

**PROPOSALS FOR RULES CHANGES OF
DRESSAGE RULES 2023**

24 October 2023

Dear National Federations,

Please find below a summary of the proposed changes to the Dressage Rules together with the corresponding explanations, the comments received as well as the reasoning for accepting or not accepting each proposal.

In the following document you will find 2 sections as follows:

A. Proposed Rules changes to be voted at the FEI General Assembly 2023;

and

B. Proposed Rules changes that have been rejected or deferred to a future Rules revision.

Sincerely,



Ronan Murphy,

Dressage Director

A. PROPOSED RULES CHANGES TO BE VOTED AT THE FEI GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2023

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)
GBR NF, AUT NF, EEF
Article No.–Article Name
401.7 Senior Events and Competitions
Explanation for Proposed Change
<p>Correction of inconsistencies, manifest errors, contradictions, etc.</p> <p>British Equestrian would suggest that the timeframes for the achievement of minimum qualification requirements are clarified within the rules.</p>
Proposed Wording
FEI HQ wording proposal: to add "... at the latest at the date of definite entries" in the heading table
Proposed Wording on 28 June 2023
Min. qual. Requirements must be achieved at the latest by the date of the definite entries.
Comments Received by 16 August 2023
None
FEI Feedback
N/A
Proposed Final Wording to be Voted at the FEI General Assembly 2023
Minimum Eligibility Requirements must be achieved at the latest by the date of the definite entries.

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)

GER NF, GBR NF; IDOC

Article No.–Article Name

401.7

Explanation for Proposed Change

New/recently introduced rule that has proven to be problematic in its implementation

Event	Min. qual. requirements	Athlete age	Horse age	Prize-Money	Double bridle/ snaffle	Tests to be ridden	Qualification within show
CDI4*/ CDIO4*	Athlete/Horse combination must qualify at a CDI3* (63 % in one GP or GPS)	Min 16yo	Min 8yo	CDI4*: min. 24'000 CHF and max. 89'999 CHF CDIO4*: min 50'000 CHF and max 99'999 CHF	Double Bridle	GP GPS GP FS	min 65 % in the qualifying test to qualify for the final test
CDI-W WEL	Athlete/Horse combination must qualify at a CDI3*, CDI4* or CDI5* (65 % in one GP or GPS)	Min 16yo	Min 8yo	SGP / GP: 15'000 EUR GP FS: 50'000 EUR	Double Bridle	GP or SGP GP FS	min 65 % in the first test to qualify for the 2 nd test

We support the proposal of the EEF Dressage Working Group to renounce of the min. qual. requirements of an Athlete/Horse combination for CDI4*/CDIO4* and for CDI-W WEL. It should be the same as for the other event categories. It has turned out to be problematic, especially if a rider gets a new horse.

The 60% rule should apply to move forward to a GPS or GPFS instead of 65 %.

IDOC:

Qualification: it is too difficult to qualify and one can easily lose a team in a CDIO competition, if only three (3) riders compose the team, especially outside Western Europe.

Proposed Wording on 28 June 2023

No change regarding qualifying at CDI3* to be entered at CDI4*.

Change qualifying percentage within the show for final test to 60% for CDI4*/CDIO4*, CDI5*/CDIO5* and CDI-W WEL.

Qualifying within the show (CDI4*/CDIO4*, CDI5*/CDIO5* and CDI-W WEL.): min 60% in the qualifying test to qualify for the final test.

Comments Received by 16 August 2023

EEF: We don't agree with the part of keeping 63% as entry requirement for a CDI4*/CDIO4*. We recommend no entry requirement for 4*, it prevents new and potential top combination to compete immediately on higher level. It must be completely up the NF to send a horse/rider combination.

GER NF: We still think that it would be better to waive the required qualification for the Athlete/Horse combination for participation in a CDI4*. Apart from the rationale already expressed, a main factor is that organisers of CDI4* have difficulties to get enough starters.

GER NF proposed wording: As we had previously proposed: **For CDI4*/CDIO4* and for CDI-W WEL**, delete "Athlete/Horse combination must qualify at a CDI3* (63% in one GP or GPS) in the first column and replace by "no min. qual"

IDRC: We don't agree with the part of keeping 63% as entry requirement for a CDI4*/CDIO4*. We recommend no entry requirement for 4*, it prevents new and potential top combination to compete immediately on higher level. It must be completely up the NF to send a horse/rider combination. A main factor is that organisers of CDI4* have difficulties to get enough starters.

IDRC proposed wording: **For CDI4*/CDIO4* and for CDI-W WEL**, delete "Athlete/Horse combination must qualify at a CDI3* (63% in one GP or GPS) in the first column and replace by "no min. qual"

IDTC: The IDTC agrees that there should be a clear distinction between 3* and 4* competitions which the entry requirement would achieve. Therefore, we support the current rule.

SUI NF: Qualification: it is too difficult to qualify and one can easily lose a team in a CDIO competition, if only 3 riders compose the team, when the min. requirement is 65%.

SUI NF proposed wording: Minimum Qualification requirements within the show: CDI/CDIO 60%

USA NF: We support the proposed change to the qualifying percentage within the show for the final test to 60% for CDI4*/CDIO4*, CDI5*/CDIO5* and CDI-W WEL.

FEI Feedback

No change to proposal of 28 June 2023.

Maintain qualification percentage of 63% once in a CDI3* to qualify for a CDI4* (65% for qualification for a CDI5*). This promotes participation in CDI3* events, and is a straightforward way of qualification.

Min. 60% is required in the qualifying test to qualify within the show for the final competition.

Proposed Final Wording to be Voted at the FEI General Assembly 2023

CDI4*/¶ CDIO4*¶ °x	Athlete/Horse combination must qualify at a CDI3* (63% in one GP or GPS)x	Min 16yo x	Min 8yo x	CDI4*: min 24'000 CHF and max 89'999 CHF¶ CDIO4*: min 50'000 CHF and max 99'999 CHFx	Double Bridle x	GP¶ GPS¶ GP-FSx	min 6560 % in the qualifying test to qualify for the final testx
CDI5*/¶ CDIO5*¶ °x	Athlete/Horse combination must qualify at a CDI3* or CDI4* (65% in one GP or GPS)¶ x	Min 16yo x	Min 8yo x	CDI5*: min 90'000 CHF¶ CDIO5*: min 100'000 CHFx	Double Bridle x	GP¶ GPS¶ GP-FSx	min 65-60 % in the qualifying test to qualify for the final testx
CDI-W-WEL¶ x	Athlete/Horse combination must qualify at a CDI3*, CDI4* or CDI5* (65% in one GP or GPS)x	Min 16yo x	Min 8yo x	SGP/-GP: 15'000 EUR¶ GP-FS: 50'000 EURx	Double Bridle x	GP or SGP¶ GP-FSx	min 6560 % in the first test to qualify for the 2 nd testx

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)
FEI
Article No.–Article Name
403.1.6 Entry fee
Explanation for Proposed Change
<p>Correction of inconsistencies, manifest errors, contradictions, etc.</p> <p>Current: No entry fee nor starting fee may be charged unless cash prizes are awarded. The FEI may stipulate a maximum global entry fee annually for these FEI Championships.</p>
Proposed Wording on 28 June 2023
<p>1.6 No entry fee nor starting fee may be charged unless cash prizes are awarded. The FEI may stipulate a maximum global entry fee annually for these FEI Championships.</p>
Comments Received by 16 August 2023
None
FEI Feedback
As per proposal 28 June 2023.
Proposed Final Wording to be Voted at the FEI General Assembly 2023
As per wording proposed on 28 June 2023.

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)
FEI
Article No.–Article Name
404.3.1 Degree of Difficulty
Explanation for Proposed Change
<p>Correction of inconsistencies, manifest errors, contradictions, etc.</p> <p>Current:</p> <p>Degree of Difficulty: The FEI Freestyle Degree of Difficulty (DOD) must be used at Championships, Games, Finals, CDI5* and CDI-W WEL in Senior Grand Prix Level. The system may be used at CDIs/CDIOs, at Grand Prix level Competitions at the discretion of the OC. Whenever used, it must be announced in the FEI approved Schedule. Refer to FEI Freestyle System appliance guidelines published on the FEI Website.</p> <p>Clarification:</p> <p>DoD to be added at CDIO5* as linked to CDI5* where it is already compulsory.</p>
Proposed Wording on 28 June 2023
<p>Degree of Difficulty: The FEI Freestyle Degree of Difficulty (DOD) must be used at Championships, Games, Finals, CDI5*, CDIO5* and CDI-W WEL in Senior Grand Prix Level. The system may be used at CDIs/CDIOs, at Grand Prix level Competitions at the discretion of the OC. Whenever used, it must be announced in the FEI approved Schedule. Refer to FEI Freestyle System appliance guidelines published on the FEI Website.</p>
Comments Received by 16 August 2023
None
FEI Feedback
As per proposal of 28 June 2023
Proposed Final Wording to be Voted at the FEI General Assembly 2023
As per wording proposed on 28 June 2023.

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)
FEI
Article No.–Article Name
407.2.6 Scheduling possibilities with Grand Prix:
Explanation for Proposed Change
<p>Correction of inconsistencies, manifest errors, contradictions, etc.</p> <p>Remove Int II/GP from CDI2* - Also remove from 401.7 table (foot note as well)</p> <p>The introduction of the Intermediate II and Grand Prix tests at CDI2* events was agreed at the last FEI GA as compromise to be in line with the PAEC rules for qualifications purposes for the CAC Games and Pan Am Games and help concerned NFs.</p> <p>This scheduling possibility was not much used and for all other NFs, it creates more confusion than improvements and also this was not the intention when the full rules revision was made with regards the scheduling possibilities. The aim was to have a clear progression throughout the CDI star levels, with CDI2* representing the Medium tour level, and Grand Prix tests being used only from CDI3* level and up.</p>
Proposed Wording on 28 June 2023
<p>2.6. Scheduling possibilities with Grand Prix: Intermediate II, Grand Prix.</p> <p>2.6.1. A minimum of one (1) and a maximum of two (2) tests may be organised. If one (1) test is scheduled, it must be Grand Prix. If two (2) tests are scheduled, the combination of tests must be Intermediate II and Grand Prix as second and final test.</p> <p>2.6.2. The first Competition must be open to all Horses.</p> <p>2.6.3. The second Competition is either open to all Horses or, if scheduled as second Competition, it must be open to minimum the six (6) to eighteen (18) (maximum and including ties for the 18th place) best Athlete/horse combinations who qualified in the first Competition. It is at the discretion of the OC to make the second Competition mandatory or not. This must be stated in the Schedule.</p>
Comments Received by 16 August 2023
<p>EEF: This change will be not supported after the compromise which was found in Cape town last year. Keep the GP in the CDI2*!</p> <p>GER NF: We support the rationale expressed by the FEI that CDI2* Events shall represent the Medium Tour Level while Grand Prix tests shall be part of the next level, i. e. CDI3*.</p> <p>IDOC: IDOC believes that the Int II/GP should not be removed from CDI2* (or at least remain as an option). Maybe in Western Europe there are enough entries to fill a CDI2*, but this not so in other parts of the world. In non WEL European countries many riders like that, so some OCs make the schedule with that option, making the sport more achievable for all riders. Especially for first-time CDIs, starting with a 2* before maybe going to 3*, this is crucial.</p> <p><u>IDOC proposed wording:</u> Keep as it is (not removing Int II/GP from CDI2*).</p> <p>IDTC: The IDTC opposes this proposal. The option of a 2* Grand Prix could be of value in developing countries and amateur competitions. It also provides a training opportunity for those who desire to compete in Grand Prix in a snaffle bridle.</p>

USA NF: This appears to remove the use of the Grand Prix and Intermediate II test within the CDI2*, which we object to, and we request further clarification. The option to include Grand Prix within a CDI2* allows for the development of sport within non-EU countries with smaller CDIs.

