Dear National Federations,

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

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

A. **Proposed Rules changes to be voted at the FEI General Assembly 2021**; and

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

Sincerely,

Bettina de Rham,
Dressage Director
A. PROPOSED RULES CHANGES TO BE VOTED AT THE FEI GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2021

Proposal from (Name of National Federation or MOU Stakeholder)
FEI

Article No. – 415.1, 1.3 - Piaffe

ARTICLE 415 THE PIAFFE
1. Piaffe is a highly collected, cadenced, elevated diagonal movement giving the impression of remaining in place. The Horse’s back is supple and elastic. The hindquarters are lowered; the haunches with active hocks are well engaged, giving great freedom, lightness and mobility to the shoulders and forehand. Each diagonal pair of legs is raised and returned to the ground alternately, with spring and an even cadence.
1.2. The neck should be raised and gracefully arched, with the poll as the highest point. The Horse should remain “on the bit” with a supple poll, maintaining soft contact. The body of the Horse should move in a supple, cadenced and harmonious movement.
1.3. Piaffe must always be animated by a lively impulsion and characterised by perfect balance. While giving the impression of remaining in place, there may be a visible inclination to advance, this being displayed by the Horse’s eager acceptance to move forward as soon as it is asked.

Explanation for Proposed Change

Correction of inconsistency.

- There is no cadence or impulsion in piaffe, as there is no suspension, so we should definitely take this words out, but possibly replace them by “lift”, “activity”, “springy”

The numeration of this Article is different from how it was before in the rules. Before it was 1,2,3... (see Passage) and in Piaffe suddenly started being 1.1, 1.2, 1.3....

Proposed Wording on 12 July 2021

1. Piaffe is a highly collected, elevated, rhythmical diagonal movement giving the impression of remaining in place. The Horse’s back is supple and elastic. The hindquarters are lowered; the haunches with active hocks are well engaged, giving great freedom, lightness and mobility to the shoulders and forehand. Each diagonal pair of legs is raised and returned to the ground alternately, with spring and regularity.
1.1. In principle, the height of the toe of the raised forefoot should be level with the middle of the cannon bone of the other supporting foreleg. The toe of the raised hind foot should reach just above the fetlock joint of the other supporting hind leg.
1.2. The neck should be raised and gracefully arched, with the poll as the highest point. The Horse should remain “on the bit” with a supple poll, maintaining soft contact. The body of the Horse should move in a supple, and harmonious movement.
1.3. Piaffe should show true commitment and must always be animated by a lively activity and characterized by perfect balance. While giving the impression of remaining in place, there may be a visible inclination to advance, this being displayed by the Horse’s eager acceptance to move forward as soon as it is asked.

Comments received by 30 August 2021
ANNEX Pt 17.2

17 November 2021, Antwerp (BEL)

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<th>GBR NF: Fully agree with proposal</th>
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1. Piaffe is a highly collected, elevated, *rhythmical* diagonal movement giving the impression of remaining in place. The Horse’s back is supple and elastic. The hindquarters are lowered; the haunches with active hocks are well engaged, giving great freedom, lightness and mobility to the shoulders and forehand. Each diagonal pair of legs is raised and returned to the ground alternately, with spring and *regularity*.

1.1. In principle, the height of the toe of the raised forefoot should be level with the middle of the cannon bone of the other supporting foreleg. The toe of the raised hind foot should reach just above the fetlock joint of the other supporting hind leg.

1.2. The neck should be raised and gracefully arched, with the poll as the highest point. The Horse should remain “on the bit” with a supple poll, maintaining soft contact. The body of the Horse should move in a supple, and harmonious movement.

1.3. Piaffe *should show true commitment and* must always be animated by a lively activity and *characterized* by perfect balance. While giving the impression of remaining in place, there may be a visible inclination to advance, this being displayed by the Horse’s eager acceptance to move forward as soon as it is asked.

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<th>Article No.– 421.7 Tests</th>
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Dressage tests – Grand Prix

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<tr>
<th>Explanation for Proposed Change</th>
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Urgent repair.
Addition of the Short Grand Prix.

