

PROPOSALS FOR RULES CHANGES OF JUMPING RULES 2024

Introduction


Further to the approval of the FEI Periodical Rules Revision Policy at the 2019 General Assembly (available here: <https://inside.fei.org/fei/about-fei/governance/rules-revision-process>) the full revision of the Jumping Rules took place in 2021. Consequently, for this year's revision process NFs and MOU stakeholders were invited to propose only modifications that fulfilled the following criteria:

1. 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;
2. Correction of inconsistencies, manifest errors, contradictions, etc.
3. New/recently introduced rule that has proven to be problematic in its implementation;
4. Implementation of new technology development(s) relevant to the specific set of Rules;
5. IOC, IPC, WADA, ASOIF and similar organisations' policies' implementation;
6. Other scenarios not foreseen by this Policy as considered and approved by the Board.

In addition, the FEI Headquarters and the Jumping Committee have a number of proposals put forward based also on the above mentioned criteria.

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

- A. Rules Proposals received from NFs/MOU Stakeholders by 1 March 2024.** In this section you will find each of the Rules Proposals received from NFs/MOU Stakeholders addressed by the FEI with the relevant feedback from the Jumping Committee; and
- B. Rules Proposals put forward by the FEI**



Todd Hinde
Jumping Director

A. Rules Proposals received from NFs/MOU Stakeholders by 1 March 2024

Rules Proposal Submitted By
SWE NF
Article No.–Article Name
Art. 205 – COURSE PLAN Art. 205.1.1
Periodical Rules Revision Policy Criteria
4. Implementation of new technology development(s) relevant to the specific set of Rules
Explanation for Proposed Change
Since the time between competitions at an event is getting shorter and shorter, we suggest that a course plan should be published digitally at least 2 hours before the competition starts.
Proposed Wording
From CSI3* the course plan should be published on the digital platform where the start lists are published, at the latest 2 hours before the beginning of each competition and by the entrance to the arena no later 30 minutes before the competition starts.
FEI Feedback
The proposed modification does not meet the Periodical Rules Revision Policy Criteria and is deferred to the next full revision.
FEI Proposed Wording (if applicable)
None

Rules Proposal Submitted By
SWE NF
Article No.–Article Name
Art. 241 – ELIMINATIONS (Art. 241.3.30-241.3.31) Art. 242 – DISQUALIFICATIONS (Art. 242.3-242.3.1) Art. 243 – ABUSE OF HORSES (Art. 243.1-243.2.3)
Periodical Rules Revision Policy Criteria
2. Correction of inconsistencies, manifest errors, contradictions, etc
Explanation for Proposed Change
There are obvious differences in the Rules regarding Abuse of Horse, Blood on the Horse and penalties between the Olympic disciplines Dressage, Jumping and Eventing, as well as in the General Regulations. The above-mentioned Rules are dealing with the same issue, but in different ways.
The handling of blood on the flank is also different between the disciplines. In Jumping there is a specific protocol to be used in case of blood on the flank, which is found in the Steward’s Manual (Sep 2022), ANNEX XVI. This protocol is not used across the three disciplines.

Proposed Wording

Proposal, to oversee the regulations regarding Abuse of Horse with the goal to harmonise these regulations.

FEI Feedback

Please refer to the memo on the Proposed Changes to the FEI General Regulations for the position of the FEI on this proposed modification.

FEI Proposed Wording (if applicable)

None

Rules Proposal Submitted By

SWE NF

Article No.–Article Name

Art. 243 – ABUSE OF HORSES
Art. 243.2.2, 243.2.3

Periodical Rules Revision Policy Criteria

1. Urgent repairs

Explanation for Proposed Change

The current Jumping Rules regarding use of whip is clearly not in line with Social License to Operate for equestrian sports. As a minimum, the rules should be acceptable to the public and all stakeholders.

The SWE NF has used the proposed rule 243.2.2 below since 2023 and have had no problem implementing the rule. On the contrary it has been welcomed by the Equestrian Community.

Proposed Wording

243.2.2 (new)

Permitted use of the whip

As a guidance only, the Athlete may signal the horse at the most two times in the arena (before and during the ride) by gently tapping with the whip on the shoulder or behind the saddle.

243.2.3 ~~243.2.2~~

Excessive use of the whip

- * All other means of using the whip is considered excessive. All strokes are forbidden.
- * The whip is not to be used after Elimination or after the Athlete has finished his ride.
- * An Athlete identified as excessively using the whip will be disqualified and may be fined at the discretion of the Ground Jury.

~~*The whip may not be used to vent an Athlete’s temper. Such use is always excessive;~~

~~*The use of a whip on a Horse’s head is always excessive use;~~

~~*A Horse should never be hit more than three times in a row. If a Horse’s skin is broken, it is always considered excessive use of the whip;~~

~~*The whip is not to be used after Elimination;~~

~~*An Athlete identified as misusing or excessively using the whip will be disqualified and may be fined at the discretion of the Ground Jury.~~

243.2.4 ~~243.2.3~~

Abuse of a Horse in any other form (such as, but not limited to, hypersensitising or desensitising the limbs, the use of banned schooling methods, excessive use of spurs and other cases as specified in the GRs, VRs or any other FEI rules and regulations) is also prohibited and must be penalised appropriately under these rules

FEI Feedback

The FEI Jumping Committee agreed to discuss the use of equipment currently available in the Jumping Rules. However, these changes will be discussed with all Stakeholders as part of the Full Revision of the Jumping Rules that will take place in 2025.

FEI Proposed Wording (if applicable)

None

Rules Proposal Submitted By

GER NF

Article No.–Article Name

Art. 257 – SADDLERY

Periodical Rules Revision Policy Criteria

1. Urgent repairs

Explanation for Proposed Change

We recognise and welcome the fact that the FEI is addressing the issue of tack use and want to support the process with a concrete proposal. We do not expect it to be implemented 1 to 1, it is meant to assist.

Although the FEI Tack, Equipment and Dress Database is separated from the Rules, its contents are referred to in the Rules. We therefore come up with this proposal in the Rules Revision Process.

With the ongoing challenges of the public perception regarding horse welfare issues, we appreciate the FEI's stance on tack use that states that everything is allowed if it does not compromise the horse's welfare. We also commend the provision of the Tack, Equipment and Dress Database.

In practice, however, we have found that the Stewards are experiencing this approach difficult to enforce, as it can leave too much room for interpretation and does not provide them sufficient authority.

