

**PROPOSALS FOR 2020 MODIFICATIONS TO THE
GENERAL REGULATIONS**

26 October 2020

Dear National Federations,

Please find below a summary of the proposed changes to the General Regulations 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 2020](#); and**
- B. [Proposed Rules changes that have been rejected or deferred to a future Rules revision.](#)**

Sincerely,



Mikael Rentsch

Legal Director

23 November 2020

A. PROPOSED RULES CHANGES TO BE VOTED AT THE FEI GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2020

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)
FEI
Article Number – Article Name
Art. 112: Official Calendar
Explanation for Proposed Change
To add that applications or modifications for CIs are sent by the relevant National Federation.
Proposed Wording on 13 July 2020
Applications or modifications for CIs shall be sent by the relevant NF to the Secretary General as early as possible in order that they arrive at the latest by 1 October unless an earlier date is specified by the relevant Sport Rules or a different date is specified in writing by the Secretary General. (...)
Comments received by 31 August 2020
N/A
FEI feedback
N/A
Proposed Final Wording to be voted at the FEI General Assembly 2020
As per initial wording, see above.

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Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)
IJOC (International Jumping Officials Club)
Article Number – Article Name
Art. 117 - Selection of Representative Teams and Individuals
Explanation for Proposed Change
<p>NFs are responsible for selecting and entering qualified Horses and Athletes. This includes the fitness and capability of the Horses and the Athletes to participate in the Competitions for which they are entered. It is the NF's responsibility to ensure that Horses and Athletes are of the required age for the Event in which they are entered.</p> <p>NF do not enter athletes/horses for Competitions, they enter athletes/horses for Event by Category CSI5*, CSI1*... For example: If NF enters a child to take part at CSI1* (he can jump up to 135), and the coach enters the child at 145 class how NF is responsible?</p> <p>Proposal to change the Competitions with the Event / Category</p>
Proposed Wording on 13 July 2020
N/A as the FEI recommended not to incorporate the proposed modifications in the GRs this year as it was not an urgent repair that was necessary. In addition, the use of the terms Competition/Event is challenging as the definitions in the General Regulations are not the same as the ones used in the IT system.
Comments received by 31 August 2020
<p>EEF, AUT NF, BEL NF, FRA NF, GBR NF, GER NF, IRL NF, ITA NF, and NED NF:</p> <p>NFs do not enter athletes/horses for Competitions, they enter athletes/horses for an Event by Category CSI5*, CSI1*, etc. It is the athlete that is deciding at the showground which competitions they enter within the respective category at the event, the NF has no influence on that and can thus not be held responsible.</p> <p>Proposed wording: (...) 2. NFs are responsible for selecting and entering qualified Horses and Athletes. This includes the fitness and capability of the Horses and the Athletes to participate in the Competitions Events/Categories for which they are entered. (...)</p>
FEI feedback
Given all the comments received from National Federations, the FEI agrees to amend the provision as suggested by IJOC and the EEF. As it seems that the concern is mainly in Jumping, the FEI Board tasks the Jumping Committee to look into the matter as part of the next full revision of the FEI Jumping Rules in order to find a suitable solution regarding the entries/selection of the Horses and the Athletes for the Competitions.
Proposed Final Wording to be voted at the FEI General Assembly 2020

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(...)

2. NFs are responsible for selecting and entering qualified Horses and Athletes. This includes the fitness and capability of the Horses and the Athletes to participate in the ~~Competitions~~ Events/Categories for which they are entered. (...)

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)

FEI

Article Number – Article Name

Art. 118: Person Responsible

Explanation for Proposed Change

To add that Trainers in Endurance shall be considered as additional Person Responsible. This is to line up with the Endurance Rules and the Equine Anti-Doping and Controlled Medication Regulations.

Proposed Wording on 13 July 2020

The Person Responsible shall be the Athlete who rides, vaults or drives the Horse during an Event, but the Owner and other Support Personnel including but not limited to grooms and veterinarians may be regarded as additional Persons Responsible if they are present at the Event or have made a relevant Decision about the Horse. In vaulting, the lunger shall be an additional Person Responsible. **In Endurance, the Trainer shall be an additional Person Responsible.**

Comments received by 31 August 2020

NOR NF:

We fully support the intention to make trainers responsible for their actions, and hence this rule change to line up with the Endurance rules and the Equine Anti-Doping Rules and Controlled Medication Regulations.