<table>
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7.1 *Short Grand Prix – Test of the same standard as the Grand Prix. The Short Grand Prix is used in all World Cup Qualifier Events as referred to in the relevant Rules.*

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## Proposal from (Name of National Federation or MOU Stakeholder)

**AUT NF, GER NF**

### Article No.—Article Name

#### 422 CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

#### 2. Levels of Competition.

#### 2.8 Grand Prix

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Explanation for Proposed Change</th>
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<td>OCs should have the possibility to also limit the Grand Prix Competition if the Grand Prix is a Final Competition. For example, in a CDI2* the Grand Prix could be the Final of the Big Tour: Intermediate II = Qualifier / Grand Prix = Final</td>
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| Grand Prix. This Competition is **either** open to all Horses **or**, if the Grand Prix is scheduled after and Intermediate II and considered as a Final, at the discretion of the OC, the Grand Prix may be open to all Horses or to the six (6) minimum to fifteen (15) maximum (including ties for 15th place) best Athlete/Horse combinations who qualified in the Intermediate II.  
**The option chosen by the OC must be stated in the schedule and it is at the discretion of the OC to make the Grand Prix mandatory or not.** |

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<th>FEI feedback</th>
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**The option chosen by the OC must be stated in the schedule and it is at the discretion of the OC to make the Grand Prix mandatory or not.** |

## Proposal from (Name of National Federation or MOU Stakeholder)

**GER NF**

### Article No.—Article Name

#### 422 CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

#### 2. Levels of Competition.

#### 2.9 Grand Prix Special and 2.10 Grand Prix Freestyle
ANNEX Pt 17.2
17 November 2021, Antwerp (BEL)

Explanation for Proposed Change

422.2.9: The present wording in the third sentence is misleading and leaves room for wrong interpretations because according to the first sentence, 15 is the maximum number of Athletes in the Grand Prix Special

422.2.10: Same as for 2.9 Grand Prix Special: The present wording in the fifth sentence is misleading and leaves room for wrong interpretations because according to the third sentence, 15 is the maximum number of Athletes in the Grand Prix Freestyle.

Proposed Wording on 12 July 2021

2.9 Grand Prix Special. A Grand Prix Special can only be scheduled after a Grand Prix Competition. In a CDI3* and above, the Grand Prix Special must be scheduled to be open to the six (6) (minimum) to fifteen (15) (maximum including ties for 15th place) best Athlete/Horse combinations who declared and qualified in the Grand Prix Competition. If fewer than six (6) combinations are qualified they may all start. If there are thirty (30) or more combinations in the qualifying Grand Prix, the OC is obliged to have a minimum of fifteen (15) starters in the Grand Prix Special. Athletes who declare their intention to qualify for the Grand Prix Special are obliged to compete if qualified. Athletes may start one (1) Horse only. For CDIOs, FEI Championships and Olympic Games, see Articles 449 and 456 of the Dressage Rules. For Athlete/Horse combinations qualified, it is mandatory to participate.
In cases of legitimate cancellation due to illness, etc. the next Athlete/Horse combination will be invited to move up from the Grand Prix.

Grand Prix Freestyle. A Grand Prix Freestyle Test can only be scheduled after a Grand Prix Competition. At CDI-Ws a Grand Prix Freestyle Test is obligatory. The Grand Prix Freestyle shall be open to the six (6) (minimum) to fifteen (15) (maximum including ties for 15th place) best Athlete/Horse combinations who qualified in the Grand Prix Competition. If fewer than six (6) combinations are qualified they may all start. If there are thirty (30) or more combinations in the qualifying Grand Prix, the OC is obliged to have a minimum of fifteen (15) starters in the Grand Prix Freestyle. Athletes who declare their intention to qualify for the Grand Prix Freestyle are obliged to compete if qualified. Athletes may start one (1) Horse only. For CDIOs and FEI Championships as well as Olympic Games, see Articles 449 and 456 of the Dressage Rules. For Athlete/Horse combinations qualified, it is mandatory to participate. In cases of legitimate cancellation due to illness or other unforeseen circumstances, the next Athlete/Horse combination will move up from the Grand Prix.

Comments received by 30 August 2021
GBR NF: Fully agrees

FEI feedback

As per the proposed wording above.

