NC qualifier events, the Organising Committees are required to meet the conditions laid down in the FEI Rules and Regulations and the Host Agreement (if any) with the FEI.

7 TITLE OF THE FEI DRESSAGE NATIONS CUP™ COMPETITION.

It is obligatory for FEI Dressage Nations Cup™ Competitions to be called: FEI Dressage Nations Cup™ [Country].