FEI Feedback

Further to the feedback received from the NFs/Stakeholder the DTC has agreed to remove this proposal. Therefore, no change is proposed to Article 407.2.6 for the 2024 rules. The use of this scheduling practice will be monitored

Proposed Final Wording to be Voted at the FEI General Assembly 2023

None

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)
FEI
Article No.–Article Name
407.3.3 and 3.4 GPS and GPFS
Explanation for Proposed Change
Correction of inconsistencies, manifest errors, contradictions, etc.
3.3. “who declared and qualified”, 3.4 to be adapted to say the same
Proposed Wording on 28 June 2023
3.4. Grand Prix Freestyle. A Grand Prix Freestyle Test can only be scheduled after a Grand Prix Competition. The Grand Prix Freestyle shall must be open to the six (6) (minimum) to eighteen (18) (maximum including ties for 18th place) best Athlete/Horse combinations who declared and qualified in the Grand Prix Competition. If fewer than six (6) combinations are qualified they may all start. If there are thirty (30) or more combinations in the qualifying Grand Prix, the OC may not have less than fifteen (15) starters in the Grand Prix Freestyle. Athletes who declare their intention to qualify for the Grand Prix Freestyle are obliged to compete if qualified. Athletes may start one (1) Horse only.
Comments Received by 16 August 2023
BEL NF: 407.3.6 Scheduling possibilities – Senior events / CDI3* - CDI4* and CDI5: However, very often, many competitors didn’t select the option they wish (or selected both of them) while they already arrived to the venue. Of course, it’s not fair. BEL NF proposed wording: Entries for CDI events should always be made in accordance with this here above-mentioned article. The FEI Entry System should not be able to accept any entry without choice of GPS or GP FST (as 2nd competition). This choice could be modified until the date of definitive entries.
FEI Feedback
No change to the proposal of 28 June 2023. The FEI Entry system does not provide for what is mentioned by the BEL NF. Each NF is responsible for ensuring that all competitors are informed and that they select the correct options for the competitions they will participate in
Proposed Final Wording to be Voted at the FEI General Assembly 2023
As per wording proposed on 28 June 2023

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)
AUS NF, NZL NF
Article No.–Article Name
407 SCHEDULING POSSIBILITIES – SENIOR EVENTS # 3.5
Explanation for Proposed Change
<p>Correction of inconsistencies, manifest errors, contradictions, etc.</p> <p>Australia already notes the trend of decreasing numbers of athletes in the Oceania region who wish to compete in Grand Prix FEI competitions where CDN is also offered. As an example, at Bawley Pt in February the relative numbers are 11 combinations across the WCLF and CDI 3* (4/7) and 29 the CDN Grand Prix.</p> <p>Unfortunately, this new rule may exacerbate that trend in our region both from an OC and athlete perspective. The outcome of the rule is that unless an OC are prepared to offer more classes with fewer riders, athletes are forced to participate in the Special to qualify for the Freestyle which seems contradictory to horse welfare and general development of FEI participation in our regions.</p> <p>OC costs to host FEI competitions in our region are increasing considerably - notably since Covid with air fares for foreign judges more than double and hence fewer FEI competitions are on the calendar for 2023.</p> <p>Criteria of the Period Rules Revision Policy for seeking the proposed change:</p> <p>3. New/recently introduced rule(s) that has(ve) proven to be problematic in its implementation.</p>
Proposed Wording on 28 June 2023
For CDI3* and above outside Europe and North America, an Athlete may ride in three Grand Prix classes (Grand Prix, Grand Prix Special and Grand Prix Freestyle). The Grand Prix and Grand Prix Special are open to all. The Grand Prix Freestyle is only open to the six (6) (minimum) to eighteen (18) (maximum including ties for 18th place) best Athlete/Horse combinations who qualified in the Grand Prix Special .
Comments Received by 16 August 2023
None
FEI Feedback
N/A, as per proposal 28 June 2023
Proposed Final Wording to be Voted at the FEI General Assembly 2023
As per wording proposed on 28 June 2023

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)		
FEI		
Article No.–Article Name		
407 and 408: Scheduling possibilities.		
Explanation for Proposed Change		
<p>Correction of inconsistencies, manifest errors, contradictions, etc.</p> <p>Add above each table “only one (1) scheduling possibility of the below allowed” for all levels.</p> <p>For Senior GP level (Art 407.3.1): “only one (1) scheduling possibility of the below allowed” for all levels., except when two (2) tours are scheduled, one (1) for GPS and one (1) for GPFS”, so max. 2 GPs</p>		
Proposed Wording on 28 June 2023		
407		
1.1. Scheduling possibilities (only one (1) scheduling possibility of the below allowed):		
Competition 1	Competition 2	Competition 3
Prix St. Georges	Intermediate I (Final)	--
Prix St. Georges	Intermediate I Freestyle (Final)	--
Prix St. Georges	Intermediate I	Intermediate I Freestyle (Final)
Prix St. Georges	Option of Intermediate I or Intermediate I Freestyle (Finals)	--
3.1. Scheduling possibilities (only one (1) scheduling possibility of the below allowed, except when two (2) tours are scheduled, one (1) for GPS and one (1) for GPFS, so max. 2 GPs):		
Competition 1	Competition 2 (Final)	
Grand Prix	--	
Grand Prix	Opting for Grand Prix Special or Grand Prix Freestyle	
Grand Prix	Grand Prix Special	
Grand Prix	Grand Prix Freestyle	
408		
1.1. Scheduling possibilities (only one (1) scheduling possibility of the below allowed):		
Competition 1	Competition 2	Competition 3
Preliminary Competition	Team Competition (Final)	--
Preliminary Competition	Team Competition	Individual Competition (Final)
Team Competition	Individual Competition (Final)	--
Team Competition	Freestyle (Final)	--
Team Competition	Individual Competition	Freestyle (Final)

2.1. Scheduling possibilities (only one (1) scheduling possibility of the below allowed):

Competition 1	Competition 2	Competition 3
Preliminary Competition A	Preliminary Competition B (Final)	--
Preliminary Competition B	Team Competition (Final)	--
Preliminary Competition B	Team Competition	Individual Competition (Final)
Team Competition	Individual Competition (Final)	--

3.1. Scheduling possibilities (only one (1) scheduling possibility of the below allowed):

Competition 1	Competition 2	Competition 3
Intermediate II	Grand Prix 16-25	--
Intermediate II	Grand Prix 16-25	Grand Prix Freestyle
Grand Prix 16-25	Grand Prix Freestyle	--

Comments Received by 16 August 2023

GBR NF: We agree with the proposed wording.

FEI Feedback

As per wording proposed on 28 June 2023

Proposed Final Wording to be Voted at the FEI General Assembly 2023

As per wording proposed on 28 June 2023

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)
FEI
Article No.–Article Name
408.1.4, 2.3 and 3.3 CDI Young Riders, Juniors and Pony Riders.
Explanation for Proposed Change
Correction of inconsistencies, manifest errors, contradictions, etc.
“completed” instead of “started in”
Proposed Wording on 28 June 2023
1.4. The Individual Competition is open to all Athletes who started in completed the Team Competition.
Comments Received by 16 August 2023
<p>IDOC: If applied, this rule would be not for good in places at least outside Western Europe. It could undermine qualifying attempts for regional championships, like NAYC. IDOC agrees it could be applied for Western Europe. However, it must be kept “started in” for the rest of the world.</p> <p><u>IDOC proposed wording:</u></p> <p>1.4. In Western Europe countries, the Individual Competition is open to all Athletes who completed the Team Competition. Outside Western Europe, the Individual Competition is open to all Athletes who started in the Team Competition.</p> <p>USA NF: We do not approve of this change. Language should remain as “athletes who started in the Team Competition.” It would hurt non-EU countries with smaller CDIs. It is possible that an athlete/horse(pony) combination could start a test and not complete it for reasons other than soundness/blood.</p>
FEI Feedback
No change to the proposal of 28 June 2023. “Completed” means that they completed the test and registered a score.
Proposed Final Wording to be Voted at the FEI General Assembly 2023
As per wording proposed on 28 June 2023

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)	
FEI	
Article No.–Article Name	
408.2.4 Children Individual and 408.3.4 GP FS U25	
Explanation for Proposed Change	
<p>Correction of inconsistencies, manifest errors, contradictions, etc.</p> <p>Add: All Combinations must have achieved a minimum of 60% in the qualification Competition.</p>	
Proposed Wording on 28 June 2023	
2.4.	The Individual Competition Test. This Competition is limited to the six (6) to eighteen (18) best Athlete/Horse combinations who qualified in the Team Competition test including ties for the 18 th place. All Combinations must have achieved a minimum of 60% in the qualification Competition. Athletes may start one (1) Horse.
3.4.	Grand Prix Freestyle Test. This Competition is limited to the six (6) (minimum) to eighteen (18) (maximum including ties for 18 th place) best Athlete/Horse combinations who qualified in the Grand Prix 16-25 Competition. All Combinations must have achieved a minimum of 60% in the qualification Competition. Athletes may start one (1) Horse.
Comments Received by 16 August 2023	
None	
FEI Feedback	
Change as per the proposal of 28 June 2023	
Proposed Final Wording to be Voted at the FEI General Assembly 2023	
As per wording proposed on 28 June 2023	

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)		
FEI		
Article No.–Article Name		
408.3.1 CDIU25 Scheduling possibilities:		
Explanation for Proposed Change		
<p>Correction of inconsistencies, manifest errors, contradictions, etc.</p> <p>Add "(final)" to all scheduling possibilities in the tables to align with other categories</p>		
Proposed Wording on 28 June 2023		
3.1. Scheduling possibilities:		
Competition 1	Competition 2	Competition 3
Intermediate II	Grand Prix 16-25 (final)	--
Intermediate II	Grand Prix 16-25	Grand Prix Freestyle (final)
Grand Prix 16-25	Grand Prix Freestyle (final)	--
Comments Received by 16 August 2023		
None		
FEI Feedback		
Change as per the proposal of 28 June 2023		
Proposed Final Wording to be Voted at the FEI General Assembly 2023		
As per wording proposed on 28 June 2023		

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)
IDOC
Article No.–Article Name
Art 408.3.4 SCHEDULING POSSIBILITIES – YOUTH EVENTS/CDIU25
Explanation for Proposed Change
<p>Correction of inconsistencies, manifest errors, contradictions, etc.</p> <p>It is not mentioned in the description of the U25 Freestyle the important fact that all Combinations must have achieved a minimum of 60% in the qualification Competition.</p>
Proposed Wording on 28 June 2023
<p>3.4. Grand Prix Freestyle Test. This Competition is limited to the six (6) (minimum) to eighteen (18) (Maximum including ties for 18th place) best Athlete/Horse combinations who qualified in the Grand Prix 16-25 Competition. Athletes may start one (1) Horse. <u>Combination must have achieved a minimum of 60% in the qualification Competition.</u></p>
Comments Received by 16 August 2023
None
FEI Feedback
Change as per the proposal of 28 June 2023
Proposed Final Wording to be Voted at the FEI General Assembly 2023
As per wording proposed on 28 June 2023