However, we are a little reluctant to include the responsibilities of the trainer, groom or other support team in the definition "Person responsible". By spreading the responsibility of the Person responsible to include other members of the support team, we are worried that the responsibility may be diluted.

We therefore suggest that you consider a specific rule, making trainers or other support team members, responsible for their actions and any rule offence.

FEI feedback

The Person Responsible remains the Athlete who rides, vaults or drives the Horse during an Event. The responsibility of the Athlete is not diluted and for example the Equine Anti-Doping Rules and Controlled Medication Regulations (EADCMRs) state that the concept of No Fault or Negligence does not apply in the following circumstances: "*The Administration of a Banned Substance by the Person Responsible's veterinary personnel or member of the Support Personnel without disclosure to the Person Responsible. Persons Responsible are responsible for their choice of veterinary personnel and Support Personnel and for advising veterinary personnel and Support Personnel that Horses cannot be given any Banned Substance at any time.*"

As to the Trainers in Endurance, the EADCMRs already provide specific provisions that would apply against them in case of violations of the Rules.

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For the other Additional Persons Responsible (such as a groom or a veterinarian), such persons would only be prosecuted where the circumstances so warrant and if there are evidence that they were involved (for example if the veterinarian admitted that he/she injected the Horse with a Banned Substance).

Therefore, the FEI does not see any need to amend any other provisions and the definition can remain as initially proposed.

Proposed Final Wording to be voted at the FEI General Assembly 2020

As per initial wording, see above.

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)**FEI****Article Number – Article Name**

Chapter VII: Event Officials

Explanation for Proposed Change

- Chapter VII on Event Officials needed to be updated to reflect the harmonisation process of the Education Systems
- Chapter VII has been cleaned up as most of the information is regulated in either the Sport Rules and/or in the Education System
- An introduction has been added, each function described and the major appointments regulated.
- NFs to endorse Officials entering the FEI Education System
- All FEI Officials to be clearly structured in a 4-Level system

Proposed Wording on 13 July 2020

As Chapter VII has been entirely re-written, it is provided in a clean format.

Please see Annex I for the new wording in Chapter VII.

Comments received by 31 August 2020**USA NF: Request for clarification**

One of the explanations for the changes made to Chapter VII Event Officials is "All FEI Officials to be clearly structured in a 4-Level System."

This system is already largely in place. With the exception of Endurance Stewards (4 Level system just implemented), will a 4 Level system be implemented for Stewards in the other disciplines and Eventing Judges, Technical Delegates, and Course Designers?

FEI feedback

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The GRs are a framework to be implemented by each Discipline serving the needs of the particular Discipline. The ultimate goal is to have Level 4 in all Disciplines, but at the moment not all Disciplines are having such Level, so it will be implemented gradually.

The Level 4 Steward is implemented in Endurance (1 July 2020) and Vaulting (1 January 2021).

Proposed Final Wording to be voted at the FEI General Assembly 2020

As per initial wording, see above.

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

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)

SWE NF

Article Number – Article Name

Art. 140.1

Explanation for Proposed Change

Due to the safety of the Athletes and the recent accident during the Longines FEI World Cup™ Prize giving ceremony at the Gothenburg Horse Show, the SWE NF believes that properly fastened Protective Headgears must be mandatory for all Athletes during the Prize giving ceremony. Therefore we suggest the following modifications to the General Regulations, Jumping-, Dressage - and Eventing rules.

Proposed Wording on 13 July 2020

N/A as the FEI recommended not to incorporate the proposed modifications in the GRs as the Protective Headgear requirements had been amended and approved at the last FEI General Assembly and that we should therefore not re-open the debates about such provision.

In addition, it is clear from art. 140 that the Discipline Rules may provide for an exception to this rule by permitting Athletes to remove their Protective Headgear while accepting prizes, during the playing of the National Anthem and any other ceremonial protocol.

It is therefore for each Discipline to decide whether such exception shall apply or not. The Board tasked each Technical Committee last year to review their rules in 2020 on this point.

Comments received by 31 August 2020

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GER NF:

We do not support helmet rules that are even stricter than the ones passed in 2020. On the contrary, we would allow to accommodate the wish to wear a top hat in Dressage.

FEI feedback

The FEI maintains its initial position not to amend the provisions in the GRs as the Protective Headgear requirements have been amended and approved at the last FEI General Assembly and that we should therefore not re-open the debates about such provisions.

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)**GER NF****Article Number – Article Name**

New Article: Definition of an Amateur

Explanation for Proposed Change

The definition of an Amateur Athlete should be made across all disciplines. It should therefore be part of the General Regulations.