Considering the equine industry's challenges around their social licence to operate, we would like to submit a proposal on how the transparency and enforceability could be improved. A working group with experts of our NF has developed a list with general remarks and photos of bits and bridles that in our view should be permitted in Jumping. In our experience, publishing only what is allowed leaves less room for discussion and more authority for Stewards; we therefore recommend the same approach for the FEI TackApp.

Proposed Wording

➤ **Constitution of the Bits:**

- smooth and rounded outline in the area that exerts pressure
- No sharp edges or materials, that could cause pain, suffering or damage
- **Minimum diameter/width** of mouthpieces or parts of the bridle that exert pressure: **at least 10 mm** (with reference to the bridoon)

- The material (e.g. metal, plastic, leather) must be able to withstand reasonable tensile load, should not be compromised by the chewing of the horse and may not be harmful to the horses health
- Tongue guard/clip is allowed
- Chains must be padded

➤ **Regulations regarding the bridle / noseband:**

- Only **one** noseband or hackamore on the bridge of the nose
- The noseband should fit snugly, but should not be excessively tightened and may not restrict the horses breathing nor prevent movement of the jaw (gentle chewing); must sit on the bony part of the nose

➤ **Constitution of elements that exert pressure on the bridge of the nose:**

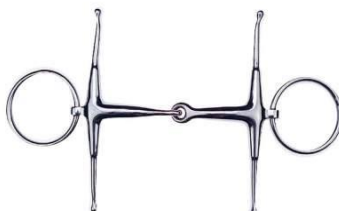
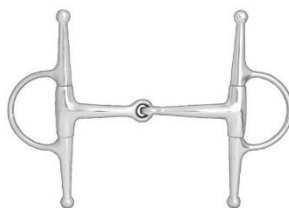
- No sharp edges are allowed; String, rope, chain and similar are not permissive immediately on the bridge of the nose; these elements must be sufficient padded to prevent changes in and damage to skin and bones

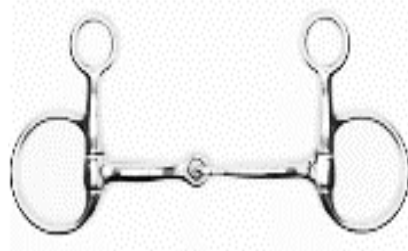
Permitted are all bits and bridles that are pictured or that are very similar/comparable with those pictured (including similar types of differing manufacturers)

1. Single, double and multi jointed (Snaffle) bits









2. Bar bits



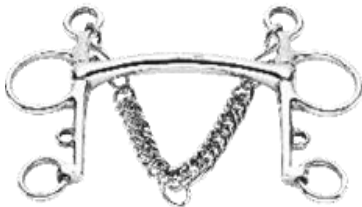


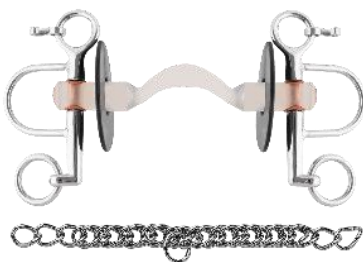


3. Pelhams

- Can be jointed or with bar and with one or two sets of reins



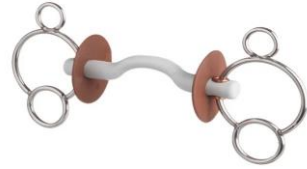




4. Three/Four-Ring Bits / Pessos

- Can be jointed or bar bits and with one or two sets of reins







5. Kimblewicks





6. Double bridles

- With Bridoon bit

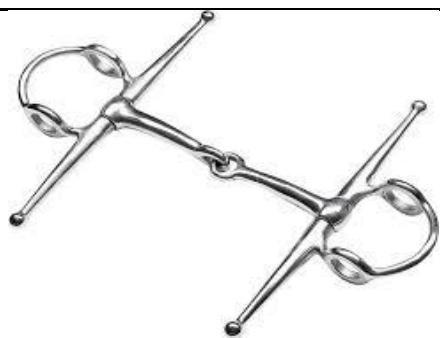






7. Gag bits



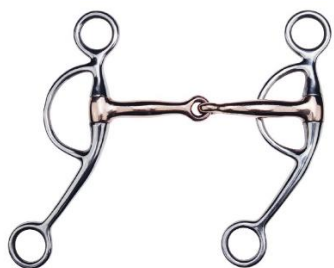


Curbgag only with two sets of reins



Curbgag only with two sets of reins



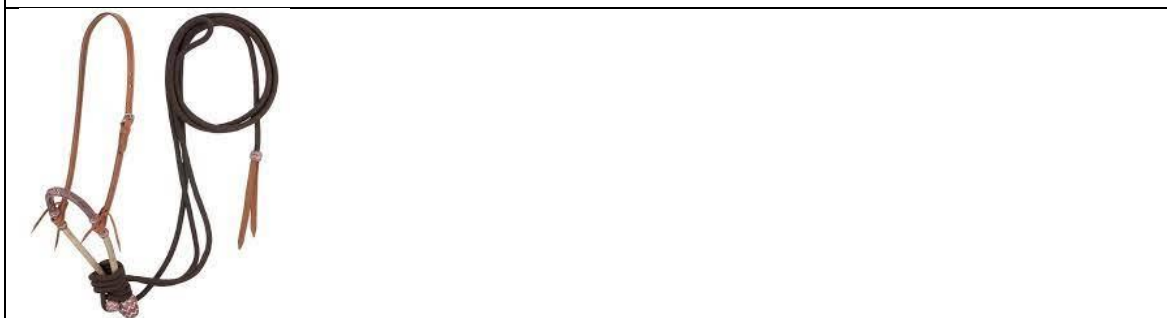
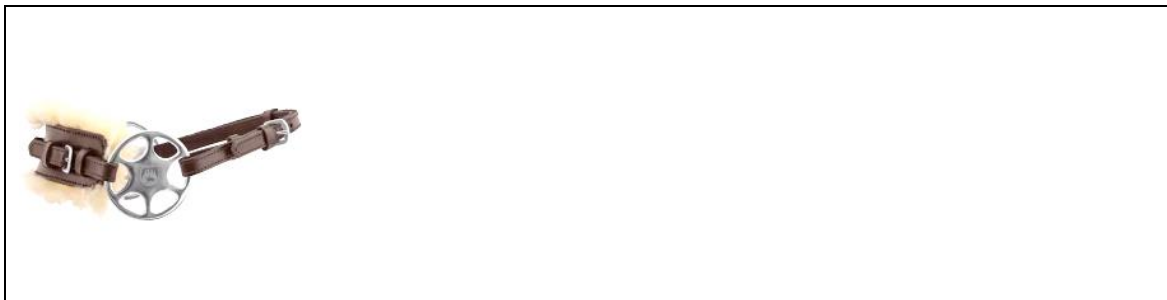