Proposed Final Wording to be voted at the FEI General Assembly 2021
2.9 Grand Prix Special. A Grand Prix Special can only be scheduled after a Grand Prix Competition. In a CDI3* and above, the Grand Prix Special must be scheduled to be open to the six (6) (minimum) to fifteen (15) (maximum including ties for 15th place) best Athlete/Horse combinations who declared and qualified in the Grand Prix Competition. If fewer than six (6) combinations are qualified they may all start. If there are thirty (30) or more combinations in the qualifying Grand Prix, the OC is obliged to have a minimum of fifteen (15) starters in the Grand Prix Special. Athletes who declare their intention to qualify for the Grand Prix Special are obliged to compete if qualified. Athletes may start one (1) Horse only. For CDIOs, FEI Championships and Olympic Games, see Articles 449 and 456 of the Dressage Rules. For Athlete/Horse combinations qualified, it is mandatory to participate.

In cases of legitimate cancellation due to illness, etc. the next Athlete/Horse combination will be invited to move up from the Grand Prix.

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### Proposal from (Name of National Federation or MOU Stakeholder)

**FEI**

**Article No.** – Art 422.4.1.5 (YR), 4.2.5 (J), 4.3.5 (Ch Ind test), 4.4.5 (P), 4.5.4 (U25)

**Explanation for Proposed Change**

Clarification

**Proposed Wording on 12 July 2021**

4.1.5 **Young Riders Freestyle Test.** This Competition is limited to the six (6) to eighteen (18) best Athlete/Horse combinations who qualified in the Individual Competition including those who tie for the highest qualified place. Athletes may start one (1) Horse. **If an Athlete qualifies for the Freestyle test with two (2) Horses, the Athlete may select which Horse to start.**
4.2.5 Junior Freestyle Competition. This Competition is limited to the six (6) to eighteen (18) best Athlete/Horse combinations who qualified in the Junior Individual Competition including those who tie for the highest qualified place. Athletes may start one (1) Horse. If an Athlete qualifies for the Freestyle test with two (2) Horses, the Athlete may select which Horse to start.

4.3.5 The Individual Competition Test. This Competition is limited to the six (6) to eighteen (18) best Athlete/Horse combinations who qualified in the Team Competition test including those who tie for the highest qualified place. Athletes may start one (1) Horse. If an Athlete qualifies for the Individual test with two (2) Horses, the Athlete may select which Horse to start.

4.4.5 Pony Riders Freestyle Test. This Competition is limited to the six (6) to eighteen (18) best Athlete/Pony combinations who qualified in the Individual Competition including those who tie for the highest qualified place. Athletes may start one (1) Pony. If an Athlete qualifies for the Freestyle test with two (2) Ponies, the Athlete may select which Pony to start.

4.5.4 Grand Prix Freestyle Test. This Competition is limited to the six (6) (minimum) to fifteen (15) (maximum including ties for 15th place) best Athlete/Horse combinations who qualified in the Grand Prix Competition. Athletes may start one (1) Horse. If an Athlete qualifies for the Freestyle test with two (2) Horses, the Athlete may select which Horse to start.

Comments received by 30 August 2021

USA NF: We support this proposal; however, we question why this is not applied across the board. For instance, for individual tests and freestyles, if it is applied to some categories, it should be applied to all. Why all tours are not included with the individual & freestyle selection between multiple horses?

FEI feedback

Following the feedback from the USA NF and after reconsidering, it was agreed to just write this once under 422.3.2.5 (in agreement with the USA NF feedback).

Proposed Final Wording to be voted at the FEI General Assembly 2021

Art 422

3.2.5. If the Athlete qualifies with two (2) Horses for the Freestyle test or any test that is considered as a Final and only one (1) Horse is allowed to participate, the Athlete may select which Horse to start.

Proposal from (Name of National Federation or MOU Stakeholder)
ANNEX Pt 17.2

17 November 2021, Antwerp (BEL)

AUT NF, GER NF, IDRC, IDTC

### Article No.–Article Name

423. Invitations, Entries and Substitutions

### 2.3. Explanation for Proposed Change

Under the current rules, NFs must apply two months before closing date of definite entries to propose one of their Athletes for a **Wild Card** in a CDI3*. A period of two months is too long, it should be reduced to half of it.

### Proposed Wording on 12 July 2021

2.3. For all CDI3* the FEI has the right to extend up to three (3) Wild Card entries for Athletes from developing NFs and to Athletes from NF not having received invitations but requiring Minimum Eligibility Standard scores for FEI Championships within a specific time limit.

