

FEI™ DRESSAGE

FEI WBFISH DRESSAGE WORLD BREEDING CHAMPIONSHIP FOR YOUNG HORSES RULES.

Effective from 1 January ~~2023~~2025

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PREAMBLE

These rules set forth the detailed rules of the FEI WBFSH Dressage World Breeding Championship for Young Horses, which are to read in conjunction with the pertinent FEI Statutes, FEI General Regulations, FEI Dressage Rules and FEI 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.

The FEI may therefore make exceptions to the rules, taking fairness and development of the sport into account.

CHAPTER I. GENERAL PRINCIPLES:

1. The FEI WBFSH Dressage World Breeding Championship for Young Horses will be organised under FEI Rules in cooperation with the World Breeding Federation for Sport Horses (WBFSH). Entries can only be made by National Federations, but the selection procedure shall be decided upon by the respective NF in close cooperation with the WBFSH member studbook(s) in the respective country. Only horses registered into WBFSH member studbooks at birth, can be nominated and entered in the championships.
2. The list of the WBFSH member studbooks and their country is available on the WBFSH website: <https://www.wbfsch.com/studbook-members>
3. Minimum Eligibility Requirement (MER) to be achieved as a combination Athlete/Horse (preliminary or final test):
 - 5- and 6-year-old horses: a total score of minimum 75%
 - 7-year-old horses: a total score of minimum 70%

This score must be achieved at least once at a CDIYH, or within a National selection-Selection criteria-Procedure in the calendar year of the Championship, until the date of nominated entries.

For MERs to be achieved within a National Selection Procedure, NFs are required to use the FEI tests for 5-, 6- and 7-year-old horses.

A copy of the proposed National Selection Procedure (if used by an NF) must be submitted to the FEI at the end the year prior to each concerned qualification season (by the end of the December at the latest) for review and approval by the FEI and WBFSH. For example, for the 2025 FEI WBFSH Dressage World Breeding Championship, the NF must submit the proposed National Selection Procedure no later than 31 December 2024.

The FEI and WBFSH must confirm its approval/non approval of the National Selection Procedure by 31 January of the year of the World Breeding Championship.

If the National Selection Procedure is not submitted by the above deadline or the National Selection Procedure is not approved by the FEI and WBFSH, only MERs obtained at CDIYHs will be accepted.

The result-Record of Results (RoRs) obtained through the approved National Selection Procedure ~~has to~~ must be ~~confirmed-submitted by the NF~~ with the nominated entries.

For MERs to be achieved, NFs are responsible for ensuring that the level of tests used at their National Selection events, is equivalent to the level of the FEI tests for 5-, 6- and 7-year-old horses.

4. Horses can only participate in the selection procedure of one (1) NF.

It's the responsibility of the Athlete and Owner to ensure that the selection procedure in which they participate offers the possibility to be selected and entered for this Championship.

5. The age of horses is defined as per the year of birth. Horses born in the Northern Hemisphere between 1st January and 31st December of the same year, fall into the same age group. Horses born in the Southern Hemisphere between 1st August and 31st July of the following year, fall into the same age group. If the World Breeding Championships take place after 1st August, horses born in the Southern Hemisphere will compete in the same age category they qualified in.

6. Horse's Entries:

6.1. NFs with WBFSH member studbook(s) in their country:

These NFs receive a quota, determined in close co-operation of the WBFSH and FEI, for each age category. The quotas are for home-bred horses, meaning that they have been registered at birth into a studbook originating in the country of the nominating NF. These horses must have a Universal Equine Life Number (UELN) that corresponds to the studbook of origin.

The quota distribution for each age category is as follows:

6.1.a. Specific quota distribution:

- Germany: 8, home-bred horses only.
- The Netherlands: 6, home-bred horses only.
- Spain: 5, home-bred horses only.
- Denmark: 4, home-bred horses only.
- Sweden: 4, home-bred horses only.

6.1.b. Other quota distribution:

- Belgium, France, Great Britain, Ireland, Poland, Portugal and United States of America, each NF: 2.