8. Hackamore

- If used in combination with a bit, only a snaffle (no lever) is permitted; cannot be paired with a gag bit



9. Bitless bridles





10. Bridle combinations

- Combinations of mouthpieces with hackamore or other bitless bridles must be specifically pictured in the catalogue/app.
- Combinations or bridles may only include one bit
- Only one lever (lever arm **or** gag) is permissible / double amplification of force is not allowed



FEI Feedback

The FEI Jumping Committee agreed to discuss the use of tack and the definitions currently available in the Jumping Rules. However, changes will be discussed with all Stakeholders as part of the Full Revision of the Jumping Rules that will take place in 2025 and this proposed change will be used as a starting point.

FEI Proposed Wording (if applicable)

None

Rules Proposal Submitted By

MEX NF

Article No.–Article Name

Art. 261 – NORMAL COMPETITIONS AND GRAND PRIX COMPETITIONS
Art. 261.4.3

Periodical Rules Revision Policy Criteria

Explanation for Proposed Change

We don't understand why OCs can choose so many common competitions in the rulebook for Grand Prix qualification purposes except for the special two phase (stated in the above-mentioned article).

The special two phase is a competition where both phases are run under Table A (second phase against the clock) and where every Athlete have the same chance (there's no groups).

We consider that there is no reason to reject having it as qualifying competition for the GP.

Proposed Wording

If qualification conditions for Athlete/Horse are scheduled for the Grand Prix Competition at a CSIO or a CSI, it is compulsory that all qualifying Competitions are run under Table A against the clock or under Table A with one or two jump-offs or with two rounds (Art. 273) or with winning round (Art. 276) or in ~~normal~~ two phase competitions (Art. 274.1.5.1-Art. 274.1.5.3, both phases Table A or Art 274.2). Competitions in groups with winning round (Art. 275) ~~and special two phase Competitions (Art. 274.2)~~ may not be used as qualifying competitions for the Grand Prix.

FEI Feedback

The proposed modification does not meet the Periodical Rules Revision Policy Criteria and is deferred to the next full revision.

FEI Proposed Wording (if applicable)

None

Rules Proposal Submitted By

IJRC

Article No.–Article Name

Art. 261 – NORMAL COMPETITIONS AND GRAND PRIX COMPETITIONS
Art. 261.4.5

Periodical Rules Revision Policy Criteria

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

Explanation for Proposed Change

None

Proposed Wording

4.5 In addition to the above paragraph, to be eligible to take part in the Grand Prix and/or the FEI Jumping World Cup™ Competition at a CSI5* or CSI5*-W Event if there is no qualification system in place, Athletes must have achieved, with the Horse with which they wish to compete in the Grand Prix and/or the FEI Jumping World Cup™ Competition, the following result within the 12 months prior ~~to the definite entries for the Event:~~ **to the day of the Grand Prix of the Event:**

four Penalties or less in the initial round of a 1.50 m Competition or higher run under Table A. The above requirement does not apply to the Athlete/Horse combinations pre-qualified for the Grand Prix at CSI Events according to the provisions of paragraph 4.2 above.

FEI Feedback

The Jumping Committee acknowledged the issue that could arise (for new combinations for example) and was in favour of amending this rule. It was in addition suggested to make the following clarifications as well to ameliorate the wording of the article.

FEI Proposed Wording (if applicable)

4.5 In addition to the above paragraph, to be eligible to take part in the Grand Prix and/or the FEI Jumping World Cup™ Competition at a CSI(O)5* or CSI5*-W Event if there is no qualification system in place, Athletes must have achieved, with the Horse with which they wish to compete in the Grand Prix and/or the FEI Jumping World Cup™ Competition, the following result within the 12 months prior ~~to the definite entries for the Event:~~ **to the day of the Grand Prix of the Event:**

four Penalties or less in the initial round of a 1.50 m Competition or higher run under Table A. The above requirement does not apply to the Athlete/Horse combinations pre-qualified for the Grand Prix at CSI Events according to the provisions of paragraphs 4.1 and 4.2 above.

Rules Proposal Submitted By

BEL NF, FRA NF, GBR NF, NED NF

Article No.–Article Name

Art. 273 – COMPETITION OVER TWO ROUNDS
Art. 273.2.2.2 (i and ii)

Periodical Rules Revision Policy Criteria

Correction of inconsistencies, manifest errors, contradictions, etc.

Explanation for Proposed Change

During the CSIO5* LLN GP in Abu Dhabi, the GP was a Table A of 2 rounds with the 1st round against the clock and 25% returning in the 2nd round (273.2.2 i). So 25% of the athletes could return to the second round. The situation occurred that not all athletes without penalties could return for the second round. Especially if you are at the top of the starting list, you are at a disadvantage because you have no idea yet what the optimum time will be to reach the 25%. We understand the need for an organizer to have control of the timetable but we strongly believe that all athletes without penalties in a Grand Prix should be allowed to go to the second round.

There should be an addition in article 273.2.2 ii. This rule 273.2.2 ii, should always be used at a Grand Prix. Now it's up to the OC to make this decision whether they use 273.2.2 i or 273.2.2 ii.

Or they should add an extra sentence with article 273.2.2 i that in a Grand Prix all athletes without penalties may start in the second round.

Proposed Wording

- (i) at least 25% or a set number of Athletes, the exact percentage or number to be mentioned in the Schedule, return for the second round based on their Penalties and time in the first round; **exception is that in a Grand Prix all athletes without penalties should return to the second round or,**
- (ii) (ii) at least 25% or a set number of Athletes, the exact percentage or number to be mentioned in the Schedule, return for the second round, based on their penalties and time in the first round; in any case all Athletes without penalties in the first round, return for the second round. **This applies always for a Grand Prix at an event.**

FEI Feedback

The Jumping Committee rejects this proposal as the option for all Athletes with clear rounds to return for Round 2 is already foreseen in Art 273.2. (ii).
The current conditions of Art 273 were created in order to enable Organising Committees to tailor their choice of competition formula to their own specific requirement.