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)	
FEI	
Article No.–Article Name	
417.4 CDIO, FEI Championships and Regional Games:	
Explanation for Proposed Change	
<p>Correction of inconsistencies, manifest errors, contradictions, etc.</p> <p>The entire section must be clarified in order to include all levels of competitions in regards to each level of CDIO, Championships and Games</p>	
Proposed Wording on 28 June 2023	
4.	<p>CDIO, FEI Championships, and Continental and Regional Games.</p> <p>The draw for the order of starting in team Competitions including both team and individual Athletes will be conducted in the following manner:</p> <p>4.1. The Chef d’Equipe of each team will determine the starting order of team members within their team. The Chef d’Equipe must deliver to the Event Director, at the latest two (2) hours before the draw of the Competition, a sealed envelope containing the order of go of the Athletes within their team.</p> <p>4.1.1. For teams of three (3) Athletes only, the first starting position shall remain vacant.</p> <p>4.1.2. For Championships on Grand Prix level and Games on Grand Prix level, the starting order of the teams will be drawn in groups of five, based on the average of the points of the participating team athletes on the FEI <u>Dressage Individual</u> World Ranking list <u>for Athletes</u>.</p> <p>4.2. The names of the individual Athletes are placed in a receptacle (A). Numbers equivalent to all starters are placed in a second receptacle (B).</p> <p>An individual Athlete’s name is drawn from receptacle A and a starting place for that individual is drawn from receptacle B. A second individual’s name is drawn from receptacle A and a starting place for that individual and so on for all individuals.</p> <p>When the Competition is held over two (2) days the individual starters shall be drawn in the reverse order of the FEI World <u>Dressage World</u> Ranking list <u>for Athletes</u> and in two (2) groups the highest placed Athletes drawn on the second day. When the Competition is held in one (1) day the starting field will be divided in two (2) groups and the highest placed Athletes on the FEI Dressage W <u>World R</u>anking list <u>for Athletes</u>, will be drawn last.</p> <p>4.3. Numbers equivalent to the starting number of teams are placed in a receptacle (C) and placed in another are the names of nationalities of competing teams (D). Then a draw is made for the name of a team, which will be followed by a draw for a number, giving a team its starting order. This continues until the order of the last team is drawn. When the Competition is</p>

held over two (2) days, all teams must have two (2) Athletes on the second day.

4.4. The starting list is made out with the individual Athletes placed in the positions they have drawn. The team Athletes are then inserted in sequence in the remaining places.

4.5. The draw for the individual Competitions ~~at CDI Os and FEI Championships~~ shall be conducted in the following manner:

~~Individual Competition~~Grand Prix Special: In reverse order of the individual ranking result from the ~~Team competition~~Grand Prix, in groups of five (5).

~~Grand Prix~~ Freestyle Competition: In reverse order of the individual ~~from~~ result from ~~Grand Prix Special~~the Individual competition, in groups of five (5).

Comments Received by 16 August 2023

GBR NF: 4.1.2. – We would like to request further clarity around the timeframes for the FEI Dressage Individual World Ranking Lists for Athletes: e.g., “in effect on the date of definite entries”.

In addition, we would question the inconsistency between this and the FEI regulations for the Olympic Games, where the starting order in the Grand Prix is defined by the World Ranking List for Horses.

Using the World Ranking List for Athletes for the draw in FEI Championships, CDIO and Regional Games potentially disadvantages those who are competing with only one horse. Wording for defined timeframe to be clarified as requested above.

FEI Feedback

Change as per the proposed wording of 28 June 2023.

Regarding the GBR NF comments, the DTC noted that the WRL in force at the date of the show is used for the draw. Invitations are based on WR at the time of the definite entries. Olympic Games have specific rules and are not covered in this article.

Proposed Final Wording to be Voted at the FEI General Assembly 2023

As per wording proposed on 28 June 2023

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)
FEI
Article No.–Article Name
Former Art 418.3 and 4, moved to guidelines 1.1.2023
Explanation for Proposed Change
<p>Correction of inconsistencies, manifest errors, contradictions, etc.</p> <p>ARTICLE 418 THE POSITION AND AIDS OF THE ATHLETE</p> <p>3. Riding with both hands is obligatory at FEI Dressage Events. When leaving the arena at a walk on long rein, after having finished the test the Athlete may, at their own discretion, ride with only one (1) hand. For Freestyle tests, see also Directives for Judges – Freestyle tests and Directives for assessing the degree of difficulty in a Freestyle test available at www.fei.org.</p> <p>3.1 Apart from the halt and salute, where the athlete must take the reins in one hand, riding with the reins in both hands is obligatory at FEI Dressage Events, but a discreet 'pat on the neck' for a well performed exercise, or for reassurance, is perfectly acceptable (as is the situation of an athlete needing to wipe a fly from their eye, or other situations such as adjusting clothing, saddle pads etc).</p> <p>However, if the rider intentionally takes the reins into one hand in order to use either the reins or the other hand to produce more impulsion from the horse, or to promote applause from the spectators during the test, it will be considered a fault and will be reflected in the mark for both the movement and the collective mark.</p> <p>The use of the voice or clicking the tongue repeatedly is a fault. See article 430.6.2.</p>
Proposed Wording on 28 June 2023
<p>Art 418.6.</p> <p>Riding with both hands is obligatory at FEI Dressage Events. When leaving the arena at a walk on long rein, after having finished the test, the Athlete may, at their own discretion, ride with only one (1) hand. For Freestyle tests, see also Directives for Judges – Freestyle tests and Directives for assessing the degree of difficulty in a Freestyle test available at www.fei.org.</p> <p>Apart from the halt and salute, where the athlete must take the reins in one hand, riding with the reins in both hands is obligatory at FEI Dressage Events, but a discreet 'pat on the neck' for a well performed exercise, or for reassurance, is perfectly acceptable (as is the situation of an athlete needing to wipe a fly from their eye, or other situations such as adjusting clothing, saddle pads etc).</p> <p>However, if the rider intentionally takes the reins into one hand in order to use either the reins or the other hand to produce more impulsion from the horse, or to promote applause from the spectators during the test, it will be considered a fault and will be reflected in the mark for both the movement and the collective mark.</p>

The use of the voice or clicking the tongue repeatedly is a fault. See article 424.4.2.2

Also, addition of the following sentence:

Art 418.7

Execution of all tests with regards to judging matters are to be read in conjunction with the "Dressage Judging Manual", available on the FEI Website.

Comments Received by 16 August 2023

GBR NF: Additional wording:

Art 418.7

"Execution of all tests with regards to judging matters are to be read in conjunction with the "Dressage Judging Manual", available on the FEI Website."

We recommend that the wording reflects the same titles used on the FEI website: i.e., FEI Dressage Handbook (which isn't available on the website, only via the order form), assuming this is the same document being referred to?

FEI Feedback

Modification as per the proposal of 28 June 2023.

"Dressage Judging Manual" is a term used to define a new document compiling all already available Judging Guidelines (previously published under Useful Documents). There are no new additions, only updates where needed to the previously published material, and the various documents have been compiled into one Manual. The Dressage Judging Manual will be published together with the 2024 Dressage Rules.

Proposed Final Wording to be Voted at the FEI General Assembly 2023

As per wording proposed on 28 June 2023

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)
IDOC
Article No.–Article Name
Art 425.1 RESULTS AND CALCULATION OF SCORES
Explanation for Proposed Change
<p>Correction of inconsistencies, manifest errors, contradictions, etc.</p> <p>Even though it seems to be very logical, it is not actually mentioned anywhere in the Rules. We had some situations with national judges changed their marks after the class and said that the fact that it is not permitted is not mentioned anywhere in the Rules. And indeed, it is not mentioned, so to avoid problems in the future would be nice to add this.</p>
Proposed Wording on 28 June 2023
<p>After each performance and after each Judge has given their collective mark and signed the sheets, these pass into the hands of the scorers. The marks are multiplied by the corresponding coefficients, where applicable, and then totalled. <u>After signing and giving away the sheet, or electronically submitting the results (paperless), judges can no longer change their marks, with the exception of a situation, when a mark is missing, in which case the protocol should be given back to the judge, who will add the missing mark.</u></p>
Comments Received by 16 August 2023
<p>CAN NF: Equestrian Canada supports the submission of the IDOC and the proposed wording change. EEF: Fully Supported! GER NF: We fully support the described way to allow a Judge to add a missing mark as proposed by FEI IDTC: The IDTC fully supports</p> <p>NOR NF: FEI Proposed Wording is supported, on the premise that there is no doubt of the judging in cases of “error of course” There must be no risk of “double punishment” through both a lower mark for inaccurate riding and penalty for error of course (if the judge at C chooses not to ring the bell, the other judges may penalize for inaccurate riding).</p>
FEI Feedback
Change as per proposal of 28 June 2023
Proposed Final Wording to be Voted at the FEI General Assembly 2023
As per wording proposed on 28 June 2023

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)
FEI
Article No.–Article Name
425.3/4 Ties in CDI Children
Explanation for Proposed Change
Correction of inconsistencies, manifest errors, contradictions, etc.
Add wording from Children guidelines
Proposed Wording on 28 June 2023
<p>Ties at CDICH:</p> <p>Ties are not broken at CDICH shows, combinations are placed equally.</p> <p>Ties at CDICh and FEI Championships. Individual Classification:</p> <p>In case of equality of percentage for the first three (3) places, the following system must be used to break the tie:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The “technical” mark will be used; the Athlete/Horse combination with the higher “technical” mark will be ranked highest. • If still tied, the highest total median score of the three (3) Technical Judges will decide the placing. Please refer to the FEI Dressage Rules. • If still tied, the combinations will be placed equally.
Comments Received by 16 August 2023
<p>BEL NF: 425.2.1.2 Results and Calculation of scores / Individual Classification / Ties This is not valid for Children competitions. BEL NF proposed wording: “Except for Children competitions, in case of equality of percentage</p> <p>At CDICH shows, ties are not broken, combinations are placed equally. At CDICh and FEI Championships for Children: see FEI Directives for competitions for Children <i>Note: [see also proposal 425.5.10]</i></p>
FEI Feedback
No change to proposal of 28 June 2023.
Proposed Final Wording to be Voted at the FEI General Assembly 2023
As per wording proposed on 28 June 2023

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)
NOR NF
Article No.–Article Name
Dressage Article 429 Ages
Explanation for Proposed Change
<p>Correction of inconsistencies, manifest errors, contradictions, etc.</p> <p>Regulations valid across disciplines should be given only once to avoid inconsistencies and contradictions.</p> <p>In the Dressage Rules, the definitions of Athletes’ Ages are inaccurate.</p> <p>For rider’s age (pony, junior, Young rider, U25, children) the definition is given in the General Regulations Appendix A - Definitions. Reference should rather be given to these definitions in each rule book and with the same wording, instead of the variation in the current texts.</p>
Proposed Wording on 28 June 2023
<p>Dressage:</p> <p>429.3 Young Riders: “For Young Rider’s age, please refer to the FEI General Regulations Appendix A – Definitions.”</p> <p>429.4. Juniors: “For Junior Rider’s age, please refer to the FEI General Regulations Appendix A – Definitions.”</p> <p>429.5 Pony Riders “For Pony Rider’s age, please refer to the FEI General Regulations Appendix A – Definitions”.</p> <p>429.6 Children « For Children Riders’ age, please refer to the FEI General Regulations Appendix A – Definitions. »</p> <p>429.7 U25 « For U25 Rider’s age, please refer to the FEI General Regulations Appendix A – Definitions. »</p>
Comments Received by 16 August 2023
NOR NF: We strongly support this change and propose the same change for all disciplines.
FEI Feedback
Use the wording above proposed on the 28 June 2023 in the Dressage Rules instead of mentioning the actual ages.