**OC Invitations and OC Wild Cards.** These invitations (foreign and/or home Athletes) must be under the same conditions as for other participants and must in no way be directly or indirectly in connection with financial contribution. Pay Cards and Appearance fees are strictly prohibited as set forth in the FEI GRs.

**FEI Wild Cards.** Application for a FEI Wild Card should be made to the FEI Dressage Department through the Athlete’s home NF, **two months** **four weeks** before the date closure of definite entries.

### Comments received by 30 August 2021

GBR NF: Fully agree with proposal

### FEI feedback

The DC agrees with this proposal, more time is needed both for the OCs and the Athletes to proceed with Wild Cards. (Improvement for Athletes and Organisers)

### Proposed Final Wording to be voted at the FEI General Assembly 2021

2.3. For all CDI3* the FEI has the right to extend up to three (3) Wild Card entries for Athletes from developing NFs and to Athletes from NF not having received invitations but requiring Minimum Eligibility Standard scores for FEI Championships within a specific time limit.

**OC Invitations and OC Wild Cards.** These invitations (foreign and/or home Athletes) must be under the same conditions as for other participants and must in no way be directly or indirectly in connection with financial contribution. Pay Cards and Appearance fees are strictly prohibited as set forth in the FEI GRs.
FEI Wild Cards. Application for a FEI Wild Card should be made to the FEI Dressage Department through the Athlete’s home NF, two months four weeks before the date closure of definite entries.

Proposal from (Name of National Federation or MOU Stakeholder)
FEI

Article No.– 427 Dress

Explanation for Proposed Change
Mistake to be corrected

Proposed Wording on 12 July 2021
2.2 At all CDIP/CDIch/CDIYH (5 and 6 yo), a jacket must be worn.

Comments received by 30 August 2021
None

FEI feedback
Urgent repair.

Proposed Final Wording to be voted at the FEI General Assembly 2021
2.2 At all CDIP/CDIch/CDIYH (5 and 6 yo), a jacket must be worn.

Proposal from (Name of National Federation or MOU Stakeholder)
IDTC

Article No.– Article Name
428.3.3.1 Curb Bits

Explanation for Proposed Change
WELFARE
It is believed that a 10cm limit for the upper cheek of a curb bit is excessive.

Proposed Wording on 12 July 2021
3.1.1 The length of the lever arm below the mouth piece of the curb bit is limited to ten centimetres (10 cm). The upper cheek must not be longer than the lower cheek and must not exceed five centimetres (5cm). If the curb has a sliding mouthpiece, the lever arm of the curb bit below the mouth piece should not measure more than ten centimetres (10 cm) when the mouth piece is at the uppermost position.

Comments received by 30 August 2021

GBR NF: Fully agree with DC proposal

NOR NF:
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:

Dressage:
About curb bits with the port tilting forwards, we have received this information from the FEI:“As this bit resembles the drawings of curb bits in Annex 11 of the FEI Dressage rules, this bit would be allowed for use in FEI Dressage.” We can’t see that it is clear that the bit in question actually resembles the curb bits in the drawings. In our opinion, a bit with the port tilting forwards, has a different effect in the horse’s mouth from a bit with a vertical port. When tightening the reins, the port will actually give pressure on the tongue, and not give room for the tongue, which we see as the function of the port. The more tilted, the more pressure.
If a tilted port is allowed, this should be described in the rule book and the drawings, showing the bits also from the side. A port tilted backwards should also be described as allowed or not.

Colour of the bit (and maybe tack and other equipment close the mouth and girth):
We have experienced that some riders like to have bits of different colours, including red. With a red bit, or other tack and equipment close to the horse’s mouth or the girt area, it may be difficult for the judge (and the audience) to see if the red colour is blood or not. Therefore, the horse may be stopped by the judge during the test to be checked for blood. As the “blood rule” is very important for animal welfare, it is important that judges and others are not misled by colours on the bit or other tack/equipment. We suggest that bits should never be red in colour. This may apply to all disciplines. FEI should perhaps also look into the need for regulating colours on bridles, girth and spurs for the same reason.

FEI feedback
The DC supports the original proposal and agrees to introduce it as a matter of horse welfare. The feedback from the NOR NF will be considered for the rules revision in 2022.