6.1.c. All other NFs with WBFSH member studbook(s) in their country:

These NFs may enter up to one (1) home-bred horse in each age category (registered at birth into a studbook originating in the country of the nominating NF, with a Universal Equine Life Number (UELN) that corresponds to the studbook of origin).

6.2. Exceptions to 6.1.b and 6.1.c:

NFs with no home-bred horses (registered at birth into a studbook originating in the country of the nominating NF, with a Universal Equine Life Number (UELN) that corresponds to the studbook of origin) having achieved MERs during their

selection procedures, as defined in the present guidelines:

These NFs may nominate a foreign-bred horse, provided that the studbook of origin of the foreign-bred horse gives its approval and the athlete of the foreign-bred horse has the sport nationality of the nominating NF.

For such nominations to be accepted, official confirmation that no home-bred horses achieved the requested MERs must be submitted to the FEI with the nominated entries list, by the respective NF (following their consultation with the relevant WBFSH member Studbook within that respective country).

6.3. NFs with no WBFSH member studbook(s) in their country:

These NFs may enter up to one horse in each age category and the athlete of the horse must have the nationality of the nominating NF. These horses must be registered as foals into a WBFSH member studbook and this studbook has to give its approval.

7. Athlete's Entries:

The FEI General Regulations apply. As an exception to the FEI General Regulations, NFs may enter foreign athletes provided the athlete's own NF approves.

8. In the Final competition of each age category, no NF may have more horses than the number of places originally allocated under 6.1 and 6.3.
9. Each athlete may start a maximum of two horses in each age category.

CHAPTER II. ENTRIES.

1. All entry deadlines will be clearly stated in the approved schedule (Nominated, Definite and Last date for Substitution).
2. All entries must be submitted and processed via the FEI Entry System.
3. NFs are responsible to ensure that all data concerning Studbook, Sire, Sire of Dam, Breeder and Owner are correctly stated in the FEI database for the concerned horses, before the closing date of nominated entries are made in the FEI Entry System. The above-listed specific information is compulsory.
4. All nominated NFs must inform the FEI before the closing date of nominated entries if they have foreign athlete(s) competing under their own quota, in order to avoid any confusion in the number of nominated horses entered and/or nominated NFs.
5. It is recommended that the OC defines the definite entry deadline by taking into consideration the national selection trials of WBFSH member studbooks.

CHAPTER III. JUDGES.

1. Rotation of Judges & administrative review:
2. The FEI is responsible for the appointment of the Ground Jury panel (President, commentating Judges and Members) after consultation with the JPS and the WBFSH. The ~~OC shall, in close cooperation with the~~ FEI and WBFSH will, establish a judge's rotation system for all competitions. The appointed President of the Ground Jury in each age category and each representing a different nationality, will remain the same across all three (3) competitions. All other Ground Jury members, as well as designated commentating Judges will rotate, as necessary, across all three (3) competitions.
3. The administrative review shall take place on the evening before the 1st competition of each age category, attended by all Ground Jury members from the first competition of each age category and with the full set-up of judging equipment (headsets etc).

- **5-YEAR-OLD HORSES**

Qualifier: (Suggested time per horse: 8 min)

President + 3 Members.

(Two judges sitting at C, two sitting at E). No commentary on the qualifying test.

Small Final: (Suggested time per horse: 10 min)

President + 3 Members (including one Commentator Judge).

(Two judges sitting at C – one of them being the commentating judge, two sitting at E).

Final 5-year-old horses: (Suggested time per horse: 10 min)

President + 3 Members (including one Commentator Judge).

(Two judges sitting at C – one of them being the commentating judge, two sitting at E).

- **6-YEAR-OLD HORSES**

Qualifier: (Suggested time per horse: 8 min)

President + 3 Members.

(Two judges sitting at C, two sitting at E). No commentary on the qualifying test.

Small Final: (Suggested time per horse: 10 min)

President + 3 Members (including one Commentator Judge).

(Two judges sitting at C – one of them being the commentating judge, two sitting at E).

Final: (Suggested time per horse: 10 min)

President + 3 Members (including one Commentator Judge).

