

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

26 October 2020

Dear National Federations,

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

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

- A. [Proposed Rules changes to be voted at the FEI General Assembly 2020](#); and
- B. [Proposed Rules changes that have been rejected or deferred to a future Rules revision.](#)

Sincerely,



Bettina De Rham,

Dressage Director

23 November 2020

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

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)
EEF ; AUT, BEL, GER, IRL, ITA, NED NFs
Article Number – Article Name
425.3.5 Draw
Explanation for Proposed Change
There shall be an ordinary draw for the individual competitions at Youth Dressage Championships. The text should be according to the old text that had been included in the Youth annexes to the Dressage rules and was mistakenly removed.
Proposed Wording on 13 July 2020
N/A
Comments received by 31 August 2020
There shall be an ordinary draw for the individual competitions at Youth Dressage Championships. The text should be according to the old text that had been included in the Youth annexes to the Dressage rules and was mistakenly removed. This was the unanimous wish of all Chefs d'Equipe on the occasion of this year's Youth Dressage Championships in Hungary. Such provisions were included in the Annexes of the Dressage Rules before they were transferred into the main part of the Rules, and omitted by mistake.
FEI feedback
DC: This was an omission on the part of HQ when the Youth annexes were merged, and the Individual competition should have an ordinary draw. As this was mistakenly removed from the Rules in 2020, further to the request of all the Chef d'Equipe at the 2020 Youth Championships, ordinary draws were conducted as per the working below.
Proposed Final Wording to be voted at the FEI General Assembly 2020

23 November 2020

Art. 425

10. Youth Championships

Ffor the Team and Individual tests, an ordinary draw will determine the starting order in each Test. For the Freestyle test, there will be a draw in groups of five (5) in reverse order from the rankings of the individual competition. First drawn is a group of three (3), placed 18th to 16th. The Athletes in the group ranked 18th to 16th will start first, followed by the group ranked 15th to 11th, and so on.

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)

GBR NF

Article Number – Article Name

Art 427.1.3. / 427.2.3 Protective headgear

Explanation for Proposed Change

Proposed Wording on 13 July 2020

The wording on protective headgear is amended for 2021 according to the provision approved at the GA in 2019 on protective headgears and effective on 1 January 2021.

Comments received by 31 August 2020

Article 427 should be aligned to the changes in the GR applicable 1 January 2021. The GR refer to *properly fastened* Protective Headgear while the sport rules refer only to Protective Headgear.
Suggest Dressage Rules are amended accordingly.

FEI feedback

This proposal is supported

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

ARTICLE 427 DRESS**1. Protective Headgear* ~~and top hat/bowler:~~**

- 1.1 As a general rule, a properly fastened Protective Headgear* has to be worn by all Athletes (as well as any other person) at all times when mounted and by Children, Pony riders, Juniors, Young riders and U25 for the Horse inspection. It is recommended to be worn by any other person presenting the Horse in a Horse Inspection.
- 1.2 Any Athlete (as well as any other person) violating this provision must immediately be prohibited from further riding until the Protective Headgear is properly in place.
- 1.3 ~~The following exception applies: Athletes who are 26 years and older** and who are riding Horses that are seven (7) years and older may wear a top hat/bowler instead of Protective Headgear. However, this exception is limited to the actual Competition and the warming-up directly prior to the Competition (with no break before the Competition), which includes riding between the stable and the warm-up area, riding of the competing Horse in the warm-up area, and riding back to the stable. The Athletes are allowed to remove the hat/bowler (not protective headgear) for saluting at the beginning and at the end of the test and during the prize giving, both while receiving the prizes and during the lap of honour.~~
- 1.4 ~~It is however recommended that Athletes falling under this exception nonetheless wear Protective Headgear at all times for their own safety.~~ If an Athlete chooses to remove his Headgear at any time, whether permitted or not by these rules, such removal shall always be entirely at his own risk.
- 1.5 A Protective headgear formed as a top hat may be used ~~in the same situations as a standard top hat.~~

~~Note*: As of 1 January 2021, amendments to article 140 of the FEI General Regulations regarding Protective Headgear take effect.~~

Note**: Protective Headgear is defined in Appendix A in the FEI GRs.