FEI feedback to a respective proposal in Dressage (Annex 12 – CDIAm) last year was: "The different discipline Directors are to provide the FEI Board with the definitions of "Amateur", after which the Technical Committees will discuss the various competitions for this category."

Proposed Wording on 13 July 2020

N/A as the FEI recommended not to incorporate the proposed modifications in the GRs this year as it is not an urgent repair that is necessary and a definition is not that straightforward to apply for all Disciplines.

Comments received by 31 August 2020**EEF, AUT NF, GBR NF, GER NF, ITA NF, NED NF:**

A definition of an "Amateur" must be added to the FEI Gen Regs as soon as there is a full revision of these rules.

FEI feedback

The FEI has taken note of the comment and will include it for next year's revision.

Annex I – Chapter VII – Event Officials

CHAPTER VII – EVENT OFFICIALS

Article 144 - Introduction

1. The FEI maintains a list of qualified Officials who fulfil the requirements of the Discipline or Veterinary Education System and have been endorsed by their NF and accepted by the FEI. The list of Officials includes, but is not limited to, Judges, Stewards, Course Designers, Technical Delegates, Veterinarians and Classifiers.
2. The education and career pathways of Officials are laid down in the Discipline or Veterinary Education System. The qualifications and duties of an Official are specified in the Education Systems, job descriptions, Veterinary Regulations and Sport Rules of each Discipline.
3. NFs can apply to the FEI for an Equivalency of their Education System. The highest national education can be made equivalent to the FEI entry level education.
4. An Official is considered to be foreign if he/she is of a different nationality than that of the country in which the Event is taking place.

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5. This Chapter VII provides the generic rules on the roles, functions and appointment process of FEI Officials. More Discipline specific Rules are included in the relevant Sports Rules; in the event of any conflict the Sports Rules shall take precedence.

Article 145 - Judge

1. A Judge, as President of Ground Jury, reports to the FEI and has the responsibility to ensure the technical running of International Competitions or Events according to the conditions of the approved Schedule in accordance with the FEI Rules and Regulations. A Judge, as a Member of the Ground Jury, reports to the President of Ground Jury and shares the responsibility for the technical running of International Competitions or Events.
2. NFs send to the FEI the names, qualifications and nationality of the persons who are endorsed to exercise the functions and fulfil the requirements set forth in the Education System for each Discipline.
3. Unless the Sport Rules provide otherwise, there shall be four (4) Levels of Judges. The necessary qualifications for each Level are set forth in the Education System for each Discipline.
4. Judges in each Level may not fill appointments at a higher level than set forth in the GRs or the relevant Sport Rules.

Article 146 - Appointment of Judges

1. The appointments are regulated by the relevant Sport Rules and GRs.
2. Unless the Sport Rules of the relevant Discipline provide otherwise, the FEI appoints the President and members of the Ground Jury for FEI World Cup™ Finals, FEI Nations Cup™ Finals, FEI World and Continental Championships, Regional & Continental Games, Youth Olympic Games, Paralympic Games and Olympic Games.
3. The Sport Rules of each Discipline specify the qualifications required to be a member or the President of the Ground Jury at different categories of International Events.
4. Unless the Sport Rules of the relevant Discipline otherwise provide, Level 1 and Level 2 Judges may be appointed as members of the Ground Jury.
5. Unless the Sport Rules of the relevant Discipline provide otherwise, Level 3 and Level 4 Judges may be appointed as President of the Ground Jury.

Article 147 - Steward

1. A Chief Steward reports to the President of the Ground Jury and is responsible for the stewarding team, and is appointed to ensure a level playing field and Horse welfare at

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International Competitions or Events in accordance with the FEI Rules and Regulations. The FEI Steward helps stakeholders to prevent infractions and irregularities from taking place and intervenes when infractions or irregularities occur.

2. NFs send to the FEI the names, qualifications and nationality of the persons who are endorsed to exercise the functions and fulfil the requirements set forth in the Education System for each Discipline.
3. Unless the Sport Rules provide otherwise, there shall be four (4) Levels of Stewards. The necessary qualifications for each Level are set forth in the Education System for each Discipline.
4. Stewards in each Level may not fill appointments at a higher level than set forth in the GRs or the relevant Sport Rules.
5. The Chief Steward is required to send a report to the FEI at the conclusion of the Event (see Article 166.1).