(Two sitting at C – one of them being the commentating judge, two sitting at E).

- **7-YEAR-OLD HORSES**

Qualifier: (Suggested time per horse: 8 min)

President + 4 Members.

President and second Judge are sitting at C and a third Ground Jury Member at E judging only the quality of the horse by using a joint scoring method connected by headsets. The other two Ground Jury Members are individually judging only the technical execution of the test, one sitting at H and the other at B, but neither connected among each other nor connected to the judges at C and E (C/B and M/E also possible). The quality of the horse and the technical execution of the test shall be weighted each with 50% towards the end result. No commentary on the qualifying test. The Athletes may choose to use a snaffle bridle or a double bridle.

Small Final: (Suggested time per horse: 10 min)

President + 4 Members (including one Commentator Judge).

President and Commentating Judge are sitting at C and a third Ground Jury Member at E judging only the quality of the horse by using a joint scoring method connected by headsets. The other two Ground Jury Members are individually judging only the technical execution of the test, one sitting at H and the other at B, but neither connected among each other nor connected to the judges at C and E (C/B and M/E also possible). The quality of the horse and the technical execution of the test shall be weighted each with 50% towards the end result. A comment about the quality of the horse will be given by the Commentating Judge for all horses after the test. The Athletes may choose to use a snaffle bridle or a double bridle.

Final: (Suggested time per horse: 10 min)

President + 4 Members (including one Commentator Judge).

President and Commentating Judge are sitting at C and a third Ground Jury Member at E judging only the quality of the horse by using a joint scoring method connected by headsets. The other two Ground Jury Members are individually judging only the technical execution of the test, one sitting at H and the other at B, but neither connected among each other nor connected to the judges at C and E (C/B and M/E also possible). The quality of the horse and the technical execution of the test shall be weighted each with 50% towards the end result. A comment about the quality of the horse will be given by the Commentating Judge for all horses after the test. The Athletes may choose to use a snaffle bridle or a double bridle.

CHAPTER IV. COMPETITIONS.

1. All qualifying competitions must be scheduled on a single day. Any necessary change of the timetable should be made in agreement with FEI and WBFSh.
2. All tests must start from the inside of the competition arena.

- **5-YEAR-OLD HORSES**

QUALIFYING COMPETITION

Test: Test for 5-year-old horses - Preliminary
Number of horses per athlete: max 2
Open to: All 5-year-old horses with accepted entry (NF quota).
The 12-best athlete/horse combinations acc. to scores directly qualify for the Final (competition 3). The remaining athlete/horse combinations qualify for the Small Final (competition 2) acc. to their scores.
Starting order: acc. to the FEI Dressage Rules, ordinary draw.

SMALL FINAL

Test: Test for 5-year-old horses - Preliminary
Number of horses per athlete: max. 2
Open to: and compulsory for those not qualified for the Final. However, the athlete/horse combinations must have completed competition 1 without having retired, withdrawn or being eliminated.
The three best athletes acc. to scores from this competition will qualify for the Final (competition 3).
Starting order: acc. to the FEI Dressage Rules, ordinary draw.

FINAL

Test: Test for 5-year-old horses - Final
Number of horses per athlete: max 2
Open to: and compulsory for the 12-best athlete/horse combinations acc. to scores from competition 1 (Qualifier), including those tied for the 12th place as well as the three best athlete/horse combinations acc. to scores from competition 2 (Small Final), including those tied for the 3rd place.
Starting order: acc. to a draw in groups of five:
Group 1 (athlete/horse combinations who have qualified through the Small Final and athlete/horse combinations who are placed 11th and 12th in the qualifying competition,
Group 2 (athlete/horse combinations who are placed 6th to 10th in the qualifying competition,
Group 3 (athlete/horse combinations who are placed 1st to 5th in the qualifying competition.
Group 1 has to start first; group 3 has to start last.

