Memo

# Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)

EEF, FRA NF, ESP NF, EST NF, URU NF, FEI

**Article Number - Article Name** 

ANNEX 4: FEI WORLD ENDURANCE RANKINGS

**Explanation for Proposed Change** 

**EEF** & **FRA NF**: To enhance the value of the FEI Endurance athlete ranking we would recommend to take the 5 best results of the year for each rider. We see in this new concept the possibility of rewarding a fair balance combining sport performance and regularity on several events. Due to the specificity of the discipline we would support that FEI Endurance combinations & horses rankings to be based on a rolling 2 years period of time. It would give credit to a longer achievement having in mind that horses cannot multiply too many competitions on a short period of time and we should avoid any motivation to go that direction.

**ESP NF**: Set a limit on the number of rides that count and award more points at rides with more starting combinations. The FEI Ranking currently has a problem where a rider that looks for the biggest amount of low participation rides is at an advantage vs those who look for the biggest challenge. By introducing a limit of 5 counting rides (the 5 that award the rider the most amount of points) and giving extra points for each starting rider, this practice would be minimized and competitors that strive to be the best would be rewarded. FEI Ranking to calculate the 5 best rides of each Athlete and award more points to competitions with more starters and/or finishers. FEI Rankings should have some prize money.

**EST NF**: To promote the Endurance discipline, we offer to create a new category in FEI Endurance Rankings – *FEI Endurance Open Trainers World Ranking*. A trainer is a very important player in Endurance sport, so it will be for good to know the best trainers in the world whose horses are ranked high. Trainers Ranking will be based on Horse Ranking – points for all horses belonging to the one trainer will be summed up.

**EST NF**: To promote the Endurance discipline, we offer to create a new category in FEI Endurance Rankings – *FEI Endurance Elite Riders World Ranking*. Currently, Elite Athlete status has not had much value, and establishing this Ranking will encourage riders to achieve this status.

**URU NF**: We agree that rules are actualized every year as to correct aspects of the sport which do not follow the spirit or principles of the discipline, however we are surprised to see that all actualizations are based on punishments. Many riders are incredible horsemen that treat their horse with respect and follow the endurance rules every time they compete, but we see that doing the correct things is not valued, that's why we propose creating positive points.

**FEI**: The purpose of changing the Endurance Ranking system is to make it more dynamic and exciting to follow. We propose to add two new Rankings (Endurance Trainer World Ranking and Endurance Elite Athlete Ranking). The new parameters for calculating the ranking points take into account the following:

- The level of the Competition (CEIs, CEIOs, Championships)
- Team results (if any)
- Final position in the Competition (as Individual or in Team)
- Number of finishers/ Athletes who ranked

Please note that in line with other disciplines, we are proposing to make the Endurance Ranking Rules a standalone document, which is approved by the FEI Board. See here the proposed changes to the FEI Endurance Ranking Rules for your information. Please note, these Rules will not be put forward for approval at the FEI General Assembly as they will be subject to FEI Board approval.

**Proposed Wording** 

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### **CALCULATION METHOD OF THE FEI ENDURANCE RANKING LISTS**

#### 1. GENERAL

The ranking list for the FEI Endurance Rankings takes into account the points obtained by Athletes, Horses and Trainers over a twelve (12) month period over a rolling year period (the ranking always includes 12 months).

All FEI Endurance Competitions are granting points for the FEI Endurance Rankings.

The ranking list for the FEI Endurance Rankings is produced by the FEI Headquarters.

The ranking list for the FEI Endurance Rankings is updated monthly and published on the first week of each month only.

The ranking list for the FEI Endurance Rankings beginning on 1 January and ending 31 December each year will be declared as the "Yearly Ranking" and can be used for specific purposes.

The FEI Endurance Rankings published are the following:

- Endurance Riders World Ranking
- Endurance Horse World Ranking
- Endurance Combination World Ranking
- Endurance Young Riders World Ranking
- Endurance Young Riders Horse World Ranking
- Endurance Young Riders Combination World Ranking
- Endurance Elite Riders World Ranking
- Endurance Trainer World Ranking

# 2. POINTS OBTAINED AT GAMES AND CHAMPIONSHIPS

Points obtained at Continental Games and Continental and World Championships are retained on the list depending on the frequency of the Events. If the Event is held every four years, 25% of the points obtained are dropped after one year, 50% after two years, 75% after three years and the remainder after four years. If the Event is held every two years, 50% of the points obtained are dropped after one year and the remainder after two years.