FEI Proposed Wording (if applicable)

None

Rules Proposal Submitted By

IJRC

Article No.–Article Name

ANNEX V – CSI INVITATION RULES
Section 4

Periodical Rules Revision Policy Criteria

6. Other scenarios not foreseen by this Policy as considered and approved by the Board

Explanation for Proposed Change

1 extra wild card for CSI5* events to be allocated to an U25 athlete with the necessary requirements, as for U25 is nearly impossible to enter in 5* or to have individual invitation for CSI5*. As it is difficult for U25 athletes to emerge and to have the change to improve their position in the ranking.

Proposed Wording

The FEI has the right to allocate an invitation to two Athletes for CSI2*/CSI3*/CSI4* events and one athlete for CSI5* events **plus an extra FEI wildcard (for CSI5*) should be allocated to an U25 athlete with the necessary requirements.**

The FEI invitations are included in the quota for compulsory invitations established under Section 1.1. The level of the nominated athlete must be of the required standard for the Event in question. OCs must accept the entries of Athletes to whom the FEI has allocated an FEI invitation. For Events that are on the list of qualifiers for the Olympic Games published on the FEI website, the FEI has the right to allocate an additional FEI invitation to an Athlete attempting to earn a Certificate of Capability for the Olympic Games. The additional FEI invitation for Athletes attempting to earn a Certificate of Capability for the Olympic Games is not included in the overall quota of Athletes invited at the Event. This Athlete will be allowed to participate in all Competitions in addition to the number of Starters allowed providing the Athlete fulfils any qualification or participation requirement (for example, if the competition is a Grand Prix, the Athlete will be allowed to participate providing they have completed, with their Grand Prix Horse, the initial round of at least one FEI Competition (according to Art. 261.4.4) prior to the Grand Prix).

The maximum number of times an athlete can be nominated during the same season for this section is three.

FEI Feedback

The FEI Jumping Department can already allocate one (1) FEI wild card invitation at CSI5* events and two (2) FEI wild card invitations at CSIO5* events and makes sure there is a good rotation of allocation of these wild cards. The Jumping Committee encourages National Federations to apply for FEI wild card invitations for their U25 athletes.

FEI Proposed Wording (if applicable)

None

Rules Proposal Submitted By
IJRC
Article No.–Article Name
ANNEX VI – CSI/CSIO REQUIREMENTS
Periodical Rules Revision Policy Criteria
3. New/recently introduced rule that has proven to be problematic in its implementation
Explanation for Proposed Change
The IJRC believes that a revision of this point is necessary and will request a change to the PM in 2025 in countries with high inflation and with grave economic difficulties, following the steps proposed in the regulations. However, IJRC believes it would also be advisable to find a solution for 2024 which does not negatively impact the sport and his development.
Proposed Wording
For South America, East Europe, Africa. <i>TBC</i> - 30% on PM is allowed.
FEI Feedback
IJRC and Regional Groups highlighted the issues that the changes to prize money requirements that came into effect on 1 January 2024 have caused to some countries and the Jumping Committee and Jumping Department are working on finding a suitable solution for all Stakeholders to be presented at the 2025 FEI General Assembly if necessary.
FEI Proposed Wording (if applicable)
None

Rules Proposal Submitted By
NF BRA
Article No.–Article Name
ANNEX VI – CSI/CSIO REQUIREMENTS
Periodical Rules Revision Policy Criteria
3. New/recently introduced rule that has proven to be problematic in its implementation
Explanation for Proposed Change
We would like to initiate a discussion regarding the recent alteration in prize money rules, which has posed significant challenges for developing countries with currencies experiencing pronounced fluctuations. We recognize the importance of fostering sports in our regions and, as such, propose an adjustment in prize values and table structure for countries outside the Europe/United States axis. Given the limitation in athletes, we suggest allowing the participation of two horses per competitor, along with some adjustments in the height of the events. We understand that this proposal requires extensive discussion within the community, but we believe it is crucial to ensure the quality of events in our regions. Faced with logistical challenges, especially those related to sanitary issues, it is imperative that our athletes are not isolated from high-level competition opportunities. We kindly request your understanding and invite the opening of a constructive discussion on this matter. The values presented in the table reflect those practiced in 2023,

adjusted by 15%, slightly above inflation and superior to those practiced in the last prize adjustment, considering the values of the old table in dollars.

We rely on the collaboration and support of all to advance this important discussion.

Proposed Wording

None

FEI Feedback

As above

FEI Proposed Wording (if applicable)

As above

Rules Proposal Submitted By

IJRC

Article No.–Article Name

ANNEX VI – CSI/CSIO REQUIREMENTS

Periodical Rules Revision Policy Criteria

6. Other scenarios not foreseen by this Policy as considered and approved by the Board

Explanation for Proposed Change

The IJRC asks that the extra cost/mandatory fee such as, but not limited to manure, electricity, parking, TVA, etc. must be in line with the list approved by: FEI, IJRC, AJO and NARG.

Proposed Wording

None

FEI Feedback

IJRC and other Stakeholders have acknowledged the need to update the fees at Jumping Events. Those Stakeholders along with the Jumping Department are working on finding a suitable solution for all Stakeholders to be presented at the 2025 FEI General Assembly if necessary.

FEI Proposed Wording (if applicable)

None

Rules Proposal Submitted By

EEF

Article No.–Article Name

ANNEX IX – RULES FOR UNDER 25 (U25), YOUNG RIDERS AND JUNIORS

Periodical Rules Revision Policy Criteria

6. Other scenarios not foreseen by this Policy as considered and approved by the Board

Explanation for Proposed Change

Why U25 Jumping Championships

- The gap from YR to Seniors is very big
- The U25 riders do not have goals, only few are able and the chefs de equips trust them to be part of Seniors Championships/Games
- To keep the motivation of the athletes
- Being successful at the championships will allow the U25 athletes to be attractive for sponsors
- U25 in the dressage proved that the concept could be successful
- More medals for the federations

I survey run by EEF shows that there is a potential for such championships

Realistic number of participants

- 7-10 teams
- 45-50 athletes

Proposed Wording

ANNEX IX RULES FOR UNDER 25 (U25), YOUNG RIDERS AND JUNIORS CHAPTER II INTERNATIONAL EVENTS AND CHAMPIONSHIPS

ARTICLE 4. INTERNATIONAL EVENTS (SEE GRs ARTICLE 102)

1. The following types of Jumping Events for U25 Athletes, Young Riders and Juniors are established: International Events Category A and B (CSIU25, CSIY and CSIJ Cat. A respectively CSIU25, CSIY and CSIJ Cat. B; Official International Events (~~CSIU25~~, CSIOY or CSIOJ) and Championships may be organised for **U25**, Young Riders and Juniors ~~but may not be organised for the U25 Category~~.