Proposed Final Wording to be Voted at the FEI General Assembly 2023

As per wording proposed on 28 June 2023

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)

FEI

Article No.–Article Name

430 Foreign Athlete

Explanation for Proposed Change

Correction of inconsistencies, manifest errors, contradictions, etc.

Add "In the event of no foreign Athlete is participating, the OC must appoint a home Athlete instead."

Proposed Wording on 28 June 2023

ARTICLE 430 FOREIGN ATHLETE

1. The Foreign Athlete is defined as the OC designated Athlete at International Events.
2. A Foreign Athlete must be appointed in all International Events for Seniors and U25. **In the event of no foreign Athlete is participating, the OC must appoint a home Athlete instead.**
3. The Foreign Athlete is required to complete the Foreign Athlete report at the end of the Event and send it to the FEI.

Comments Received by 16 August 2023

None

FEI Feedback

Change as per the above proposed wording.

Proposed Final Wording to be Voted at the FEI General Assembly 2023

As per wording proposed on 28 June 2023

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)
IDOC, FEI
Article No.–Article Name
431.4 - spurs
Explanation for Proposed Change
<p>Correction of inconsistencies, manifest errors, contradictions, etc.”</p> <p>Since “dummy spurs” are allowed, it seems archaic that a rider would have to purchase these spurs when they could just as easily be allowed to go spur-less.</p>
Proposed Wording on 28 June 2023
<p>Spurs are compulsory compulsory optional except for CDIP and CDICH Events and must be made of metal. The shank must be either curved or straight pointing directly back from the centre of the spur when on the Athlete’s boot. The arms of the spur must be smooth and blunt. If rowels are used, they must be blunt/smooth (no sharp edges) and free to rotate. Metal spurs with round hard plastic knobs are allowed (“Impuls” spur) and may rotate. “Dummy” spurs with no shank are also allowed.</p> <p>4.1. In Children and Pony Competitions, spurs are optional but if used, can only be blunt metal spurs no longer than three point five centimetres (3.5 cm) measured from the boot to the tip are allowed. Spurs with rowels are not allowed.</p>
Comments Received by 16 August 2023
<p>BEL NF: 431.4.1: Agree that spurs who measure 3,5 cm are 3,5 cm!!! But NOT if measured from the boot to the tip. Tack shops sell spurs always !!! measured on the SHANK (not measured from the boot), so there is a discrepancy in spurs on the market and our rule book. Solution; see proposed wording. <u>BEL NF proposed wording:</u> In Children and Pony Competitions, spurs are optional but if used, only blunt metal spurs are allowed. The shank may not be longer than 3,5 cm. no longer than three point five centimetres (3.5 cm) measured from the boot to the tip are allowed. Spurs with rowels are not allowed.</p> <p>EEF: That rule change will be definitely not supported in any way. The existing rule is sufficient!</p> <p>GBR NF: We fully support the proposal to make spurs optional, not just allowing dummy spurs as an alternative. We agree that this will be an improvement, both in terms of equine welfare and public perception of the sport. We agree with revised FEI wording.</p> <p>IDRC: That rule change will be definitely not supported in any way. The existing rule is sufficient!</p> <p>IDTC: The IDTC strongly opposes any change to the current rule. The rule as currently written provides sufficient flexibility so that there is no chance of a welfare risk (e.g. dummy spurs, choice of material etc.) Spurs are part of the 'dressage livery' the same as</p>

requirements regarding gloves, type of coat, stock/tie etc. Any change to the livery would be a sport decision and has no standing as an 'urgent repair connected to welfare'

NOR NF: We support this change, but propose a slightly different wording (grammar issue).

NOR NF proposed wording: Spurs are ~~compulsory~~ **optional** ~~except for CDIP and CDICH Events~~ and must be made of metal. The shank must be either curved or straight pointing directly back from the centre of the spur when on the Athlete's boot. The arms of the spur must be smooth and blunt. If rowels are used, they must be blunt/smooth (no sharp edges) and free to rotate. Metal spurs with round hard knobs are allowed ("Impuls" spur). **The knobs may rotate.** "Dummy" spurs with no shank are also allowed.

4.1. In Children and Pony Competitions, spurs, ~~are optional but~~ if used, **can only be** blunt metal spurs no longer than three point five centimetres (3.5 cm) measured from the boot to the tip ~~are allowed~~. Spurs with rowels are not allowed.

SWE NF: The SWE NF supports the proposal made by the IDOC and the proposed wording made by the FEI.

USA NF: We believe this rule revision could be perceived as being a significant change and we would request that this idea is discussed further during the next Dressage Rule major revision.

FEI Feedback

The DTC can agree with the proposed wording as spurs are in reality already optional with dummy spurs, having no spur action, being allowed.

As regard 4.1. Children and Ponies, it is important to specify the measurement points for the 3.5cms as per the BEL NF comments, and the text has been modified accordingly.

Proposed Final Wording to be Voted at the FEI General Assembly 2023

Spurs are ~~compulsory~~ **optional** ~~except for CDIP and CDICH Events~~ and must be made of metal. The shank must be either curved or straight pointing directly back from the centre of the spur when on the Athlete's boot. The arms of the spur must be smooth and blunt. If rowels are used, they must be blunt/smooth (no sharp edges) and free to rotate. Metal spurs with round hard ~~plastic~~ knobs are allowed ("Impuls" spur) **and the knobs may rotate.** "Dummy" spurs with no shank are also allowed.

4.1. In Children and Pony Competitions, spurs are optional, but if used, only blunt metal spurs ~~can only be~~ blunt metal spurs no longer than three point five centimetres (3.5 cm) measured from the boot to the tip are allowed. **The shank may not be longer than 3,5 cm.** Spurs with rowels are not allowed.

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)
NOR NF
Article No.–Article Name
Dressage Article 433 Horse/pony ages point 3.2 pony height
Explanation for Proposed Change
<p>Correction of inconsistencies, manifest errors, contradictions, etc.</p> <p>Regulations valid across disciplines should be given only once to avoid inconsistencies and contradictions. For pony height and measuring, the full text is given in the Veterinary Regulations</p> <p>The reference should be given with the same wording – ref FEI Driving rules Chapter VI Article 930.1 as an example.</p>
Proposed Wording on 28 June 2023
For maximum height and measuring, please refer to the FEI Veterinary Regulations CHAPTER IX - PONY MEASURING.
Comments Received by 16 August 2023
NOR NF: We strongly support this change.
FEI Feedback
Wording of Art 433.3.2 to be modified in accordance with the wording proposed on 28 June 2023.
Proposed Final Wording to be Voted at the FEI General Assembly 2023
As per wording proposed on 28 June 2023

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)	
FEI	
Article No.–Article Name	
434 Saddlery - Equipment	
Explanation for Proposed Change	
<p>Correction of inconsistencies, manifest errors, contradictions, etc.</p> <p>1. Implementation of new technology development(s) relevant to the specific set of Rules.</p> <p>With the new Tack app, the EEG proposes to remove the Equipment guidelines (once the app is up and running properly). In the Dressage rules, the following phrase is to be removed: "Please also refer to FEI Dressage and Para Dressage Guidelines for Use of Tack, Equipment and Dress for latest clarifications, published on the FEI website." Instead insert a reference to the FEI Tack App.</p>	
Proposed Wording on 28 June 2023	
ARTICLE 434	SADDLERY - EQUIPMENT
<p>Please also refer to FEI Dressage and Para Dressage Guidelines for Use of Tack, Equipment and Dress for latest clarifications, published on the FEI website.</p> <p>Please also refer to the FEI Tack, Equipment and Dress Database or the FEI TackApp.</p>	
Comments Received by 16 August 2023	
<p>IDOC: There must be established times when rule changes for tack/equipment can be published. The "date of publishing" the new legal/illegal tack and equipment and the "date when they come into force" should have time difference (e.g.: 1 month). Adding that if a month ends during the dates of a running show the old regulation is the valid one.</p> <p><u>IDOC proposed wording:</u></p> <p>Please also refer to the FEI Tack, Equipment and Dress Database or the FEI TackApp. Attention must be given to the "date when they come into force" (at least a month after the date of publishing). If a month ends during the dates of a running show the old regulation is the valid one.</p> <p>USA NF: When referencing the FEI Tack, Equipment and Dressage Database or the FEI Tack App, we suggest a schedule for updates, with a posted effective date of the changes made that reasonable allows time for compliance.</p>	
FEI Feedback	
<p>The Tack app will be updated on the first Monday of the month. If a month ends during the dates of running a show, then the previous months regulations will apply to that particular show.</p> <p>The DTC also takes on board the IDOC comment.</p>	

Proposed Final Wording to be Voted at the FEI General Assembly 2023

As per wording proposed on 28 June 2023

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)
FEI
Article No.–Article Name
434.2.1.5 Noseband
Explanation for Proposed Change
Urgent repairs, i.e., changes in the Rules that cannot await because of their impact on the welfare of the Horses or the safety of the Athletes;
Proposed Wording on 28 June 2023
<p>Please refer to the memo on the Proposed Changes to the FEI General Regulations for the explanation of the proposed new rule in relation to Nosebands.</p> <p>If you have comments on the proposal in relation to nosebands, please include them as part of your NF’s feedback on the General Regulations.</p>
Comments Received by 16 August 2023
<p>EEF: We express our concern about this rule change. This is dangerous to implement and we need to know how a steward can even do that at a bit check with nervous horse. We also struggle to find any scientific evidence that this is the right tool to address this issue. Who is liable for incident that occurs from the use of that tool? Furthermore, we don’t believe that the tool is approved according to the EU Rule for ensuring that measuring instruments are accurate.</p> <p>GER NF: We have included a comment in the sheet for Rule Changes of General Regulations</p> <p>IDOC: Rider or groom should check the tightness of the noseband when a steward is present at bit check, in accordance with the procedure regarding the check of the Ear Bonnets off (Stewards no longer take them off since it was decided this was also not safe). <u>IDOC proposed wording:</u> Rider or groom should check the tightness of the noseband when a steward is present at bit check.</p> <p>IDRC: We express our concern about this rule change. This is dangerous to implement and we need to know how a steward can even do that at a bit check with nervous horse. We also struggle to find any scientific evidence that this is the right tool to address this issue. We are not aware of any scientific evidence that has been delivered in the meantime, but which must be a prerequisite for determining the size of an “FEI Objective Measuring Tool”. Who is liable for incident that occurs from the use of that tool? Furthermore, we don’t believe that the tool is approved according to the EU Rule for ensuring that measuring instruments are accurate. It needs to be verified that the tool meets all the essential requirements of EU legislation (we refer to “Directive 2014/32/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 February 2014 on the harmonisation of the laws of the Member States relating to the making available on the market of measuring instruments”). Therefore, this rule violates existing EU law.</p> <p>IDTC: The IDTC supports the principle that nosebands should not be too tight (or loose) however we find this rule to be premature as:</p>

1. The parameters for tightness have not been established
 2. Issues regarding implementation have not been sufficiently considered
 3. The precise tool to be used has not been established
 4. There could be EU implications regarding approval for the measuring device
- We recognize that the current procedure is imprecise however changing for a precise but faulty procedure is of no benefit.

FEI Feedback

Noseband tightness is discussed in the General Regulations rule change proposals in relation to all disciplines.

The DTC is of the opinion that the existing noseband checks by the stewards are effective. and that the noseband must be adjusted with sufficient laxity.