For the avoidance of any doubt, the above does not apply to Regional Games and Regional Championships.

#### 3. MEDICAL OR MATERNITY LEAVE

#### MEDICAL LEAVE

3.1 Athletes may request an official FEI medical leave provided that the medical condition is certified in writing by a medical doctor. To request the official FEI medical leave, the Athlete must submit the doctor's certificate and the completed Medical Leave Form, available on the <u>FEI website</u>, to the FEI Endurance Department. The Athlete can choose the duration of their medical leave, with the minimum period being six (6) months and the maximum period being twelve (12 months). Applications cannot be submitted retroactively.

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- 3.2 In the Medical Leave Form, the Athlete must indicate the start date and requested end date (the "Medical Leave End Date") of the official FEI medical leave. If the Athlete does not specify a Medical Leave End Date in the Medical Leave Form, the minimum period of six (6) months will automatically apply unless the Athlete subsequently informs the FEI Endurance Department otherwise, as per the process set out in article 3.8 below. Where an Athlete requests an official FEI medical leave, the following rules apply in relation to the Athlete's ranking points.
- 3.3 In the period during which an Athlete has officially ceased to compete due to an official FEI medical leave, they will retain 50% of the Endurance World Rankings points earned from the corresponding months of the preceding year until their Medical Leave End Date.
- 3.4 The minimum length of time for which an Athlete may be granted an official FEI medical leave is six (6) months.
- 3.5 If the Athlete returns from an official FEI medical leave after less than six (6) months, no points will be retained from the corresponding months of the preceding year and the rankings will be recalculated accordingly.
- 3.6 The maximum length of time an Athlete may benefit from an official FEI medical leave of absence at one time is twelve (12) months.
- 3.7 During the period when an Athlete is on an official FEI medical leave, they may not compete in international or national Competitions; the FEI will inform the Athlete's NF accordingly.
- 3.8 If the Athlete wants to be eligible to compete in international or national Competitions prior to the Medical Leave End Date (as stated in the Medical Leave Form), the Athlete concerned must inform the FEI Endurance Department at least four (4) weeks in advance of the date when they want their medical leave to end. The official FEI medical leave will end on that new date (provided the minimum period of six (6) months has expired). The FEI will inform the Athlete's NF accordingly and the Athlete will be eligible to compete in international and national competitions as of the new end date.
- 3.9 If the Athlete wants to prolong the official FEI medical leave beyond the period originally stated on the Medical Leave Form, the Athlete must apply to the FEI Endurance Department prior to the expiration of the original period of the official FEI medical leave and submit an updated medical certificate to justify the extension request. In no case can the overall period of the official FEI medical leave exceed 12 (twelve) month.

## **MATERNITY LEAVE**

- 3.10 Athletes may request an official FEI maternity leave provided that the maternity is certified in writing by a medical doctor. To request the official FEI maternity leave, the Athlete must submit the doctor's certificate and the completed Maternity Leave Form, available on the FEI website, to the FEI Endurance Department. The Athlete can choose the duration of their maternity leave, with the minimum period being three (3) months and the maximum period being twelve (12 months). Applications cannot be submitted retroactively.
- 3.11 In the Maternity Leave Form, the Athlete must indicate the start date and requested end date (the "Maternity Leave End Date") of the official FEI maternity leave. If the Athlete does not specify a Maternity Leave End Date in the Maternity Leave Form, the maximum period of twelve (12) months will automatically apply unless the Athlete

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informs the FEI Endurance Department otherwise, as per the process set out in Article 1.17 below. Where an Athlete requests an official FEI maternity leave, the following rules apply in relation to the Athlete's ranking points.