- 2.3. Maximum height **1,55 m for U25** and 1.50 m **for Young Riders**, with a proportional spread between 1.50 m and 1.80 m ~~for U25 and Young Riders~~, except for the triple bar which may have a maximum spread of 1.90 m. Speed for the Grand Prix if it is a Longines Ranking Competition with a height of 1.45 m or more: minimum 375 m per minute, maximum 400 m per minute (see Art. 234.2) outdoors, and minimum 350 m per minute, maximum 375 m per minute indoors. Speed for other Competitions minimum 350 m per minute. In indoor arenas the speed may be reduced to 325 m per minute; the speed may also be reduced to 325 m per minute in outdoor arenas providing it is stated in the Schedule. Minimum age **of U25 riders is eight years and of Young riders** Horses **is** seven years.

ARTICLE 5. CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR **U25**, YOUNG RIDERS AND JUNIORS

1. ~~Jumping Championships for U25 Athletes are not authorised~~. All Jumping Championships for **U25**, Young Riders or Juniors have the status of a CSIO. At Championships Athletes may only take part for the country of their Sport Nationality as set forth in GRs Art. 119.
9. Championships (**except for U25**) must be held at some time during a long school holiday (for Europe this is from mid-July to mid-August).

ARTICLE 6 ELIGIBILITY AT INTERNATIONAL EVENTS AND CHAMPIONSHIPS

4. The participation of a **U25**, Young Rider or a Junior in a Championship in one Discipline for **U25**, Young Riders, respectively Juniors, does not exclude the same Athlete from participating with another Horse in a Championship for Seniors in another Discipline, if the Athlete has reached the appropriate age.
5. Once an Athlete has taken part in a Championship Competition for **U25 or** Young Riders in Jumping, **he/she** can no longer go back to a Championship for Juniors in Jumping.
7. Certificates of Capability for FEI European Jumping Championships for **U25**, Young Rider and Juniors
For the European **U25**, Young Rider and Junior Championships Athletes and Horses can qualify according to any one of the following paragraphs:

Athletes and Horses that participated in the previous year's FEI European Championship for U25, Young Riders and Juniors in their respective age Category.

NEW PARAGRAPH:

For the U25 Championship, Athletes and Horses may qualify according to the paragraph below:

Athletes and Horses must have completed the first round of two Table A Competitions conducted according to Art. 238, Art. 273 or 264 at CSIIY, CSI U25, CSI3* to CSI5*, CSI1-5*-W outdoor Events, respectively at CSIOU25, CSIOJ, CSIOY or CSIO1* to CSIO5* outdoor Events, with a Score of not more than eight Penalties, providing the height of obstacles in the initial round of the Competition is at least 1.45 m.

ARTICLE 8 EXPENSES AND PRIVILEGES

2. Championships and CSIOs (U25, Young Riders and Juniors)

CHAPTER III CONTINENTAL AND REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS (U25, YOUNG RIDERS AND JUNIORS)

ARTICLE 15 AGE REQUIREMENTS

1. Horses

1.1. Horses for U25 must be 8 year old, and of Young riders and Juniors must be seven years of age or older.

2. Athletes

NEW PARAGRAPH

2.1. A Championship for U25 is open to Athletes from the beginning of the year in which they reach the age of 18 until the end of the year in which they reach the age of 25.

After the current paragraph 2.5

NEW PARAGRAPH

An U25 rider, from the beginning of the year in which they reach the age of 18 until the end of the year in which they reach the age of 25 may take part in the Championship for Seniors, but they may not take part in both the Championship for Seniors and in the Championship for U25 during the same year in the same Discipline (see Art. 7.2 of this Annex)

ARTICLE 16 COMPETITIONS

....

For combined Jumping Championships with two or more Categories, e.g. U25, Juniors and Young Riders and/or Children and/or Pony Riders, or U25 and Seniors subject to the approval of the FEI Jumping Director the timetable for any given Category may differ from the above but the order of the Competitions may not be changed.

ARTICLE 17 OBSTACLES AND COURSES

1. First qualifying Competition: Obstacles and other technical requirements

Number of obstacles	12-14
Maximum height	1.45
Spread	1.50 to 1.70 m
Maximum spread of water jump (not compulsory)	4.00 m
Minimum/maximum length of the course	500/600 m
Speed	N/A
Table	C

2. Team Final: Obstacles and other technical requirements

Number of obstacles	12-14
Maximum height	1,50
Maximum spread	1.80 m
At least 8 obstacles (including two verticals) with a minimum height of	1.55 m
Maximum spread of the water jump (compulsory)	4.00 m
Minimum/maximum length of the course	500/600 m
Speed	400 m/min

3. Individual Final Competition: Obstacles and other technical requirements

Number of obstacles	
Round A	10-12
Round B	8-10
Maximum height	1.55 m
Maximum spread	1.80 m
Maximum spread of the triple bar	2.00 m
Maximum Spread of the water jump (compulsory)	4.00 m
Minimum/maximum length of the course	
Round A	500/600 m
Round B	450/550 m
Speed	400 m/min.

FEI Feedback

The proposed modification does not meet the Periodical Rules Revision Policy Criteria and is deferred to the next full revision.

FEI Proposed Wording (if applicable)

None

Rules Proposal Submitted By

ITA NF

Article No.–Article Name

ANNEX XI – RULES FOR PONY RIDERS

Periodical Rules Revision Policy Criteria

1. Urgent repairs

Explanation for Proposed Change

Our Sport, as we are all aware with much concern, is every day more under severe scrutiny and our Social License to Operate at stake, as recent occurrences of reactions on part of animalists testify, triggered perhaps by the unfortunate case of the Pentathlon horse at the Olympics echoed worldwide by the media and leading to raise the issue as the hot topic in all our agendas.

Also in the past FISE advocated the reduction of the obstacles' height in SJ for Ponies, for multiple reasons (accessibility to a wider pool of pony riders, inclusion of a larger number of Federations, especially non-European, issues about the welfare of the ponies, as the obstacles' heights at the European Championships for example are far beyond the

average pony technical skills and thus representing a too severe participation selection not in line with sporting principles) but now perhaps, seen the alarming ferment within the general public, it is the case that we all also start to re-think the Rules with the consideration of the welfare of pony as a lighthouse.