Article 148 - Appointment of Stewards

1. The appointments are regulated by the relevant Sport Rules.
2. Unless the Sport Rules of the relevant Discipline provide otherwise, the FEI appoints the Chief Steward for FEI World Cup™ Finals, FEI Nations Cup™ Finals, FEI World and Continental Championships, Regional & Continental Games, Youth Olympic Games, Paralympic Games and Olympic Games.
3. The Sport Rules of each Discipline specify the qualifications required to be a Chief Steward or a Steward at different categories of International Events.
4. Unless the Sport Rules of the relevant Discipline otherwise provide, Level 1 and Level 2 Stewards may be appointed as members of the Stewarding Team.
Unless the Sport Rules of the relevant Discipline otherwise provide, Level 3 and Level 4 Stewards may be appointed as Chief Steward.

Article 149 - Course Designer

1. A Course Designer reports to the Technical Delegate - if one is appointed - or to the President of the Ground Jury and is responsible for designing attractive and result oriented Competitions under the conditions of fair sport and welfare of Horses and Athletes in accordance with the FEI Rules and Regulations. An Assistant Course Designer, if one is appointed, assists the Course Designer at International Events by taking over specific activities for planning and setting up of the courses.
2. NFs send to the FEI the names, qualifications and nationality of the persons who are endorsed to exercise the functions and fulfil the requirements set forth in the Education System for each Discipline.

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3. Unless the Sport Rules provide otherwise, there shall be four (4) Levels of Course Designers. The necessary qualifications for each Level are set forth in the Education System for each Discipline.
4. Course Designers in each Level may not fill appointments at a higher level than set forth in the GRs or the relevant Sport Rules.

Article 150 - Appointment of Course Designers

1. The appointments are regulated by the relevant Sport Rules.
2. Unless the Sport Rules of the relevant Discipline and/or the FEI Regulations for Equestrian Events at the Olympic Games provide otherwise, the FEI appoints the Course Designer for FEI World Cup™ Finals, FEI Nations Cup™ Finals, FEI World and Continental Championships, Regional & Continental Games, Youth Olympic Games and Olympic Games.
3. The Sport Rules of each Discipline specify the qualifications required to be a Course Designers at different categories of International Events.

Article 151 - Technical Delegate and Foreign Judge

1. The Technical Delegate reports to the FEI, and is responsible for the inspection of the arenas, courses (if applicable), and results management, the facilities, and the organisation and running of International Competitions or Events, in accordance with the FEI Rules and Regulations. Once the President of the Ground Jury has assumed control, the Technical Delegate supervises the technical aspect of the Event and reports to the President of the Ground Jury.
2. An Assistant Technical Delegate, if one is appointed, assists the Technical Delegate at International Events by taking over specific planning activities.
3. NFs send to the FEI the names, qualifications and nationality of the persons who are endorsed to exercise the functions and fulfil the requirements set forth in the Education System for each Discipline.
4. Unless the Sport Rules provide otherwise, there shall be up to four (4) Levels of Technical Delegates. The necessary qualifications for each Level are set forth in the Education System for each Discipline.
5. Technical Delegates in each Level may not fill appointments at a higher level than set forth in the GRs or the relevant Sport Rules.
6. The Technical Delegate is required to send a report to the FEI at the conclusion of the Event (See Article 166.1).
7. If a Technical Delegate is not appointed, the Foreign Judge at an Event, apart from judging the Competitions, is responsible for the inspection of the arenas, courses (if applicable), and results management to ensure that the technical facilities, requirements, the organisation and running of the event are in accordance with the FEI Rules and Regulations.

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8. The Foreign Judge has the authority to interpret the Statutes, GRs and Sport Rules and to ensure they are enforced.
9. The Foreign Judge is required to send a report to the FEI at the conclusion of the Event (See Article 166.1)

Article 152 - Appointment of Technical Delegates and Foreign Judges

1. The appointments are regulated by the relevant Sport Rules.
2. Unless the Sport Rules of the relevant Discipline provide otherwise, the FEI appoints the Technical Delegate for FEI World Cup™ Finals, FEI Nations Cup™ Finals, FEI World and Continental Championships, Regional & Continental Games, Youth Olympic Games, Paralympic Games and Olympic Games.
3. The Sport Rules of each Discipline specify the qualifications required to be a Technical Delegate at different categories of International Events.
4. A Foreign Judge is required to be appointed for certain International Competitions and Events according to the Sport Rules.