- 3.12 In the period during which an Athlete has officially ceased to compete due to an official FEI maternity leave, they will retain 50% of the Endurance World Rankings points earned from the corresponding months of the preceding year until their Maternity Leave End Date.
- 3.13 The minimum length of time for which an Athlete may be granted an official FEI maternity leave is three (3) months.
- 3.14 If the Athlete returns from an official FEI maternity leave after less than three (3) months, no points will be retained from the corresponding month of the preceding year and the rankings will be recalculated accordingly.
- 3.15 The maximum length of time an Athlete may benefit from a maternity leave of absence at one time is twelve (12) months.
- 3.16 During the period when an Athlete is on maternity leave, they may not compete in international or national Competitions; the FEI will inform the Athlete's NF accordingly.
- 3.17 If the Athlete wants to be eligible to compete prior to the Maternity Leave End Date (as stated in the Maternity Leave Form), the Athlete concerned must inform the FEI Endurance Department at least four (4) weeks in advance of the date when they want their maternity leave to end and the official FEI maternity leave will end on that date (provided the minimum period of three (3) months has expired). The FEI will inform the Athlete's NF accordingly and Athlete will be eligible to compete in international and national competitions as of the new end date.
- 3.18 If the Athlete wants to prolong the official FEI maternity leave beyond the period originally stated on the Maternity Leave Form, the Athlete must apply to the FEI Endurance Department prior to the expiration of the original period of the official FEI maternity leave. In no case can the overall period of the official FEI maternity leave exceed 12 (twelve) months.

#### 4. POINT SYSTEM

Competitions are distinguished by star level.

#### 4.1 For Individual Competitions

Athletes obtain points related to their placing in the Competitions.

The following points will apply:

Table 1:

CEI, CEIO, Regional Championships & Regional Games						
Placing	1*		2*		3*	
Placing	Points	Bonus	Points	Bonus	Points	Bonus
1	40	5	80	10	120	15
2	39	4	78	8	117	12
3	38	3	76	6	114	9
4	37	2	74	4	111	6
5	36	1	72	2	108	3
6	35	0	70	0	105	0
7	34	0	68	0	102	0
8	33	0	66	0	99	0
9	32	0	64	0	96	0
10	31	0	62	0	93	0
Until	1	0	2	0	3	0

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For Continental, World and all 120km Championships, the following points will apply:

Table 2:

	Championships					
Placing	Continental 160km		World 160km		All 120km CHs	
Placing	Points	Bonus	Points	Bonus	Points	Bonus
1	160	20	200	25	160	15
2	156	16	195	20	156	12
3	152	12	190	15	152	9
4	148	8	185	10	148	6
5	144	4	180	5	144	3
6	140	0	175	0	140	0
7	136	0	170	0	136	0
8	132	0	165	0	132	0
9	128	0	160	0	128	0
10	124	0	155	0	124	0
Until	4	0	5	0	4	0

For Events falling under the categories below, the scale of points will differ according to the number of finishers in the Competition (those who have ranked in the Competition). Disqualified results will not be considered in the count of finishers.

Table 3:

	CEI, CEIO, Regional Championships & Regional Games		
	1*	2*	3*
Points	Finishers	Finishers	Finishers
25%	1 to 8	1 to 8	
50%	9 to 17	9 to 17	1 to 5
75%	18 to 25	18 to 25	6 to 10
100%	26 to 33	26 to 33	11 to 16
125%	34 and more	34 and more	17 and more

Table 4:

	Championships		
	Continental 160km	World 160km	All 120km CHs
Points	Finishers	Finishers	Finishers
50%	1 to 10	1 to 20	1 to 15
75%	11 to 20	21 to 40	16 to 30
100%	21 and more	40 and more	31 and more

# 4.2 For Team Competitions

Athletes obtain additional points related to their placing as a Team member in the Competitions. Team members that have not placed at the Competition will not be granted any Team Competitions points.

Table 5:

	CEI, CEIO, Regional Championships & Regional Games		Championships			
Team	1*	2*	3*	Continental 160km	World 160km	All 120km CHs
Placing	Points	Points	Points	Points	Points	Points
1	30	40	50	60	90	60
2	25	35	45	55	80	55
3	20	30	40	50	70	50
4	15	25	35	45	60	45
5	10	20	30	40	50	40
6	5	15	25	35	40	35
7	3	10	20	30	30	30
8	2	5	15	25	20	25
9	1	3	10	20	10	20
10	1	2	5	15	5	15
11	1	2	3	10	5	10
12	1	2	3	5	5	5
13	1	2	3	4	5	4
14	1	2	3	4	5	4
15	1	2	3	4	5	4

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The following scale factor will apply according to the number of Teams ranked in the Competitions. Disqualification happening after the end of the Event will not impact the calculation of the amount of finishing teams.