In our opinion it is not feasible that a 149 cm high pony may be allowed to jump 135 cm height classes with a 16 y-o pony rider, as we all know that youngsters are now much taller and stouter with respect to the past and we need to intervene and lower the heights of the pony SJ competitions for welfare issue firstly more than other reasons.

Besides, we should consider the group of age 12/16 y-o riders is currently divided now into Children, Pony and Junior activity and the introduction of the Children's category years narrowed the pony participation to much detriment of the pony activity in some Countries where the pony sector was traditionally strong and well-established.

We suggest that the following solutions may be considered for triggering a general debate within the NFs in order to reach a consensus with the objective of

- ✓ making the Pony competitions more "pony friendly" to the eyes of the general public, taking into consideration all welfare related issues
- ✓ giving more lymph to the Pony sector which has become rather stagnant in the last years
- ✓ creating a wider pool of grassroots riders and making the Pony Championships more accessible allowing a wider participation of NFs and athletes

We submit the following possible solutions to be discussed and to reach the above goals:

- 1) by lowering the maximum age of the pony rider from 16 yrs to 15 years
- 2) by lowering the obstacles' heights of the Continental Championships from 130/135 cm to 120/125 cm
- 3) by establishing two different age group categories for Pony riders and corresponding 2 different levels of Championships;
 - SJ: Under 15: 120/125 cm for the lower level – Under 16: 130/135 cm for the higher level in SJ
 - Eventing: CCIP1* for the lower and CCIP2* for the higher level

This way the pony activity would avoid the deep gap age and have a more level field of play besides having a big boost to its participation.

Proposed Wording

1)

ARTICLE 3 PONY COMPETITOR

1. An Athlete may compete as a Pony Rider from the beginning of the calendar year in which they reach the age of 12 until the end of the year in which they reach the age of **15**.

2. No Pony Rider may be classified as a professional.

2)

ARTICLE 16 OBSTACLES

1. At Championships and CSIOPs the course shall consist of 10 to 12 obstacles requiring no more than 15 efforts. The maximum number of combinations shall be one double and one triple or three doubles.

1.1. At other Events courses shall not exceed the above specifications and should, if necessary, be modified according to the standard of the Athletes and Ponies taking part.

2. Obstacles must be strong and impressive in appearance. It must be taken into consideration that Ponies are lighter in weight than Horses and must be able to effect knock-downs.

3. In Championships the maximum height and spread of obstacles, except in a jump-off, shall be as follows:
 - 3.1. In the Farewell Competition dimensions may not exceed the height of ~~1.25~~ **1.15** m, spread ~~1.40~~ **1.25** m (~~1.60~~ **1.50** m for the triple bars).
 - 3.2. In the first Competition and the Team Final, height ~~1.30~~ **1.20** m, spread ~~1.40~~ **1.30** m (~~1.60~~ **1.50** m for the triple bars).
 - 3.3. In the Individual Final, height ~~1.35~~ **1.25** m, spread ~~1.45~~ **1.35** m (~~1.60~~ **1.50** m for the triple bars).
4. At CSIOPs the maximum height and spread shall not exceed those specified for similar Competitions at a Championship.

3)

ARTICLE 6 CONTINENTAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

1. Each year, a Continental Championship in Jumping may be organised within each Continent. Jumping, Dressage and Eventing Continental Championships for Pony Riders may be organised within the same Event or may be organised separately.
2. The Continental Championships will, as far as possible, be organised during the long school holidays (for Europe, this is mid-July to mid-August).
3. The Continental Championships will be held outdoors.
4. The Continental Championships must be restricted to all NFs included in the Continent concerned.
5. The FEI approves the organisation of Championships. NFs wishing to organise a Championship must apply as set forth in the GRs.
6. The Championships must be organised in strict accordance with the GRs, the Rules of the Discipline concerned and the present specific Rules (refer also to Art. 22).
7. Continental Championships may only be held if at least six NFs are represented, except outside Europe where they may be held with any number of regional teams from at least two NFs, including the host NF. An NF, which withdraws after the closing date for the entries and before the start of the Championship is, however, considered as represented.
8. Only teams and/or individuals officially entered by their NF may participate.
9. A Pony Rider and/or Pony may only compete in one Discipline in any one calendar year at the same Event.
10. the Championships is divided into two age groups with different heights and each level will award the title/medals: **Under 15:** 120/125 cm for the lower level – **Under 16:** 130/135 cm for the higher level

ARTICLE 16 OBSTACLES

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 - 1.1. At other Events courses shall not exceed the above specifications and should, if necessary, be modified according to the standard of the Athletes and Ponies taking part.
2. Obstacles must be strong and impressive in appearance. It must be taken into consideration that Ponies are lighter in weight than Horses and must be able to effect knock-downs.
3. In Championships the maximum height and spread of obstacles, except in a jump-off, shall be as follows :
 - 3.1. In the Farewell Competition dimensions may not exceed the height of 1.25 m, spread ~~1.40~~ **1.35** m for Under 16 (higher level) (1.60 m for the triple bars) and the height of 1.15 m, spread 1.25 m (1.50 m for the triple bars) for Under 15 (lower level).
 - 3.2. In the first Competition and the Team Final, height 1.30 m, spread 1.40 m for Under 16 (higher level) (1.60 m for the triple bars) and the height of 1.20 m, spread 1.30 m (1.50 m for the triple bars) for Under 15 (lower level).
 - 3.3. In the Individual Final, height 1.35 m, spread 1.45 m for Under 16 (higher level) (1.60 m for the triple bars) and the height of 1.25 m, spread 1.35 m (1.50 m for the triple bars) for Under 15 (lower level).

4. At CSIOPs the maximum height and spread shall not exceed those specified for similar Competitions at a Championship.

ARTICLE 22 CONTINENTAL JUMPING CHAMPIONSHIPS

1. Entries

After the approval of the Schedule by the FEI Jumping Director, the invitations, together with the Schedule, are sent to the NFs of the appropriate Continent by the host NF.

2. Teams

2.1. Each NF may enter **for each level (U15 and U16)** one team of not more than six Athletes and six Ponies from which five Athletes and five Ponies are allowed to travel to the Championship and four to start in the Team Final.

2.2. The OC must extend its invitation to a Chef d'Equipe who will be given the same privileges as the Athletes.

3. Individuals instead of teams

An NF which cannot send a complete team may enter one or two individual Athletes with one Pony each **in each level (U15 and U16)**.

4. NFs are entitled to send **for each level (U15 and U16)** one groom for each two Ponies with a maximum of two grooms per team.