In the opinion of the DTC, more research/information is needed regarding the proposed procedure using a device prior to implementing the proposed change. The primary areas of concern are that the measuring tool is not yet finalised and therefore its usage cannot be objectively evaluated.

Proposed Final Wording to be Voted at the FEI General Assembly 2023

Please refer to the General Regulations rule change proposals.

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)
IDOC
Article No.–Article Name
Art 434.3.1. Bits
Explanation for Proposed Change
Correction of inconsistencies, manifest errors, contradictions, etc. The word combination « snaffle bits » must be highlighted in bold letters .
Proposed Wording on 28 June 2023
3.1. Snaffle Bits – snaffle bits are permitted when the use of a double bridle is not required.
Comments Received by 16 August 2023
None
FEI Feedback
Highlight the words “Snaffle Bits” as per the proposed wording on 28 June 2023.
Proposed Final Wording to be Voted at the FEI General Assembly 2023
As per wording proposed on 28 June 2023

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)
FEI
Article No.–Article Name
441.9.9 Appointment of Judges
Explanation for Proposed Change
<p>Correction of inconsistencies, manifest errors, contradictions, etc.</p> <p>CDI3*, align with the Education System regarding roles for different Levels</p>
Proposed Wording on 28 June 2023
<p>For CDI3*, the President and the other members of the Ground Jury are appointed by the OC, in agreement with the FEI, from the FEI lists of L4, L3 and L2 Judges (The President must be minimum L3). One (1) L2 Judge is mandatory to judge in at least one (1) Competition in the big tour in Western Europe and recommended outside Western Europe. However no more than two (2) L2 Judges should be appointed in a Ground Jury of five (5). Minimum one (1) L3 Judge must be appointed. At least three (3) Judges should be foreign and of different nationalities. Outside Western Europe, two (2) of the three (3) foreign Judges may be of the same nationality.</p>
Comments Received by 16 August 2023
None
FEI Feedback
Modification approved as per the wording proposed on 28 June 2023.
Proposed Final Wording to be Voted at the FEI General Assembly 2023
As per wording proposed on 28 June 2023

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)
FEI
Article No.–Article Name
Art 442 Judges Supervisory Panel (JSP)
Explanation for Proposed Change
<p>Other scenarios not foreseen by this Policy as considered and approved by the Board</p> <p>The Board agreed to make the following change to Article 442 (JSP) in order to ensure that the process for appointing members of the JSP and their status as FEI Officials is clearly set out in the rules to ensure that there is no regulatory gap at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games</p>
Proposed Wording on 28 June 2023

ARTICLE 442 JUDGES SUPERVISORY PANEL (JSP)

1. The purpose of the JSP is to ensure fair judging.
2. The FEI Board is responsible for the appointment and removal of members of the JSP further to consultation with the Dressage Committee. JSP Members shall be appointed for 4 (four) year (renewable) terms. The Board shall have the right to apply staggered Terms in cases where all JSP members are outgoing and/or re-eligible in the same year.
3. A JSP Member who is not a FEI Dressage Judge shall have the status, rights and responsibilities of an FEI Official and is accordingly bound by the relevant provision of the FEI Rules and Regulations.
4. The JSP appointed for an FEI Event should consist of three (3) members, ideally two (2) Judges and one (1) trainer/Athlete. All JSP members must be independent and experienced (Judges: L4), well respected and diplomatic, adhere to the Judges Codex, have integrity and communication skills. There can be a maximum of one (1) JSP member per NF on the same panel.
5. A Judges Supervisory Panel (JSP) is mandatory for Olympic Games, World and Continental Championships on Grand Prix level and World Cup Finals. A JSP may be present at all CDIs, CDIOs and other Championships/Games than those listed above.
 - 5.1. A JSP member must be appointed by the FEI for European Championships for Youth.
6. The JSP (when three (3) members for Seniors' CHs/Games/Finals are appointed and on site) may correct definite technical mistakes and counting errors. The JSP may not set marks outside the range of the judges' given marks. Corrections may be made both to lower and raise marks. The JSP must inform the judges immediately after the Competition which marks have been changed. A signed form with the correction will be added to the normal sheets and made available to the Athletes, and given to the Judge, whose mark has been changed.
7. If a judge's final score for a Horse/Athlete combination varies (above or below) by five (5) % or more from the average of the scores of the other Judges for the same combination, the JSP may, by unanimous decision of the three (3) members, change that particular score to be the same as the next closest score.
8. At events, ~~the JSP should have a good view of the entire arena and be provided with computer screens showing the Judges' marks instantly, as well as video of all the rides, which can be rewound and re-watched during each test. the~~ Organiser must ensure that the JSP members have:
 - A direct and clear sight of the arena;
 - Dedicated, individual screens providing a live monitoring of the Judges' scores;
 - A live video feed of all performances (which can be rewound and re-watched during each test) from a dedicated camera located according to the JSP's request.

Comments Received by 16 August 2023

EEF: This needs clarification before any decision will be made.

How are staggered terms defined?

The L4/5* judges should have also the right to propose names to the DC.

GBR NF: In 442.6 it reads that ONLY when three members of the JSP are on site may corrections to definite technical mistakes and counting errors be made. The recent episode at the FEI Junior European Championships highlights that having one member on site restricts the ability to apply the role as defined.

The same premise applies to 442.7 and therefore we would ask the FEI to re-consider either the number of JSP members present at Youth Championships or the number of judges required for Youth Championships. If the number of officials remains the same, then the JCP representative should be able to act as the ultimate decision maker, in the event of any scoring disputes, to ensure that the rules and regulations are applied consistently and fairly.

AUT NF, EEF, GER NF, IDOC: It is vitally important the members of the JSP have the necessary qualifications, knowledge, and experience to do the job effectively. We do not therefore agree that JSP members should be limited to serve one term of four years only. Two terms of four years may be more appropriate. However, we do still need to support further education and growth within this area to encourage and include other people who may meet the pre-requisite criteria.

IDRC: This needs clarification before any decision will be made. How are staggered terms defined? The L4/5* judges should have also the right to propose names to the DC

IDTC: The IDTC strongly believes the responsibility for appointment and removal of JSP members must remain with the Dressage Committee as they are the ones who are closer to the field of play and thus are best places to make informed decisions.

The equipment requirements regarding the live video feed should also state that the video must be able to be rewound and re-watched AND SHOULD PROVIDE TAGS TO FACILITATE THE REVIEW PROCESS

FEI Feedback

Modification as per the wording proposed on 28 June 2023.

The proposal for ~~new~~ JSP members will come from the DTC and the FEI Board will then review the proposals and take the formal appointment decision. This is to ensure a level of independent oversight over the selection/appointment of JSP members. Regarding the staggered terms, this is a matter to be decided by the Board. The proposal is that the principle in Article 31.4 of the FEI Statutes would apply ("The FEI Board shall have the right to apply staggered Terms in cases where all Members of a Standing Committee are outgoing and/or re-eligible in the same year. The applicable Terms will be determined by a draw overseen by the Nominations Committee Chair.") In practice, this would involve the Board deciding that a certain number of JSP members would be appointed for 3 years with the remainder being appointed for 4 years. A draw would then determine which JSP members are appointed for a 3 year term and which are appointed for a 4 year term).

According to the Resolution of the FEI Board 06 June 2023, a rule change proposal to have a full JSP panel at Youth CHs should be postponed until the full rules revision as it would increase costs for the Organisers.

Proposed Final Wording to be Voted at the FEI General Assembly 2023

ARTICLE 442 JUDGES SUPERVISORY PANEL (JSP)

1. The purpose of the JSP is to ensure fair judging.
2. The FEI Board is responsible for the appointment and removal of members of the JSP further to consultation with the Dressage Committee. JSP Members shall be appointed for 4 (four) year (renewable) terms. The Board shall have the right to apply staggered Terms in cases where all JSP members are outgoing and/or re-eligible in the same year.
3. A JSP Member who is not a FEI Dressage Judge shall have the status, rights and responsibilities of an FEI Official and is accordingly bound by the relevant provision of the FEI Rules and Regulations.
4. The JSP appointed for an FEI Event should consist of three (3) members, ideally two (2) Judges and one (1) trainer/Athlete. All JSP members must be independent and experienced (Judges: L4), well respected and diplomatic, adhere to the Judges Codex, have integrity and communication skills. There can be a maximum of one (1) JSP member per NF on the same panel.
5. A Judges Supervisory Panel (JSP) is mandatory for Olympic Games, World and Continental Championships on Grand Prix level and World Cup Finals. A JSP may be present at all CDIs, CDIOs and other Championships/Games than those listed above.
 - 5.1. A JSP member must be appointed by the FEI for European Championships for Youth.
6. The JSP (when three (3) members for Seniors' CHs/Games/Finals are appointed and on site) may correct definite technical mistakes and counting errors. The JSP may not set marks outside the range of the judges' given marks. Corrections may be made both to lower and raise marks. The JSP must inform the judges immediately after the Competition which marks have been changed. A signed form with the correction will be added to the normal sheets and made available to the Athletes, and given to the Judge, whose mark has been changed.
7. If a judge's final score for a Horse/Athlete combination varies (above or below) by five (5) % or more from the average of the scores of the other Judges for the same combination, the JSP may, by unanimous decision of the three (3) members, change that particular score to be the same as the next closest score.
8. At events, ~~the JSP should have a good view of the entire arena and be provided with computer screens showing the Judges' marks instantly, as well as video of all the rides, which can be rewound and re-watched during each test. the~~ Organiser must ensure that the JSP members have:
 - A direct and clear view of the arena;
 - Dedicated, individual screens providing a live monitoring of the Judges' scores;
 - A live video feed of all performances (tagged or segmented, which can be rewound and re-watched during each test) from a dedicated camera located according to the JSP's request.

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)	
FEI	
Article No.–Article Name	
443 Stewards	
Explanation for Proposed Change	
<p>Correction of inconsistencies, manifest errors, contradictions, etc. with the Dressage Education System.</p> <p>Current text:</p> <p>1.4. For Championships and Games, the FEI will appoint one Level 3 Foreign Chief Steward. At least two (2) minimum Level 1 Stewards must be appointed by the OC in addition.</p> <p>1.5. At CDIs and CDIOs, one Level 2 (Chief Steward) and at least one minimum Level 1 Steward must be appointed by the OC.</p> <p>1.6. At CDIO5* one Level 3 Steward (Foreign Chief Steward) and at least two (2) minimum Level 1 Stewards must be appointed by the OC.</p> <p>To be updated in accordance with the Education System</p>	
Proposed Wording on 28 June 2023	
<p>1.4. For Championships and Games, the FEI will appoint one Level 3 4 Foreign Chief Steward. At least two (2) minimum Level 1 Stewards must be appointed by the OC in addition.</p> <p>1.5. At CDIs and CDIOs, one Level 2 3 or 4 (Chief Steward) and at least one minimum Level 1 Steward must be appointed by the OC.</p> <p>1.6. At CDIO5* one Level 3 or 4 Steward (Foreign Chief Steward) and at least two (2) minimum Level 1 Stewards must be appointed by the OC.</p>	
Comments Received by 16 August 2023	
None	
FEI Feedback	
Modification as per the wording proposal of 28 June 2023.	
Proposed Final Wording to be Voted at the FEI General Assembly 2023	
As per wording proposed on 28 June 2023	

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)
FRA NF
Article No.–Article Name
Annex 3 - Amateurs
Explanation for Proposed Change
<p>New/recently introduced rule(s) that has(ve) proven to be problematic in its implementation.</p> <p>In the interest of the growth of the dressage discipline and the sustainability from dressage shows we would suggest defining new dressage tests for Amateur riders' class. We believe that the current tests are not adequate (too high) for the existing potential riders. Therefore, they are not encouraging those riders to compete despite they perfectly fit with the Amateur international class initial concept.</p> <p>We propose below 2 dressage tests which could suit this purpose. Besides that, we remain committed to take part in any FEI working group willing to work on this matter using these tests or defining new ones covering the identified needs.</p>
Proposed Wording on 28 June 2023
See next proposal under IDOC point.
Comments Received by 16 August 2023
Please see the below point.
FEI Feedback
Please see the below point.
Proposed Final Wording to be Voted at the FEI General Assembly 2023
Please see the below point.

