DRESSAGE

F·EI
SPORTS FORUM

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IMD, Lausanne, Switzerland

IMD
REAL WORLD. REAL LEARNING.

Members

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Assigned Tasks

o Identify the perceptions of dressage today

o Review different systems used in subjectively judged disciplines and define areas for improvement in the Dressage system

o Identify and address the weaknesses of the current judging system

o Issue recommendation for an improved system applicable at all FEI levels and globally

What has been identified?

Common perceptions include…

❖ Inconsistent application of standards;

❖ Lack of understanding of the differences in scoring;

❖ Biases in judging;

Weaknesses identified in current system

❖ Present system based on the Dressage Handbook (2007) – updating required

❖ Each movement is evaluated against many components at the same time by each judge with no record of how the final score is determined

❖ Natural biases are inevitable (patriotism, halo, memory, reputation, conformity…)

❖ Many potential routes to arrive at any given final score, very complex matrix

❖ Inconsistent quantification of penalties and rewards

Reining	Vaulting
Number of judges varies from 1-5.	The Judging Panel may consist of 2, 4, 6 or 8 judges.
The highest and lowest Judge's scores are dropped when there are 5 judges.	Scores are achieved by "Basic Score" minus "Performance faults and deductions" minus "Specific Faults".
Athletes begin their pattern with a score of 70, which denotes an average score, and is then subjected to the Judges Manoeuvre scores varying from +1.5 to -1.5 points with 0.5 point increments.	Every test receives four scores with equal value according to the special demands of the test (Horse Score, Exercises, Technique, Artistic).
Penalties are awarded for specific, objective faults.	Judges have a comments section, which they are encouraged to use, particularly for marks lower than 5.
Large penalties can be reviewed after the pattern has been completed.	Deductions for faults range from 1 (minor fault) to 3 (major fault) points.

Options for calculation that are being considered:

- Current system of combining mean scores per mark on the score sheet
- Median score per figure
- HiLo drop (per movement or close)
- Consideration of the collective marks and use of coefficients

Key elements for recommendation

Judging System

➢ Introduce a system based on code of points

➢ Replace the current Handbook with a Video Handbook

Education

➢ New course material – related to video handbook

➢ Increase emphasis on the education of officials at all levels

➢ Increased support to Course Directors

Fundamentals

✓ Accuracy

✓ Flexibility and being easily adjustable

✓ Limit natural biases

✓ Easy to implement – "user-friendly"

✓ Applicable at all FEI levels

Goals

➢ Improvement of the current judging system for all FEI levels of Dressage, with a clear route forward to be applied at national level also should NFs wish.

➢ Aim to create a plausible project planning that could lead to deployment by 1st January 2019 - 18 months before the Tokyo Olympic Games.

General Principles of revised System (1)

- Move towards a requirement to identify distinct failings and characterize them by their seriousness and frequency according to a defined standard

- Options to consider:
  - Refine individual judging tasks
  - move away from the requirement to assign a score to the combination of a whole set of observations

- Every movement explicitly starting from a 10

General Principles of this revised System (2)

- A code of points would be developed related to the various faults in a movement

  - Perhaps by training scale
    - components, Precision, Rhythm, Suppleness…

  - Perhaps by groupings such as
    - Precision, Quality, Engagement,

- Faults are characterized from minor faults to major Faults, with a grading to be defined.

General Principles of revised System (3)

Should we consider that:

- Certain faults carry a firewall (Score cannot be above x)?

- The judge is no longer trying to assign the figure score, but to quantify the faults/shortcomings?

Process of creating the Code of Points

Creation of a Code of points - with the input from

✓ Stakeholders

✓ Technical experts

- General Idea
  Based on the dressage handbook, requires only:
  o extension of current definitions
  o minimal re-learning

Benefits

- Identified with a Code of Points

  ❑ Accuracy & consistency

  ❑ Accountability
    - defends & justifies decisions

  ❑ Level playing field

Benefits

- Judges education and examination

  - Clear

  - Objective

  - Measurable

Benefits

- Can be used at all levels

- Ease of implementation

- Adjustable and flexible

- Evolution of current system

Ideal timeline would be:

May to August 2017
- ➢ Consultation with Stakeholders Clubs and Dressage TC

December 2017
- ➢ Code of points: draft 1 – December 2017
- ➢ Video: Videos from each judging position of a few events are prepared for initial testing

2018
- ➢ Testing and implementation period: 2018

Introduction 1 January 2019