• **6-YEAR-OLD HORSES**

QUALIFYING COMPETITION

Test: Test for 6-year-old horses - Preliminary
Number of horses per athlete: max 2
Open to: All 6-year-old horses with accepted entry (NF quota).
The 12-best athlete/horse combinations acc. to scores directly qualify for the Final (competition 6). The remaining athlete/horse combinations qualify for the Small Final (competition 5) acc. to their scores.
Starting order: acc. to the FEI Dressage Rules, ordinary draw.

SMALL FINAL

Test: Test for 6-year-old horses - Preliminary
Number of horses per athlete: max 2
Open to: and compulsory for those not qualified for the Final. However, the athlete/horse combinations must have completed competition 4 without having retired, withdrawn or being eliminated.
The three best athletes acc. to scores from this competition will qualify for the Final (competition 6).
Starting order: acc. to the FEI Dressage Rules, ordinary draw.

FINAL

Test: Test for 6-year-old horses – Final
Number of horses per athlete: max 2
Open to: and compulsory for the 12-best athlete/horse combinations acc. to scores from competition 4 (Qualifier), including those tied for the 12th place as well as the three best athlete/horse combinations acc. to scores from the competition 5 (Small Final), including those tied for the 3rd place.
Starting order: acc. to a draw in groups of five:
Group 1 (athlete/horse combinations who have qualified through the Small Final and athlete/horse combinations who are placed 11th and 12th in the qualifying competition,
Group 2 (athlete/horse combinations who are placed 6th to 10th in the qualifying competition,
Group 3 (athlete/horse combinations who are placed 1st to 5th in the qualifying competition,
Group 1 has to start first; group 3 has to start last.

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- **7-YEAR-OLD HORSES**

QUALIFYING COMPETITION

Test: Test for 7-year-old horses - Preliminary
Number of horses per athlete: max 2
Open to: All 7-year-old horses with accepted entry (NF quota).
The 12-best athlete/horse combinations acc. to scores directly qualify for the Final (competition 9). The remaining athlete/horse combinations qualify for the Small Final (competition 8) acc. to their scores. The Athletes may choose to use a snaffle bridle or a double bridle.
Starting order: acc. to the FEI Dressage Rules, ordinary draw.

SMALL FINAL

Test: Test for 7-year-old horses - Preliminary
Number of horses per athlete: max 2
Open to: and compulsory for those not qualified for the Final. However, the athlete/horse combinations must have completed competition 7 without having retired, withdrawn or being eliminated. The Athletes may choose to use a snaffle bridle or a double bridle.
The three best athletes acc. to scores from this competition will qualify for the Final (competition 6).
Starting order: acc. to the FEI Dressage Rules, ordinary draw.

FINAL

Test: Test for 7-year-old horses - Final
Number of horses per athlete: max 2
Open to: and compulsory for the 12-best athlete/horse combinations acc. to scores from competition 7 (Qualifier), including those tied for the 12th place as well as the three best athlete/horse combinations acc. to scores from competition 8 (Small Final), including those tied for the 3rd place. The Athletes may choose to use a snaffle bridle or a double bridle.
Starting order: acc. to a draw in groups of five:
Group 1 (athlete/horse combinations, who have qualified through the Small Final and athlete/horse combinations who are placed 11th and 12th in the qualifying competition,
Group 2 (athlete/horse combinations who are placed 6th to 10th in the qualifying competition,
Group 3 (athlete/horse combinations who are placed 1st to 5th in the qualifying competition,
Group 1 has to start first; group 3 has to start last.

CHAPTER V. CLASSIFICATION.

1. In all Competitions, the winner is the Athlete having obtained the highest total percentage score, the second placed Athlete is the one with the next highest total percentage score and so on.
2. Ties: In case of equality of percentage for the first three (3) places, the following system must be used to break the tie: add the marks for "submission" and "perspective" and divide by two; the Athlete/Horse combination with the higher average mark will be ranked highest. If still tied, the "submission" mark will decide. If still tied, the combinations will be equally placed.

CHAPTER VI. DRAW FOR FINAL COMPETITIONS.