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)

IDOC, USA NF

Article No.–Article Name

Annex 3 (amateur) art 3.3

Explanation for Proposed Change

New/recently introduced rule(s) that has(ve) proven to be problematic in its implementation.

We don't have enough starters in the Amateur classes. The tours are too difficult and don't attract enough riders, we need more (lower) levels.

Proposed Wording on 28 June 2023

ARTICLE 3. DRESSAGE TESTS

1. CDIAm: ~~Senior~~ Tests up to and including FEI GP, GPS and GP Freestyle.
2. It is at the discretion of the OC to decide which levels of tests to schedule and to make the Freestyle mandatory or not. **Maximum three (3) tours can be scheduled at the same event.** Maximum three tests allowed **per tour**, opting will be possible if three tests are scheduled. **This must be stated in the Schedule.**
3. At any event, the same athlete/Horse combination can, however, only take part in Competitions of the same level, as defined below (minimum two (2) and maximum three (3) tests, except for the Diamond Tour when opting is compulsory for the GPS or the GP FS):

<u>CDIAm Bronze Tour</u>	Junior Team	Junior Individual	Junior Freestyle	
<u>CDIAm Silver Tour</u>	Young Riders Team	Young Riders Individual	Young Riders Freestyle	
<u>CDIAm Gold Tour</u>	Prix St. Georges	Intermediate I	Intermediate I Freestyle	
<u>CDIAm Platinum Tour</u>	Intermediate II	Intermediate A	Intermediate B	Intermediate A/B Freestyle
<u>CDIAm Diamond Tour</u>	Grand Prix	Grand Prix Special	Grand Prix Freestyle	

- 3.1. For scheduling possibilities, refer to Article 407.

ARTICLE 6. JUDGES/GROUND JURY

Amateur Competitions should be judged with minimum three (3) judges (**at least one Judge of a foreign nationality; one may be national**). **Level 1 Judges can be used for Bronze, Silver and Gold Tours.** All members of the Ground Jury are appointed by the OC from the FEI list of judges. There must be at least one (1) judge of different foreign nationality.

Comments Received by 16 August 2023

NOR NF: We support this proposal, which may attract more amateur riders and therefore rise the interest in dressage riding and competitions. Agree with FEI wording.

USA NF: Ann. 3.3: We felt this proposal and the FEI Proposed Wording needs clarification. Will tests ridden by Amateurs still be titled Junior Team/Junior Individual/ YR Team/YR Individual etc. or will the same tests be rebranded for these different rider divisions?

FEI Feedback

Modifications to be made according to the wording proposed on 28 June 2023.

Test titles to remain (Junior Team/Junior Individual etc.) in order to avoid confusion.

Proposed Final Wording to be Voted at the FEI General Assembly 2023

As per wording proposed on 28 June 2023

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)								
FEI								
Article No.–Article Name								
Annex 5								
As per wording proposed on 28 June 2023								
<p>Correction of inconsistencies, manifest errors, contradictions, etc.</p> <p>Last two rows: 439 -439.2 and 442 to be 439 (and change order of the rows)</p>								
Proposed Wording on 28 June 2023								
<table border="1"> <tr> <td>439</td> <td>No one other than the Athlete may ride the Horse/Pony they are entered with, as of the official opening of the stables according to the FEI approved schedule as well as for the duration of the whole Event under penalty of disqualification.</td> <td>Disqualification</td> </tr> <tr> <td>439.2</td> <td>Under no circumstances is it permitted to school the Horses in other areas than the official training arenas. No schooling is permitted in any area which cannot be supervised by the Stewards. Contravening this rule will entail a Yellow Warning Card and Elimination.</td> <td>Yellow Warning Card/Elimination</td> </tr> </table>			439	No one other than the Athlete may ride the Horse/Pony they are entered with, as of the official opening of the stables according to the FEI approved schedule as well as for the duration of the whole Event under penalty of disqualification.	Disqualification	439.2	Under no circumstances is it permitted to school the Horses in other areas than the official training arenas. No schooling is permitted in any area which cannot be supervised by the Stewards. Contravening this rule will entail a Yellow Warning Card and Elimination.	Yellow Warning Card/Elimination
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Comments Received by 16 August 2023								
None								
FEI Feedback								
Correction as per the proposal of 28 June 2023								
Proposed Final Wording to be Voted at the FEI General Assembly 2023								
As per wording proposed on 28 June 2023								

B. PROPOSED RULES CHANGES THAT HAVE BEEN REJECTED OR DEFERRED TO A FUTURE RULES REVISION

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)
NED NF, SWE NF
Article No.–Article Name
401.7 Senior Events and Competitions
Explanation for Proposed Change
<p>Urgent repair relating to welfare of the horse.</p> <p>In this section of the GR, there is a schematic overview on multiple topics with mandatory items for international senior events and competitions. At this moment it is mandatory from level CDI3* and CDIO3* and higher to ride with a double bridle. We would like to propose to make it optional and allow riders to use a snaffle if they deem this in their best interest as a combination.</p> <p>The NED NF has been allowing the snaffle bridle up and including Grand Prix level competitions already for 15 years (best practice) and it works really well (good experience). To keep the curb mandatory does not comply with the welfare of the horse. If riders are convinced that it is better to compete their horse only on a single bridle, it should be allowed.</p>
Proposed Wording on 28 June 2023
<p>No change. The FEI DTC has the unanimous understanding that the use of snaffle or double bridle is a technical (sport) matter and not a matter of wellbeing/welfare. We understand the topic of social (media) perception, but from the results of the online survey that were made available to this Committee we could not find scientific evidence, nor unquestionable data, that allow us to reach to a different conclusion at this moment. It is time to gather a multidisciplinary team, which includes experts from all stakeholders, to develop study/research to understand all pros and cons about the proposed change. Once this study/research is carried out, we will be in condition to have an informed, conscious and well-balanced opinion on the matter.</p>
Comments Received by 16 August 2023
<p>GBR NF: We would agree with the FEI that the use of the double bridle (versus the snaffle bridle), when fitted and used correctly, is not a welfare issue. There is insufficient scientific research or data to reach this as a conclusion. However, snaffle bridles are already optional in GBR at national competition, to give riders the choice to use the bridle that is most suitable for them and their horse. The primary consideration for the FEI is to ensure that there is a level playing field in competition and that all bridles are fitted and used correctly. We would support the FEI’s recommendation that further scientific research is conducted in this area to thoroughly understand the implications of using a double bridle versus snaffle bridle and the resulting consequences of these proposed changes.</p> <p>GER NF. Referring to the use of snaffle or double bridle, we support the position of the FEI.</p> <p>NOR NF: We agree that focus on the bits alone will not solve the challenges of horse welfare. Riding skills is always the most important element, regardless of the bridle or</p>

other equipment (within certain limits). The double bridle belongs to the classical equipment for the fully educated/trained horse and rider.

That said, we must still be willing to change if there is reliable evidence that a type of bridle or other equipment in itself is the reason for poor horse well fare. Therefore, we support the plan to gather a multidisciplinary team to develop study/research to understand all pros and cons about both the double bridle and other bits/bridles before changing the rules, and across the disciplines. Such knowledge must also be used for outwards communication on horse welfare in riding.

FEI Feedback

The FEI DTC firmly maintains its position of 28 June 2023. The DTC has concluded that using the double bridle at top sport level is not a welfare issue based on all the research and data currently at hand.

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)
DO
Article No.–Article Name
Art. 414.3 Entry Fee
Explanation for Proposed Change
Because of the official remuneration increase, the costs for event Organisers are getting too high. The Dressage Organisers ask to accept higher entry fee for a CDI4* an increase from CHF 525 to CHF 540 and for a CDI5* CHF 600 to CHF 625.
Proposed Wording on 28 June 2023
No change for 2024.
Comments Received by 16 August 2023
None.
FEI Feedback
The FEI DTC maintains its position not to make financial changes for 2024. All the Stakeholders need to be involved in a consultation process first.

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)
AUT NF, EEF, GER NF
Article No.–Article Name
423.9 Marking
Explanation for Proposed Change
<p>Correction of inconsistencies, manifest errors, contradictions, etc. 2 collective marks: After the athletes have finished their performance, one collective mark for the horse and one collective mark for the riders is awarded for general impression with no coefficient.</p>
Proposed Wording on 28 June 2023
No change. This topic was addressed in 2018 by the Dressage Judging Working Group (Task Force) supported by the Nottingham Trent University, and it was concluded that collective marks exacerbate the cumulative impact on cognitive load. Not accepted.
Comments Received by 16 August 2023
<p>EEF: The question here is if a university has more power and influence than stakeholders. Further we don't want to add marks, it is just a split up between rider and horse without coefficient, so the marking can be more straightforward and the judge can make a difference between the rider and the horse.</p> <p><u>EEF supports the proposed wording:</u> "9. Collective mark: After the Athlete has finished their performance, one collective mark is awarded for the Horse and one collective mark for the Athlete for General impression."</p> <p>IDRC: IDRC supports the proposed wording: 9. Collective mark: After the Athlete has finished their performance, one collective mark is awarded for the Horse and one collective mark for the Athlete for General impression.</p> <p>The question here again is if a university has more power and influence than stakeholders. Further we don't want to add marks, it is just a split up between rider and horse without coefficient, so the marking can be more straightforward and the judge can make a difference between the rider and the horse.</p> <p>IDTC: The IDTC supports the recommendations of the Dressage Judging Working Group and therefore opposes this proposal.</p> <p>NOR NF. We strongly support a change back to more than 1 collective mark. The collective marks should be based on the training scale. We believe the collective marks are very important for the education of horse and rider and as feed-back to the trainer. They will help the judges to emphasize the correct training of horse and rider and avoid too much weight on the technical performance. This is especially true for the age-related classes. In Norway, we have introduced four collective marks: Gaits, impulsion, harmony and collection, and rider's seat and influence on the horse. We are willing to share our experiences.</p> <p>We believe there is a need for an evaluation of the current FEI system with only 1 collective mark, to define the pros and cons on different levels of dressage tests/competitions</p>

FEI Feedback

The DTC firmly remain with its position of the 28 June 2023.
The test ends with the final halt and salute and all aspects are being judged continuously as the test takes place. Additionally, such changes cannot be made in the year of the Olympic Games.