5. The entries shall be made in two phases in accordance with the GRs Art. 116.2.2(i) – 116.2.2(ii):

The Schedule may include a date by which NFs are to indicate whether the intention is to send only a team or a team and individuals or only individuals **for each level (U15 and U16)**. The maximum number of nominated and definite entries of Athletes and Ponies that may be entered in the Continental Pony Jumping Championship **for each level (U15 and U16)** is as follows:

- Nominated entries: 12 Athletes and 12 Ponies
- Definite entries: 6 Athletes and 6 Ponies, of which 5 Athletes and 5 Ponies are allowed to travel to the Championship (see Art. 22.2.1 above).

Athletes and Ponies entered for a Championship on the list of nominated entries (four weeks before the Championship) can be replaced and additions can be made within the limits specified in GRs Art. 116.2.2(i) until the date of definite entries (at the latest four days before the start of the Championship).

In the event of an accident or illness of an Athlete and/or Pony, substantiated by a certificate from an official recognised doctor and/or veterinarian, between the date of definite entries and one hour before the first Pony Inspection of the Championship, substitutions of Athletes and/or Ponies can be made. Such substitutions must be taken from the updated list of nominated entries and require Ground Jury approval.

FEI Feedback

The proposed modification does not meet the Periodical Rules Revision Policy Criteria and is deferred to the next full revision.

FEI Proposed Wording (if applicable)

None

B. Rules Proposals put forward by the FEI

Article No.–Article Name
Art. 208 – OBSTACLES – GENERAL Art. 208.6
Periodical Rules Revision Policy Criteria
2. Correction of inconsistencies, manifest errors, contradictions, etc.
Explanation for Proposed Change
These changes came into effect in 2023 but the article wasn't updated accordingly.
Proposed Wording
Poles and other parts of the obstacles are held up by supports (cups). The pole must be able to roll on its support; the support must have a depth of 18 mm minimum and a depth of 30-20 mm maximum. As of 1 January 2023, the support must have a depth of 18 mm minimum and a depth of 20 mm maximum. This also applies for safety cups (refer to Art. 210.1 for details). For special obstacle material and planks, balustrades, barriers, gates, etc. the diameter of the supports must be more open or even flat.

Article No.–Article Name
Art. 210 – SPREAD OBSTACLE Art. 210.1
Periodical Rules Revision Policy Criteria
2. Correction of inconsistencies, manifest errors, contradictions, etc.
Explanation for Proposed Change
As above
Proposed Wording
A spread obstacle is an obstacle which is built in such a manner that it requires an effort both in spread and in height. FEI approved safety cups must be used as support for the back pole of spread obstacles and in case of a triple-bar to support the centre and back poles of the obstacle. As of 1 January 2023, t The maximum depth of the safety cups for the top back pole of a spread obstacle is 18 mm; safety cups used for the centre poles of a triple bar or for lower poles of other obstacles may have a maximum depth of 20 mm. Approved safety cups must be used in the Competition arena and schooling areas.

Article No.–Article Name
Art. 238 – METHODS OF DETERMINING THE SCORES UNDER TABLE A Art. 238.2.1 – Competitions against the clock
Periodical Rules Revision Policy Criteria
4. Implementation of new technology development(s) relevant to the specific set of Rules
Explanation for Proposed Change

Article 238.2.1 includes two variants:

- a. Athletes with equality of Penalties for any place are placed in accordance with the time taken to complete the round
- b. In the event of equality of Penalties and time for first place, there may be a jump-off over a shortened course over obstacles

Depending on the chosen variant, the FEI Database results module will expect a different set of results – with a jump-off, or without one. Therefore, the FEI Database results module needs to rely on distinct codes for the same article, hence the appended “a” and “b”.

This was not much of a problem because before the online schedule, this only appeared in the competition details on the FEI Database, not on the schedules.

We would like to suggest that this rule is split into the two possible variants, for example 238.2.1.1 and 238.2.1.2 during the next rules revision.

Proposed Wording

2.1.1 Athletes with equality of Penalties for any place are placed in accordance with the time taken to complete the round.

2.1.2 In the event of equality of Penalties and time for first place, there may be a jump-off over a shortened course over obstacles, which may be increased in height and/or spread in accordance with the provisions of the Schedule.

Article No.–Article Name

Art. 244 – BOOT AND BANDAGE CONTROL
 Art. 244.1 – Stewarding – Boot and Bandage Control

Periodical Rules Revision Policy Criteria

2. Correction of inconsistencies, manifest errors, contradictions, etc.

Explanation for Proposed Change

The procedure for boot and bandage control will be extracted from the FEI Jumping Rules and the Protocol will be available on the [FEI Jumping Rules main page](#).

Proposed Wording

It is obligatory to carry out boot and bandage control on all Horses taking part in the Grand Prix, Nations Cup/Longines League of Nations™, Puissance and Six Bar Competitions, and during the Competition with the highest prize money at each Event. It is also recommended that boot and bandage control be carried out during other Competitions. Refer to the VRs and to the ~~Jumping Stewards Manual~~[Boot and Bandage Control Protocol](#) for the procedure for boot and bandage control.

Article No.–Article Name

Art. 257 – SADDLERY
 Art. 257.1.4

Periodical Rules Revision Policy Criteria

2. Correction of inconsistencies, manifest errors, contradictions, etc.

Explanation for Proposed Change

The FEI Jumping Committee proposed a clarification to this newly introduced rule to specify that only two single obstacles may be added as the addition of double, treble or higher combinations is not supported.

Proposed Wording

1.4. There are no restrictions on bits or nosebands. However, the Ground Jury has the right, based on veterinary advice, to forbid the use of a bit or noseband that may cause injury to the Horse. [Article 1044.8 of the FEI Veterinary Regulations applies in relation to the permitted tightness of the noseband.](#)

Article No.–Article Name

Art. 276 – COMPETITION WITH WINNING ROUND
 Art. 276.1.4
 Art. 276.2.4

Periodical Rules Revision Policy Criteria

2. Correction of inconsistencies, manifest errors, contradictions, etc.

Explanation for Proposed Change

The FEI Jumping Committee proposed a clarification to this newly introduced rule to specify that only two single obstacles may be added as the addition of double, treble or higher combinations is not supported.

Proposed Wording

1.4. The course of the winning round must be a shortened course over obstacles of the first and/or second round, two new [single](#) obstacles may be added.
 [...]
 2.4. The course of the winning round must be a shortened course over obstacles of the first round, two new [single](#) obstacles may be added.