1. The draw for the final competition will be made in groups of five (5) for the starting order.

Draw in groups of five for each final competition:

- Group 1 (athlete/horse combinations who have qualified through the Small Final and athlete/horse combinations who are placed 11th and 12th in the qualifying competition,
 - Group 2 (athlete/horse combinations who are placed 6th to 10th in the qualifying competition,
 - Group 3 (athlete/horse combinations who are placed 1st to 5th in the qualifying competition.
 - Group 1 has to start first; group 3 has to start last.
2. Should an Athlete have more than one (1) Horse, the order of starting may have to be adjusted to ensure that a gap of at least one (1) hour is left between their horses.
 3. The Technical Delegate in consultation with the President of the Ground Jury of the concerned final competition, will decide how to ensure the gap of one (1) hour is respected and the order of go of the Horses as drawn may not be changed.
 4. Whenever possible the first horse as per the order of the draw will move into the next suitable place in the previous group (i.e. from group 2 to group 1).
 5. In the event that the two horses are in group 1, the horse drawn in the second position for that Athlete will move to the next suitable place in group 2.

CHAPTER VII. DISPLAY OF HORSE & ATHLETE DATA.

1. The pedigree, studbook of origin, breeder and owner must be published on the starting/result lists and on the scoreboards. The NF quota should also be published.
2. The athlete's information shall be kept to a minimum (i.e. name and nationality).

CHAPTER VIII. PRICE GIVING CEREMONY.

1. The following protocol has been reviewed in 2020 and shall consistently apply, as from 2020, at FEI WBFSH World Breeding Championships for Young Horses in the disciplines of Jumping, Dressage and Eventing and at the FEI World Championships for Young Horses in the disciplines of Endurance and Driving.
2. This Policy is based on the principle that at FEI Young Horses Championships, the horse is the World Champion and not the human athlete.

Consequently, the following applies:

- FEI Trophy (gold, silver and bronze) engraved with logos of FEI and WBFSH to be offered to the horse owner. If the horse owner is not present in the venue, the athlete must accept it on behalf of the horse owner. The Trophies will be provided by the FEI.
- Small FEI Trophy (gold, silver, bronze) engraved with logos of FEI and WBFSH to be offered to the athlete (text to be: athlete of the winner/second/third of the "FEI WBFSH [discipline] World Championships for Young Horses [year]"). The Trophies will be provided by the FEI.
- The WBFSH can provide recognitions/awards for the Breeder(s). These recognitions/awards will carry the logos of WBFSH and FEI.
- Horse owners and breeder must accompany the placed (or winning) horses or enter on the placed (or winning) carriages in driving. If the horse owner and/or breeder is not present at the venue they must be represented by the athlete.
- Horses must enter the arena wearing the blanket, a sash around the horses' neck and a big rosette on the sash at the level of the chest (gold, silver bronze). Blanket, sashes and rosettes applicable if provided by the OC. The correct name of the Championship needs to be included (or embroidered/printed) on the blankets/sashes and rosettes.

- The national flags (no studbook flags) to be used at the prize giving ceremony are the ones of the countries of the studbooks of the first 3 placed horses.
- In addition, it is allowed to hoist the flag of the studbook of the winning horse in addition to the national flag.
- The national anthem of the winner to be played is the one of the country of the studbook of the winning horse.
- Longines shall have the right to offer watches to the athletes.
- The organiser shall have the possibility to offer additional recognitions or special prizes (to be agreed in conjunction with the FEI).

CHAPTER IX. PRIZE GIVING PROTOCOL.

- Combinations (1-2-3) enter the arena.
- Pillars left and right (no podium).
- Representatives of FEI, WBFSH and OC are present in Arena.
- Owners and breeders are invited to stand next to Athlete/Horse combination on their right side, as groom(s) will be standing on their left side.
- National anthem winner.
- FEI and WBFSH representatives congratulate (owner, breeder, athlete) and hand over the following recognitions together:
 - o Owners receive FEI trophy (plate) from the FEI Representative.
 - o Athletes receive small FEI trophy (plate) from the FEI Representative.
 - o Breeders receive WBFSH recognition/award from the WBFSH Representative.
- Representative of Longines (if applicable) hands over watch to the Athlete(s).
- OC has the possibility to hand over additional recognitions/presents.
- Lap of honour.