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)
IDOC
Article No.–Article Name
Art 424.5.6 Bleeding
Explanation for Proposed Change
<p>Urgent repair connected with welfare.</p> <p>After the situation with a horse bleeding during the warmup in Madrid, we think this should be added.</p> <p>5.6.1. If the Judge at C suspects fresh blood anywhere on the Horse during the test, they will stop the Horse to check for blood. If the Horse shows fresh blood, it will be eliminated. The elimination is final. If the Judge through examination clarifies that the Horse has no fresh blood, the Horse may resume and finish its test.</p> <p><u>5.6.2. If the FEI Steward suspects fresh blood anywhere on the Horse during the warmup, they will stop the Horse to check for blood. If the Horse shows fresh blood, the Steward reports to the judge at C, who will eliminate the horse. The elimination is final.</u></p> <p>5.6.2.3 If the FEI Steward discovers fresh blood in the Horse’s mouth or in the area of the spurs during the check at the end of the test, they inform the Judge at C, who will eliminate the Horse and the Athlete.</p>
Proposed Wording on 28 June 2023
No change for now, to be discussed again in the future for all disciplines if needed.
Comments Received by 16 August 2023
<p>BEL NF: 424.5.6.2 Penalties – Error – Elimination / Reasons for Elimination / Bleeding. However, the same Athlete could be competing with a second horse in the same class. BEL NF proposed wording: “... the Athlete/Horse combination...” (i.e. “Athlete”) would be clearer (like in art. 424.5.6.3)</p> <p>NOR NF: We support the need to discuss the “blood rules” again, across all disciplines.</p> <p>SWE NF: We support the IDOC and are of the opinion that the FEI Steward should be in the position to stop a Horse if there is sign of fresh blood on the Horse during the warm-up.</p> <p>In the future this article should be covered in the General Regulations in Appendix C. Multi-disciplinary Disciplines. SWE propose the wording as below.</p> <p><u>SWE NF proposed wording:</u></p> <p>5.6.1. If the Judge at C suspects fresh blood anywhere on the Horse during the test, they will stop the Horse to check for blood. If the Horse shows fresh blood, it will be eliminated. The elimination is final. If the Judge through examination clarifies that the Horse has no fresh blood, the Horse may resume and finish its test.</p> <p><u>5.6.2. If the FEI Steward suspects fresh blood anywhere on the Horse during the warmup, they will stop the Horse to check for blood. If the Horse shows fresh blood, the Steward reports to the judge at C.</u></p> <p>5.6.2.3 If the FEI Steward discovers fresh blood in the Horse’s mouth or in the area of the spurs during the check at the end of the test, they inform the Judge at C, who will eliminate the Horse and the Athlete.</p>

FEI Feedback

No change. The current rule works well. As stated on 28 June, this is would be a future cross-discipline discussion.

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)
IDOC
Article No.–Article Name
Art 424.5.7 Other reasons for Elimination
Explanation for Proposed Change
<p>Correction of inconsistencies – urgent repair connected with horse welfare.</p> <p>We suggest adding a small point about breaking of tack, as this happens quite often during the test and causes discomfort to the horse and problematic situations for judges.</p>
Proposed Wording on 28 June 2023
<p>Not for the rules (is a new proposal), but for manual/guidelines for OCs, officials.</p> <p>5.7.5 - Issues with saddlery – If before the beginning of the test (when the rider is in the space around the arena) any part of the saddlery/equipment breaks or becomes not well placed (e.g. a noseband, one of the reins, stirrup leather is torn, chain is broken, the saddle shifts to one side, the horse ID number gets loose causing discomfort to the horse, etc.), the rider and/or an assistant may try to replace/fix the item, which needs to be done within the 90 seconds after the bell. If it is not possible to replace/fix the item within that time the rider will be eliminated. If this happens during the test, the rider will be eliminated.</p>
Comments Received by 16 August 2023
<p>BEL NF: 424.5.3 Penalties – Error – Elimination / Reasons for Elimination / Fall. However, the same Athlete could be competing with a second horse in the same class. <u>BEL NF proposed wording:</u> “... the Athlete/Horse combination...” (i.e. “Athlete”) would be clearer (like in art. 424.5.6.3)</p> <p>GBR NF: We would support that the breaking of tack proposal is included within the guidelines and manual for OC/Officials. However, we do not support the term “not well-placed” as this terminology could be confusing and contested. For example, if a noseband pad drops out – would this then indicate the noseband is ‘not well-placed’ as a result? A better definition / further clarity is required.</p> <p>IDOC: We believe that if there is a case of elimination it should be mentioned in the rules. Agree on the wording proposed. “5.7.5 - Issues with saddlery – If before the beginning of the test (when the rider is in the space around the arena) any part of the saddlery/equipment breaks or becomes not well placed (e.g., a noseband, one of the reins, stirrup leather is torn, chain is broken, the saddle shifts to one side, the horse ID number gets loose causing discomfort to the horse, etc.), the rider and/or an assistant may try to replace/fix the item, which needs to be done within the 90 seconds after the bell. If it is not possible to replace/fix the item within that time the rider will be eliminated. If this happens during the test, the rider will be eliminated.”</p>

FEI Feedback

No change to the rules; this is a matter for a manual/guideline for OCs and officials.

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)
AUT NF, EEF, GER NF, IDOC
Article No.–Article Name
Art. 425.5.4., 5.8. and 5.9. Calculation of Scores
Explanation for Proposed Change
<p>Correction of inconsistencies, manifest errors, contradictions, etc.</p> <p>Due to the rounding up or down and then divided by the number of judges it can lead to a rounding difference by 0.001. If that happens one rider can be ahead of another rider by that margin but having achieved the same points and possibly having achieved the higher median score.</p> <p>Proposed wording: Therefore, we would like to change the calculation of scores back to points and divided the total points by the number of judges. This does not apply for Children and 7yo. horses.</p>
Proposed Wording on 28 June 2023
Not supported for the time being, does not solve the issue.
Comments Received by 16 August 2023
<p>EEF: We stress again about this rule change. If we determine the score by points and not percentages it will not lead to a rounding problem. Same points=same score. Sooner than later a medal decision will be made by a rounding and even if both have the same points the rounding problem will decide the medal.</p> <p>IDRC: We stress again about this rule change. If we determine the score by points and not percentages it will not lead to a rounding problem. Same points=same score. Sooner than later a medal decision will be made by a rounding and even if both have the same points the rounding problem will decide the medal</p> <p>IDTC: The IDTC fully supports. As scores get closer and closer the risk of a rounding error being a determining factor increases. Using points avoid this risk</p> <p>USA NF: We agree this is a problem, particularly in terms of the quality of points or ties and agree with the explanation of the proposed change. We urge the FEI to come up with language that would solve the problem, particularly in ties, where percentage scores are used vs total points.</p>
FEI Feedback
No change to the rules at this time, as the proposed change would not solve the issue.

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)
IDOC
Article No.–Article Name
Art 425.5.10 Youth Championships.
Explanation for Proposed Change
<p>Correction of inconsistencies, manifest errors, contradictions, etc.</p> <p>In a very rare case, it might happen that in Youth Ch two scores differ by 5% from the average of the other judges. So, for this situation not to cause any problems, it is better to add a clarification.</p> <p>5.10. Youth Championships. At Youth Championships, with a Ground Jury of five, if a judge’s final score for a Horse/Athlete combination varies (above or below) by five (5) % or more from the average of the scores of the other judges for the same combination, that particular score will be changed to the same as the next closest score. <u>In a situation, where two (2) scores vary by five (5) % or more from the average of the other scores, both should be changed.</u> This provision is not applicable to the Children Category.</p>
Proposed Wording on 28 June 2023
Not supported; more evidence needed. All Judges, despite the difference, might be right from their place.
Comments Received by 16 August 2023
<p>EEF: We strongly recommend taking this rule out again. The recent Youth Championships have shown that this can be a huge problem in future. On top, the rule itself leaves room for interpretation.</p> <p>IDRC: We strongly recommend taking this rule out again. The recent Youth Championships have shown that this can be a huge problem in future. On top, the rule itself leaves room for interpretation.</p> <p>IDTC: The IDTC would like to see more analysis e.g., simulation, before a decision is taken</p> <p>NOR NF: In our opinion, the same situation will apply for all championships. Furthermore, we disagree on the current rule on correcting a judge’s final score for a Horse/Athlete combination if it varies (above or below) by five (5) % or more from the average. As stated in the FEI Feedback: All Judges, despite the difference, might be right from their place. Besides, the current rule may change the ranking for this one judge, and it may make judges hesitant to use the whole scale of marks. A validation of the current rule should be carried out.</p>
FEI Feedback
Not supported, no change to Art 425.5.10

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)
NED NF, SWE NF
Article No.–Article Name
ARTICLE 434 SADDLERY – EQUIPMENT 2.2.
Explanation for Proposed Change
<p>Urgent repair connected with welfare.</p> <p><u>NED NF</u>: “A snaffle bridle or double bridle is allowed in CDI1* and CDI2*, CDIO1*, CDIO2*, CDIJ, CDIOJ, CDIY, CDIOY, CDIU25 (for the Inter II Test) and CDIYH for seven (7) year old Horses, and Junior and Young Rider Championships.”</p> <p>The NED NF has been allowing the snaffle bridle up and including Grand Prix level competitions already for 15 years (best practice) and it works really well (good experience). To keep the curb mandatory does not comply with the welfare of the horse. If riders are convinced that it is better to compete their horse only on a single bridle, it should be allowed.</p> <p><u>SWE NF</u>: A snaffle bridle or double bridle is allowed in CDI1* and CDI2*, CDIO1*, CDIO2*, CDIJ, CDIOJ, CDIY, CDIOY, CDIU25 (for the Inter II Test) and CDIYH for seven (7) year old Horses, and Junior and Young Rider Championships.</p> <p>Since 2015 it has been optional to ride with either a snaffle bridle or a double bridle in Sweden. To keep the double bridle mandatory doesn't comply with the welfare of the horse.</p>
Proposed Wording on 28 June 2023
<p>The FEI DTC has the unanimous understanding that the use of snaffle or double bridle is a technical (sport) matter and not a matter of wellbeing/welfare. We understand the topic of social (media) perception, but from the results of the online survey that were made available to this Committee we could not find scientific evidence, nor unquestionable data, that allow us to reach to a different conclusion at this moment. It would be very important and interesting to have access to the data/results referred by the NED FN that support the “good experience” referred.</p> <p>It is time to gather a multidisciplinary team, which includes experts from all stakeholders, to develop study/research to understand all pros and cons about the proposed change. Once this study/research is carried out, we will be in condition to have an informed, conscious and well-balanced opinion on the matter.</p> <p><u>Not supported, no change of this rule</u></p>
Comments Received by 16 August 2023
<p>GBR NF: As above, we would agree with the FEI that the use of the double bridle (versus the snaffle bridle), when fitted and used correctly, is not a welfare issue. There is insufficient scientific research or data to reach this as a conclusion. However, snaffle bridles are already optional in GBR at national competition, to give riders the choice to use the bridle that is most suitable for them and their horse. The primary consideration for the FEI is to ensure that there is a level playing field in competition and that all bridles are fitted and used correctly.</p>

As above, we would support the FEI's recommendation that further scientific research is conducted in this area to thoroughly understand the implications of using a double bridle versus snaffle bridle and the resulting consequences of these proposed changes

NED NF: Urgent repair connected with Sport Evolution.

A snaffle bridle or double bridle is allowed in CDI1* and CDI2*, CDIO1*, CDIO2*, CDIJ, CDIOJ, CDIY, CDIOY, CDIU25 (for the Inter II Test) and CDIYH for seven (7) year old Horses, and Junior and Young Rider Championships.

Since 15 years it has been optional to ride with either a snaffle bridle or a double bridle in the Netherlands. To keep the double bridle mandatory doesn't comply with the welfare of the horse.

As there may not be "any scientific evidence, nor unquestionable data", that allows the FEI to reach a different conclusion at this moment, we believe the same applies for keeping the double bridle mandatory.