Article 153 - Veterinarians

1. A Veterinarian can have different functions and responsibilities according to the VRs.
2. NFs send to the FEI the names, qualifications and nationality of the persons who are endorsed to exercise the functions and fulfil the requirements set forth in the Education System for FEI Veterinarians.
3. There shall be four (4) Levels of Official Veterinarians. The necessary qualifications for each Level are set forth in the Education System for FEI Veterinarians.
4. Official Veterinarians in each Level may not fill appointments at a higher level than set forth in the VRs.
5. Official Veterinarians are required to send a report to the FEI on the Competitions and on the organisation of the Event as a whole as set forth in the VRs.

Article 154 - Appointment of Veterinarians

1. The appointments are regulated by the VRs.
2. The FEI shall appoint the Foreign Veterinary Delegates for FEI World Cup™ Finals, FEI Nations Cup™ Finals, FEI World and Continental Championships, Regional & Continental Games, Youth Olympic Games, Paralympic Games and Olympic Games.

23 November 2020**Article 155 - Status and Liability of Officials**

1. All Officials acting at or in relation to an International Event are acting on behalf of the FEI and therefore are not liable financially or otherwise for any acts, omissions or Decisions undertaken in good faith in connection with their duties.
2. An Official is administered by the NF of his/her country of citizenship or residency. If the Official is to be administered by the country of residency, the NF of his/her country of citizenship must approve. In the event the Official is also a registered Athlete, he/she can only be administered by the NF where he/she is registered as an Athlete.
3. An Official can only be administered by one NF. An Official holding multiple citizenships must chose, with concerned NFs and FEI approval, which of his/her NFs of citizenship will be his/her administering NF.
 - 3.1 Any change of administering NF is subject to prior approval by the FEI and the concerned NFs.
 - 3.2 In special situations, determination of the administering NF will be made by the FEI with the agreement of the Official and the concerned NFs.
4. All FEI Officials acknowledge and confirm that they will provide their contact details to the FEI and that such details may be shared with relevant third-parties, FEI stakeholders and organisations, such as OCs of FEI Events or National Federations.
5. In the context of betting, Officials must not, by any manner whatsoever, infringe the principle of fair play, show non-sporting conduct, or attempt to influence the result of a Competition in a manner contrary to sporting ethics. Any violations of the above will be subject to Chapter VII and VIII of the General Regulations and Chapter X of the Statutes.
6. An Official is not eligible to participate in an International Event or National Event (and so may not be invited or nominated to participate in such event) if he/she has participated, in the six (6) months prior to the first day of the International Event or National Event in question, in an Unsanctioned Event.
7. For purposes of Article 155.7, an 'Unsanctioned Event' is an event and/or a competition that is neither published in the official Calendar nor authorised by an NF and/or a National Event authorised or organised by a NF that is suspended by the FEI. Please also refer to the Appendix J for the rationale for the Unsanctioned Event Provisions.
8. The FEI may only apply Article 155.7, if the FEI has either (i) informed the Officials and their respective NFs of the competition(s) or event(s) that are considered as Unsanctioned Event(s) and/or (ii) published on FEI website the list of such Unsanctioned Event(s) so that Officials and their respective NFs are on notice such notification/publication to occur no later than seven (7) days prior to the relevant competition(s) or event(s).
9. Where it is then alleged by the FEI that an Official has participated in an Unsanctioned Event the FEI shall notify the relevant Official of the alleged participation in an Unsanctioned Event and shall give such Official an opportunity to be heard in either written or oral form.

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10. Any Decision of the FEI Secretary General to apply Article 155.7 may be appealed to the FEI Tribunal in accordance with Article 162.5 of the FEI General Regulations and the Internal Regulations of the FEI Tribunal.
11. Instead of applying the sanctions provided for in Article 155.7 the FEI may issue:
 - (i) a “no fault” finding where:
 - (a) the Official participated in an event that would clearly have been sanctioned by the FEI or the NF but for administrative error by the organiser of the Unsanctioned Event; or
 - (b) exceptional circumstances exist ; or
 - (ii) a “Warning” in circumstances where the Official was reasonably aware that the event was not sanctioned (and there is no suggestion of an administrative error by the organiser) but has demonstrated that the event otherwise adhered to the objectives of the FEI as stated in the Appendix J.
12. Officials are bound by all FEI Rules and Regulations while officiating and/or representing the FEI, and in particular by the FEI Officials’ Code of Conduct, the FEI Code of Ethics and Conflict of Interest Policy and the FEI Code of Conduct for the Welfare of the Horse.