~~Note ***: An Athlete is considered to be twenty six (26) years old from the beginning of the calendar year (1st of January) in which he reaches the age of twenty six (26).~~

23 November 2020

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)
EEF, BEL, GER, IRL, ITA, NED NFs
Article Number – Article Name
427.2 Dress
Explanation for Proposed Change
<p>There is an evident inconsistency in the rules. According to the General Regulations, the Jumping Rules and the Eventing Rules the riders are allowed to compete in the NF clothing. According to the dressage rules NF clothing is not allowed in the team competition (GP and GPS) but only in the Freestyle. The NED NF proposal is that a tail coat or jacket approved by their home NF can be worn by Athletes. The rules for all Olympic and Paralympic disciplines have to be harmonised with regards to official clothing approved by the NF. The more conservatives amongst us don't have to be afraid that it will be a 'circus', contrast colouring is already approved for years in the freestyle and it did not create a 'circus'.</p> <p>NF clothing should be promoted in the team competitions to create a team/nation atmosphere.</p> <p>We would like to address this topic in the 2021 rules revision at the latest, more specifically before the Olympic Games.</p> <p>The rules for all Olympic & Paralympic disciplines with regards to official clothing approved by the NF shall be harmonized.</p>
Proposed Wording on 13 July 2020
<p>This proposal was rejected by the DC in the proposals sent on 13 July as this was not considered as an urgent repair.</p>
Comments received by 31 August 2020
<p>The EEF and the same NFs as above, are in favour of aligning the rules for all Olympic and Paralympic Disciplines with regards to official clothing approved by the NF shall be harmonised.</p> <p>GER: we support the NED NF proposal that a tail coat or jacket approved by their home NF can be worn by Athletes. We agree to address this topic in the 2021 Rules at the latest but would welcome this to be done in 2020 already.</p>
FEI feedback
<p>DC: The reasoning behind the current rule was to keep tradition but give some freedom in the Freestyle. In the Para Dressage rules all uniform colours are allowed.</p>

23 November 2020

The DC supports the proposal to move away from using the HSV scale and agrees to the change to using any uniform (one same) colour for jackets and tailcoats. It was agreed that what is allowed in the Freestyle should be valid for all tests.

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

~~2. at all CDIYH (7yo) / CDIJ / CDIY / CDIU25 / CDI3* / CDI4* / CDI5* / CDI-W and CDIOs, FEI Championships, Regional and Olympic Games: a black or dark blue tail coat or jacket, or other dark colours may be worn within in the international HSV colour scale. Colours having a value for "V" smaller than thirty two percent (32%) according to the HSV model may be approved through application to the FEI. Contrast colouring and piping is allowed.~~

~~3.2.~~

~~4.3.~~ **Civilians.** The following is compulsory :

Protective Headgear ~~or top hat/bowler*~~: black or ~~may be same~~dark colour ~~as coat colour~~

Breeches: white or off white ~~or same colour as coat~~

Stock or tie: white, off white ~~or same colour as coat~~

Gloves: white, off white or same colour as coat

Riding boots: black or ~~same dark~~ dark colour ~~as coat~~

Spurs: see paragraph 4 below.

2.1 ~~For Grand Prix Freestyle only~~Tailcoat /Jackets : any single colour tailcoat or jacket (approved by the Athletes's NF) will be allowed. Striped or multi-coloured coats or jackets are not permitted. Tasteful and discreet accents, such as a collar of a different hue or modest piping or crystal decorations, are acceptable.

~~2.2 At all CDI1*/CDI2*/CDIAm, a black or dark blue jacket (colours see above) with a top hat/bowler** is also permitted. This dress is also desirable for all other international Dressage Events. At all CDIP/CDICh/CDIYH (5 and 6 yo), a black or dark blue jacket must be worn.~~

23 November 2020

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

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)
NOR NF
Article Number – Article Name
Article 428.1.1 Saddlery (Stirrups)
Explanation for Proposed Change
See below
Proposed Wording on 13 July 2020
N/A
Comments received by 31 August 2020
<p>We fully support the proposed description of safety stirrups and that it is now included in the Para-dressage rules (8428.1.1.2). We suggest that the same wording, except the last sentence in 1.1.2, "The Athlete must not directly or indirectly tie any part of their body to the saddlery", is added in all other disciplines as well.</p> <p>Regarding this last sentence, which is not only related to the stirrup, we suggest that this should be moved to another article covering saddlery in general, in the Para-dressage rules.</p>
FEI feedback
<p>DC: This is not an urgent repair and should be deferred to the full revision of the Dressage Rules.</p>

Proposal from (National Federation, Stakeholder or FEI)
AUT NF
Article Number – Article Name
434 Classification (Annex 1, Art 12.2)
Explanation for Proposed Change
See below
Proposed Wording on 13 July 2020
N/A
Comments received by 31 August 2020
Currently the Children’s Preliminary test does not count for classification in Children CHs Propose that it should count for the Team classification together with the Team test.
FEI feedback
DC: this is not an urgent repair and should be deferred to the full revision of the Dressage Rules.