During the past 15 years there have been no complaints, nor have we seen a decrease in the scores in general. As we do not keep record of the tack used by every combination at every test, we cannot supply further data but of course we are willing to share the knowledge we have gathered during this period. We also would welcome a further study but for the time being let the Athletes make their own decision, this should not be mandatory.

NED NF proposed wording:

A snaffle bridle or double bridle is allowed in all categories except for CDIP and CDICH Events where snaffle bridle is compulsory.

NOR NF: We agree that focus on the bits alone will not solve the challenges of horse welfare. Riding skills is always the most important element, regardless of the bridle or other equipment (within certain limits). The double bridle belongs to the classical equipment for the top educated/trained horse and rider.

That said, we must still be willing to change if there is reliable evidence that a type of bridle or other equipment in itself is the reason for poor horse well fare. Therefore, we support the plan to develop study/research to understand all pros and cons about both the double bridle and other bits/bridles before changing the rules, across the disciplines. Such knowledge must also be used for outwards communication on horse welfare in riding.

SWE NF: A snaffle bridle or double bridle is allowed in CDI1* and CDI2*, CDIO1*, CDIO2*, CDIJ, CDIOJ, CDIY, CDIOY, CDIU25 (for the Inter II Test) and CDIYH for seven (7) year old Horses, and Junior and Young Rider Championships.

Since 2015 it has been optional to ride with either a snaffle bridle or a double bridle in Sweden.

We welcome a study but do not see that it should prevent the Athletes from choosing to ride on either snaffle-or double-bridles. Let the Athletes make their own decision, this should not be mandatory.

SWE NF proposed wording:

A snaffle bridle or double bridle is allowed in all categories except for CDIP and CDICH Events where snaffle bridle is compulsory.

FEI Feedback

Not supported, no change. The DTC maintains that the use of the double bridle in top sport is not a welfare issue according to all current research on this topic.

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)
IDOC
Article No.–Article Name
Art 424 434.6.4. Additional Items
Explanation for Proposed Change
<p>Correction of inconsistencies, manifest errors, contradictions, etc.</p> <p>Riders always ask about glitter as it is not so clear from the rules. 6.4. Any artificial decoration of the Horse is not allowed. It is not allowed to paint any part of the Horse’s body nor is it allowed to obscure an existing wound or injury. Contravening this rule will entail a Yellow Warning Card and Elimination. Using sprays with glitter is permitted.</p>
Proposed Wording on 28 June 2023
No change. discreet use, especially in the youth classes, can be tolerated.
Comments Received by 16 August 2023
<p>EEF: This needs clarification, what is discreet use? We believe it should be not allowed and might potentially be a welfare issue.</p> <p>GER NF: If discreet use of sprays with glitter shall be tolerated in youth classes, it would need to be clearly defined what “discreet use” is. We have to avoid that an Athlete is disqualified due to unclear interpretation. We prefer the solution not to allow it all.</p> <p>IDRC: This needs clarification, what is discreet use? We believe it should be not allowed and might potentially be a welfare issue</p> <p>IDTC: The IDTC opposes this for the following reasons: -the word 'discreet' is too ambiguous and likely the be interpreted significantly differently in different locations -there could be a safety risk to horses -we don't believe this would materially increase youth interest in the discipline thus is of dubious benefit</p> <p>NOR NF: We can’t support the use of spray with glitter. We already see extensive use of “diamonds” on dress and equipment esp. in youth classes, regardless of the rule text “discreet”. Dressage should not resemble a circus show or have a definite “feminine stamp”. “Tolerate discreet use” will be difficult to handle in a fair way. The use of spray glitter should not be permitted or tolerated.</p>
FEI Feedback
No change to the rule (a steward would point out excessive use of spray with glitter and ask the Athlete/Groom to remove the excess).

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)
IDOC
Article No.–Article Name
441.2 (must be added to the list of CHs)
Explanation for Proposed Change
At the L4/5* Judges meeting in Rome, there was a widespread understanding, that there is a need for 7 judges at the European Youth Championships (Ponies, JUN, YR and U25). It has been proven that the judge's differences are minimized by increasing the number of judges from 5 to 7 (all big senior CH). As the European youth CH attract big numbers of starters, we believe this will improve the standard significantly. All other regional youth championships remain the same.
Proposed Wording on 28 June 2023
Not supported, the DC prefers to have a JSP member at European Youth Championships.
Comments Received by 16 August 2023
<p>GBR NF: If maintaining five judges, rather than seven, would support the introduction of a full JSP presence at FEI U21 Championships for Ponies, Juniors, and Young Riders, to ensure that scoring is consistent and fair. The problems encountered at the recent Junior European Championships emphasised the need to have an objective and impartial decision-making process, in accordance with FEI rules and regulations, in the event of any disputes over scores. As a minimum, the JSP representative should be empowered to be the ultimate arbiter in such circumstances.</p> <p>GER NF: We support the FEI position not to increase the Judges' Panel at European Youth Championships to 7 persons. Costs need to be kept at an acceptable level.</p>
FEI Feedback
No change supported by the DTC for 2024 as such additional costs would be a concern for the Organiser.

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)
IDOC
Article No.–Article Name
441.4 (Ground Jury)
Explanation for Proposed Change
During the last couple of years, we have had some last-minute problems with scribes even at big championships. In order to avoid these problems, we propose: At championships, the organizer should provide at least 1 or 2 reserve scribes for the freestyle.
Proposed Wording on 28 June 2023
Supported as such for all tests, but not fulfilling the criteria for urgent repair, so to be considered for the next full rules revision.
Comments Received by 16 August 2023
None
FEI Feedback
No change for 2024, but to be considered for the next full rules revision.

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)
AUT NF, EEF, GER NF, IDOC
Article No.–Article Name
Art. 442.2. as an addition 442.2.1. Judges’ Supervisory Panel
Explanation for Proposed Change
<p>Correction of inconsistencies, etc. to secure Good Governance and Best Practices.</p> <p><u>AUT NF, EEF</u>: Each member of the JSP can serve for a maximum of 4 years on the JSP. We suggest to follow the FEI Statutes for Technical Committees Chapter VIII, Art. 31.6. and 31.7.</p> <p><u>GER NF</u>: In order to secure good governance and best practices, we suggest applying the FEI Statutes for Technical Committees, Chapter VIII, Art. 31.6 and 31.7 that read:</p> <p>5. Unless otherwise specified, the Appointment to any Standing Committee is for a Term of four (4) years, is honorary and carries no remuneration. Reasonable expenses incurred while fulfilling the functions of a member of such Standing Committee shall be met by the FEI.</p> <p>Unless otherwise specified, any member of a Technical Committee who has served one (1) Term may not serve another Term in the same Committee without a break of at least two (2) years, unless the member becomes Chair. Filling a vacancy for any period of less than three (3) years does not count as a full Term. Any Chair of a Technical Committee who has served two (2) Terms (respectively three (3) Terms for Technical Chairs who are Board Members) may not serve another Term in the same Committee without a break of at least four (4) years.</p> <p><u>IDOC</u>: In order to give judges routine and knowledge about work in the JSP Group. Every year one position in the JSP Group must rotate between the active judges from the group L4/5*.</p>
Proposed Wording on 28 June 2023
Not supported as such. More details to be found under the revision of the Art 442, proposed by the FEI (section A).
Comments Received by 16 August 2023
<p>GBR NF (<i>also under FEI point below</i>): AUT NF, EEF (Page 29), GER NF (Page 30), IDOC (Page 31)</p> <p>It is vitally important the members of the JSP have the necessary qualifications, knowledge, and experience to do the job effectively. We do not therefore agree that JSP members should be limited to serve one term of four years only. Two terms of four years may be more appropriate. However, we do still need to support further education and growth within this area to encourage and include other people who may meet the pre-requisite criteria.</p>

FEI Feedback

Please see the modification proposal for Art 442 earlier in the document.

Renewable terms of four years are proposed for the JSP members in order to keep the knowledge and experience of them for a longer period of time.

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)
DO
Article No.–Article Name
Art. 449.6 Per Diem
Explanation for Proposed Change
<p>The Dressage Official Club will probably ask for an increase of the remuneration per day. The Dressage Organisers understand this request and would like to accept this until a maximum of 150 euro a day.</p> <p>Event Organisers already have an increase of 30 % of the costs so we can't accept a big increase.</p>
Proposed Wording on 28 June 2023
No change for 2024. FEI Board 06.06.2023; consultation with all Stakeholder groups to be done prior to rule changes for financial reasons.
Comments Received by 16 August 2023
<p>AUS NF: The cost of running CDI3* and CDI4* competitions in the Asia Pacific region has become prohibitive. A number of costs have escalated post pandemic: airfares, travelling judges and per diems have become big budget items. It would encourage organisers to run more competitions if the per diem was E130 instead of E180 for those countries outside Europe. We believe other disciplines do this.</p> <p><u>AUS NF proposed wording:</u> "Per diem of one hundred and eighty EUR remuneration per day for miscellaneous costs for those officiating in Europe. One hundred and thirty Euros per day for those officiating outside Europe. This amount is net after relevant taxes paid by OC. The per diem is due for all officiating days (including rest days between competitions) plus one. At the discretion of the official, the per diem for this additional day may be forfeited if the Official can conveniently travel on the officiating days."</p> <p>IDOC: Joint proposal IDOC and DO</p> <p>Following the FEI recommendation IDOC and Dressage Organisers Group met together and reached a common proposal on Dressage Officials Fee: 160 euros day/ including the travel day for all officials.</p> <p>As mentioned in the proposal, the aim is to update the Dressage Officials Fee (Judges, including Para judges, and stewards). There has been no increase in the Officials Fee for almost 10 years, even though the inflation on average has been around 1-2%/year, lately 2022 up to 8% - more than 25% over 10 years. Also, in the wake of the increase in the fee some officials' groups have already gotten.</p> <p>In accordance with DO, IDOC underlines that all officials should get the same fee, not depending on the level/discipline etc. In the name of harmonization.</p> <p><u>IDOC proposed wording:</u></p> <p>Per diem of hundred and sixty (160) EUR per day, (remuneration for miscellaneous costs. This amount is net after relevant taxes being borne by the OC), the per diem is due for all officiating days (including rest days between Competitions) plus one. At the discretion of the Official, the per diem for this additional day may be forfeited if the Official can conveniently travel on the officiating days.</p>

FEI Feedback

As per the 28 June 2023, no change for 2024. Resolution of the FEI Board 06 June 2023; consultation with all Stakeholder groups to be done prior to rule changes for financial reasons.

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)

IDOC

Article No.–Article Name

449.6 Officials reimbursement

Explanation for Proposed Change

The Fee for some officials group has already been changed (last GA 2022). All officials (Judges, including Para judges, and stewards) should get the same fee, not depending on the level/discipline etc. In the name of harmonization.

We should not create different groups of officials, but always try to balance inequality and differences.

Inflation has been sky-high, due to the global financial circumstances (War and Covid)

We have good support from all* stakeholder clubs on this matter.

* *Please also see DO proposal*

. Per diem of hundred and ~~twenty-eighty~~ (120-180) EUR per day, (remuneration for miscellaneous costs. This amount is net after relevant taxes being borne by the OC), the per diem is due for all officiating days (including rest days between Competitions) plus one. At the discretion of the Official, the per diem for this additional day may be forfeited if the Official can conveniently travel on the officiating days.

Proposed Wording on 28 June 2023

No change for 2024. FEI Board 06.06.2023; consultation with all Stakeholder groups to be done prior to rule changes for financial reasons.

Comments Received by 16 August 2023

Please see previous point

FEI Feedback

Please see previous point