Article No.–Article Name

ANNEX XI – RULES FOR PONY RIDERS
 ARTICLE 21 – INSPECTION OF SADDLERY

Periodical Rules Revision Policy Criteria

2. Correction of inconsistencies, manifest errors, contradictions, etc.

Explanation for Proposed Change

References to the “Guidelines for Use of Tack, Equipment and Dress” were replaced in the last revision by references to the FEI TackApp and FEI Tack, Equipment & Dress Database. The same changes are proposed to references of tack and equipment in the Stewards Manual.

Proposed Wording

1.1.1 Bits
 [...]
 Hackamore: The nose piece of the hackamore must be flat and constructed of pliable non-abrasive material; Padding or sheepskin on the nose piece is permitted; no metal pieces of any kind may be inserted in the nose piece, padding or sheepskin. Cheeks may not exceed 17 cm (Measurement should be carried out in a straight line from the middle of the upper ring to the middle of the lower ring. For models with a “curb chain” or strap, measurement should be taken from the middle of the bottom ring to the point of junction

where the shank connects to the nose piece. Refer to the [Tack, Equipment and Dress Database or the FEI TackAppStewards-Manual for Jumping](#) for photographs.)

[...]

1.1.2 Nosebands

[...]

Variations of the above nosebands, such as but not limited to the noseband pictured below, may be permitted providing they comply with the provisions of this paragraph, are properly fitted and do not interfere with the Pony's breathing (refer to the [Tack, Equipment and Dress Database or the FEI TackAppStewards-Manual for Jumping](#) for details).

Article No.–Article Name

ANNEX XII – RULES FOR CHILDREN'S EVENTS

ARTICLE 18 – SADDLERY

Art. 2.4

Periodical Rules Revision Policy Criteria

2. Correction of inconsistencies, manifest errors, contradictions, etc.

Explanation for Proposed Change

References to the "Guidelines for Use of Tack, Equipment and Dress" were replaced in the last revision by references to the FEI TackApp and FEI Tack, Equipment & Dress Database. The same changes are proposed to references of tack and equipment in the Stewards Manual.

Proposed Wording

Variations of the above nosebands, such as but not limited to the noseband pictured below, may be permitted providing they comply with the provisions of this paragraph, are properly fitted and do not interfere with the Horse's breathing (see the [Tack, Equipment and Dress Database or the FEI TackAppStewards-Manual](#) for details).

Article No.–Article Name

ANNEX XII – RULES FOR CHILDREN'S EVENTS

ARTICLE 4 – TYPE OF EVENTS

Art. 4.3.5

Periodical Rules Revision Policy Criteria

2. Correction of inconsistencies, manifest errors, contradictions, etc.

Explanation for Proposed Change

The numeration of this article had involuntarily been written from 1 to 19 while it should have been divided in three sections.

Proposed Wording

4.3. With the approval of the Secretary General of the FEI, various formulas may be used by the OC at Events where borrowed Horses are provided, but the recommended formulas are as follows:

4.3.1. Each Athlete of the host NF provides two Horses. A draw is held to match foreign Athletes with host Athletes. Another draw takes place to allocate one of the Horses of the host Athlete to the foreign Athlete. The Athletes of the host NF rides the Horse which has not been allocated to the foreign Athlete.

- 4.3.2. Each Athlete of the host NF provides two Horses. Each foreign Athlete draws a Horse for each of the Athletes from the host NF. The remaining Horses are pooled together and are allocated to the foreign Athletes by means of a draw.
- 4.3.3. A draw takes place to allocate all Horses provided by the OC to Athletes present.
- 4.3.4. Each Athlete of the host NF provides one Horse. A draw takes place to match foreign Athletes with host country Athletes. Each Horse is ridden by a host Competition NF Athletes and by a foreign Athlete. In the first Competition, the host NF Athlete rides their Horse first.
- 4.3.54. The following rules apply to all Competitions with borrowed Horses:
- 4.3.64.1. Sufficient reserve Horses must only be provided for foreign Children. Horses that are obviously unsuitable for foreign Athletes must be replaced by reserve Horses. Such a substitution may only be done with the approval of the Ground Jury.
- 4.3.74.2. Each Athlete will be given the opportunity to school the Horse obtained in the draw at least once, during a riding session lasting one hour.
- 4.3.84.3. Not more than a total of six obstacles may be jumped during any training session. Cross poles are not included in the above number.
- 4.3.94.4. The OC will establish the Rules governing schooling sessions.
- 4.3.104.5. Liverpools, dry ditches and natural obstacles such as banks, etc. may not be used.
- 4.3.114.6. Horses must be allocated at least two days before the first Competition.
- 4.3.124.7. Horses may only be ridden once daily for a maximum of one hour.
- 4.3.13. The Horse's trainer or any other person, providing they have received the owner's authorisation, may school the Horse during the Event.
- 4.3.144.8. The Horse must be ridden using the bit which it usually works with and in which it is presented at the time of the draw. The bit may be changed only with the agreement of the owner.
- 4.3.154.9. Three attempts at jumping an obstacle count as one obstacle jumped. One double or one triple counts as one obstacle.
- 4.3.165. The following and above rules apply for Competitions with borrowed Horses which are run in accordance with paragraph 4.3.4. above, unless otherwise stated below.
- 4.3.175.1. During the Competition days, the first and second Athletes may jump six obstacles each.
- 4.3.185.2. The number of obstacles in any course may not exceed eight in total, that is, a maximum of ten efforts. Two doubles or one triple may be used.
- 4.3.195.3. In the first Competition, Horses must be ridden first by the Athletes of the host NF.
- 4.3.205.4. If there are not sufficient foreign Athletes to match the number of host NF Athletes, there will be a draw among foreign Athletes to decide which foreign Athletes will ride the surplus Horses, in order to ensure that all Horses start twice per day.

Article No.–Article Name

GLOSSARY OF TERMS SPECIFIC TO JUMPING

Periodical Rules Revision Policy Criteria

2. Correction of inconsistencies, manifest errors, contradictions, etc.

Explanation for Proposed Change

The sentence refers to Art. 1082 to 1088 of the FEI Veterinary Regulations however these articles have changed and the correct numeration is now 1080 to 1085.

Proposed Wording

Pony: A Pony is a small horse whose height at the withers, having been measured on a smooth level surface, does not exceed 148 cm without shoes (refer to VRs Chapter IX, Articles 1080~~2~~ to 1085~~8~~ for details);

