

# Masters Series

## Athletes regulations for the Masters Series

### 1. Introduction

The Masters Series is a link of equestrian events.

The Masters Series is a Series with different legs around the world. The number of legs is between 3 and 6 per year. The series extends over a calendar year, from January to December.

All the events which are called “Masters” and organized by EEM, will be legs of Masters Series.

The Grand Prix of each event called Masters will count for the Masters Series Bonus and Super Bonus.

The list of the events part of the Masters Series will be sent to the FEI each year before the 30<sup>th</sup> of November.

### 2. Participating Events / Athletes

Athletes with a chance to win a bonus will automatically be invited to the CSI designated event under the FEI CSI invitation rules.

### 3. Travel Expenses

In the case the place of residence of the winner(s) of the two previous events is on another continent than where the Masters Series event takes place, the OC will reimburse the travel expenses of the athlete/horse(s)/groom with a maximum amount of € 15,000 per horse, with a maximum of 2 horses per athlete.

### 4. Masters Series Bonus

#### a. Masters Series Super Bonus

The OC will reward a bonus for the owner of the horse(s) and the Athlete in the case that an athlete (not athlete/horse combination) is successful in all the Grand Prix. The Super Bonus system is as follows:

- an athlete together with their owner(s) win a bonus of € 2,250,000 if the athlete wins all Grand Prix's in a row during a season of Masters Series from January to December.

The Super Bonus will be divided in 2 equal parts subject to any contractual arrangements between the rider and the owner(s).

If a rider wins all GP's with different horses, the part of the bonus rewarded to the different owners will be divided equally per GP win. (E.g. If the season counts 3 legs: a rider wins 2 GP's with the same horse and 1 GP with a different horse, the bonus rewarded to the different owners will be 2/3 & 1/3).

In the case of a tie for the first place in a Grand Prix, both athletes will have the right to start their bonus cycles. In the case of a tie for a bonus the bonus will be split to the concerned owner(s) of the horses and athletes.

The bonus will be paid out after a full cycle has been completed and the result is definitely confirmed. The bonus will be paid out under Belgian tax regulation. (18 % taxes will be deducted from the bonus.)

The athlete must be personally present at the prize-giving ceremony, which may take place at the event where the cycle is completed or elsewhere. The OC and the participating events will have the right to use the pictures/images of the winner of the Masters Series for their own public relations and communication.

#### b. Masters Series Bonus

The OC will reward a bonus for the owner of the horse(s) and the Athlete in the case that an athlete (not athlete/horse combination) is successful in 3 successive Grand Prix in row. The Bonus system is as follows:

- an athlete together with their owner(s) win a bonus of € 1,000,000 if an athlete wins 3 successive Grand Prix in row.

The bonus cycle (three successive events / Grand Prix) for each athlete will start at the moment of her/his first win, regardless of the calendar year.

The Bonus will be divided in 2 equal parts subject to any contractual arrangements between the rider and the owner(s).

If a rider wins the 3 GP's with two or three different horses, the part of the bonus rewarded to the different owners will be 1/3 per GP win. (E.g. If a rider wins 2 GP's with the same horse and 1 GP with a different horse, the bonus rewarded to the different owners will be 2/3 & 1/3).

In the case of a tie for the first place in a Grand Prix, both athletes will have the right to start their bonus cycles. In the case of a tie for a bonus the bonus will be split to the concerned owner(s) of the horses and athletes.

The bonus will be paid out after a full cycle (3 successive Grand Prix) has been completed and the result is definitely confirmed. The bonus will be paid out under Belgian tax regulation. (18 % taxes will be deducted from the bonus.)

The athlete must be personally present at the prize-giving ceremony, which may take place at the event where the cycle is completed or elsewhere. The OC and the participating events will

have the right to use the pictures/images of the winner of the Masters Series for their own public relations and communication.

The win of one bonus is not cumulative with the win of the other bonus, as soon as the rider wins a bonus he starts a new bonus cycle.

However, if a rider wins three successive GP's in a row, he has the choice to take the Bonus after the third successive GP win or to not take the Bonus immediately and continue the cycle to try to win the Super Bonus (refer to Art. 4-a: the Super Bonus can only be won during a season of the Masters Series from January to December). If the rider doesn't win the Super Bonus, the bonus for winning the three GP's in a row remains acquired, it will be paid after his failure to win the Super Bonus. If the next GP of the cycle takes place in a different calendar year than any of the three successive GP's won in a row, the rider cannot attempt to win the Super Bonus and will automatically start a new bonus cycle following the third successive GP win.

If the Masters Series counts only 3 legs, and a rider wins all 3 GP's during a season of the Masters Series, the Super Bonus will prevail over the bonus, under the rules laid down in Article 4(a).

## 5. General

These regulations must be read in conjunction with the FEI approved schedules of each participating event in the Masters Series. The Masters Series Steering Committee will decide any unforeseen or exceptional circumstance, which is not addressed by these regulations.

This committee will interpret them and render a decision in a manner compatible to the fullest extent possible with the other provisions of these regulations as well as sporting spirit. Belgian law is applicable for these regulations. All disputes arising from these regulations shall be decided by the court in Belgium.