Table 6:

4		
	Teams	
	Points	Finishers
	33%	1 to 3
	66%	4 to 6
	100%	7 and more

For Continental and World Championships, above scale factor does not apply and all points are granted.

#### 5. NUMBER OF RESULTS TO COUNT

The number of results to count per Athlete per year for the FEI Endurance Open Riders World Ranking is limited to the best ten (10).

# 5.1 Endurance Horse Ranking

The ranking includes the three (3) best results per Horse.

#### 5.2 Endurance Combination Ranking

The ranking includes the three (3) best results per Combination.

## 5.3 Endurance Elite Rider Ranking

Filtered version of the Endurance Athlete World Rankings including only the Athletes with Elite Status at the end of the last month of the year will be included in this ranking calculation.

## 5.4 Endurance Young Rider Ranking

This ranking includes only Athletes up to 21 years old.

## 5.5 Endurance Trainer World Ranking

This ranking includes the five (5) best Horses of each Trainer according to the Endurance Horse World Ranking.

# **ANNEX 1: EXAMPLES OF HOW TO CALCULATE RANKING POINTS**

Below are examples of how the ranking is calculated. Please refer to the tables provided in this document, in particular the elements highlighted in blue and green.

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CEI, CEIC	CEI, CEIO, Regional Championships & Regional Games				
Level	1*	2*	3*		
Finishers (see table 3)	40	21	4		
% points (see table 3)	125%	75%	50%		
Placing (see table 1)	1	8	3		
Points	40 x 125% = 50	66 x 75% = 49,5	114 x 50% = 57		
Bonus (see table 1)	5	0	9		
Total Points	50 + 5 = <b>55</b>	49,5	57 + 9 = <b>66</b>		

Championships				
Level	World 160km	All 120km CHs		
Finishers (see table 4)	44	12		
% points (see table 4)	100%	50%		
Placing (see table 2)	3	7		
Points	190 x 100% = 190	136 x 50% = 68		
Bonus (see table 2)	15	No		
Sub-Total	190 + 15 = 205	68		
Finishing Teams (see table 6)	7	3		
% points (see table 6)	100%	33%		
Team Placing (see table 5)	5	1		
Points	50 x 100% = 50	60 x 33% = 20		
Total Points	205 + 50 = <b>255</b>	68 + 20 = <b>88</b>		

<sup>\*</sup>Blue and green table elements are there to aid with the examples provided which demonstrate the calculation of points method in Annex 1 of this document.

# **Comments Received by 16 August 2023**

**ESP NF**: We commend the FEI on working on the Endurance Rankings and creating new rankings, however the point system explained is convoluted and difficult to understand (even with the examples). We suggest creating a simpler system that can be more easily understood by athletes, trainers and outsiders. We also suggest to take into account a lower amount of the best results of each Athlete to promote competitiveness across all regions with less competitions and make it more about quality than quantity.

### **FEI Feedback**

**ESP NF**: Thank you for your feedback. The new rules are designed to reflect the reality of achievements. Multiple simulations have been done, with an analysis of the results and the 'new' rankings that this system will produce.

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

Please find below edits made to the document for clarification. Please note that in line with other disciplines, we are proposing to make the Endurance Ranking Rules a standalone document, which is approved by the FEI Board. Please note, these Rules will not be put forward for approval at the FEI General Assembly as they will be subject to FEI Board approval. Below are the minor changes to the document, all the rest remains as above. Please note a correction in regarding Junior/Young Riders Rankings.

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- Endurance Junior/Young Riders World Ranking
- Endurance Junior/Young Riders Horse World Ranking
- Endurance Junior/Young Riders Combination World Ranking

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For Events falling under the categories below, the scale of points will differ according to the number of finishers in the Competition (those who have ranked in the Competition). Disqualified results will not be considered in the count of finishers. After the calculation of the rankings, the scale of points remains unchanged.

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The following scale factor will apply according to the number of Teams ranked in the Competitions. Disqualification happening after the end of the Event will not impact the calculation of the amount of finishing teams. After the calculation of the rankings, the scale of points remains unchanged.

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# 5.3 Endurance Elite Rider Ranking

Filtered version of the Endurance Athlete World Rankings include only the Athletes with Elite Status at the end of the last month of the year will be included in this ranking calculation as set out in Article 861 of the Endurance Rules.

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## 5.4 Endurance Junior/Young Rider Ranking

This ranking includes only Athletes up to age 16 14-21 years old.