Proposed Final Wording to be voted at the FEI General Assembly 2021

3.1.1 The length of the lever arm below the mouth piece of the curb bit is limited to ten centimetres (10 cm). The upper cheek must not be longer than the lower cheek and must not exceed five centimetres (5cm). If the curb has a sliding mouthpiece, the lever arm of the curb bit below the mouth piece should not measure more than ten centimetres (10 cm) when the mouth piece is at the uppermost position.
Proposal from (Name of National Federation or MOU Stakeholder)

FEI

Article No.– 428.5, 6.4, 6.5 and 7 – Saddlery

5. Gadgets. Martingales, breast plates, bit guards, boots, any kind of gadgets (such as bearing, side, running or balancing reins, nasal strips etc.) and any form of blinkers are, under penalty of elimination, strictly forbidden. See Article 430 of the Dressage Rules.

6.4. Any decoration of the Horse is not allowed.

7. Fly masks: Blinkers and fly masks that cover the Horse’s eyes are forbidden in the competition arena.

Periodical Rules Revision Policy Criteria

Clarification and urgent repair.

Explanation for Proposed Change

- Clarification in point about Gadgets. As there is no elimination for boots, (boots are allowed for training and warm up and penalised in the test - no elimination) they shouldn’t be mentioned in point 5 with all the other items.
- Adding sentences about paint on the bodies and white substance around the mouth. The DTC discussed and agreed on this in 2020.

Blinkers are mentioned in point 5, no need to mention them again in point 7. Fly masks should be allowed in the stable and while grazing.

Proposed Wording on 12 July 2021

5. Gadgets. Martingales, breast plates, bit guards, boots any kind of gadgets (such as bearing, side, running or balancing reins, nasal strips etc.) and any form of blinkers that cover the Horse’s eyes are, under penalty of elimination, strictly forbidden during training, warm-up and competitions. See Article 430 of the Dressage Rules.

6.4. Any decoration of the Horse is not allowed. It is not allowed to paint any part of the horse’s body, using coloured wound-spray and ointment if necessary is permitted.

6.5 It is strictly forbidden to use any type of white substance around the horse’s mouth to imitate foaming; this is considered cheating and against horse welfare as it can hide lip injuries. This will result in a warning or a yellow card.

7. Fly masks: fly masks are forbidden in the training and competition arena.

Comments received by 30 August 2021

AUS NF:
5. Gadgets
6.4 Addition of the words ‘including hooves’ for clarity:
6.4. Any decoration of the Horse is not allowed. It is not allowed to paint any part of the horse’s body (including hooves), using coloured wound-spray and ointment if necessary is permitted.

GBR NF: Fully agrees with proposal

USA NF: We agree that blinkers are not allowed, however there is confusion with the definitions of the terms used in this proposal. Goggles are often advertised as blinkers and vice versa. We have attached photos below for reference. [see end of document]
ANNEX Pt 17.2

17 November 2021, Antwerp (BEL)

We also recommend the following alteration to item 6.4 - making it two sentences and adding additional wording; proposed in the box below.

Finally, we recommend that item 6.5 needs rewording. Some horses foam when given a sugar cube or gum bits, which should not be penalised by this rule change. If the intent is to prohibit “marshmallow fluff” or similar substances, it should be specifically noted, as to not potentially penalize a horse given a sugar cube/gum bits, etc.

Proposed wording:
6.4 Any decoration of the Horse is not allowed. It is not allowed to paint any part of the horse’s body. Using coloured wound-spray and ointment if necessary is permitted but it cannot be used to obscure an existing wound or injury.

FEI feedback

Proposed wording slightly modified following the feedback. Related to hooves, revision to be looked into in 2022.

Proposed Final Wording to be voted at the FEI General Assembly 2021

Martingales, breast plates, bit guards, any kind of gadgets (such as bearing, side, running or balancing reins, nasal strips etc.) and any form of blinkers that interfere with the horse’s vision are, under penalty of elimination, strictly forbidden during training, warm-up and competitions. See Article 430 of the Dressage Rules.

6.4. Any decoration of the Horse is not allowed. It is not allowed to paint any part of the horse’s body. Using coloured wound-spray and ointment if necessary is permitted, but it cannot be used to obscure an existing wound or injury.

6.5 it is strictly forbidden to use any type of white substance (like “marshmallow fluff”, shaving cream, etc…) around the horse’s mouth to imitate foaming; this is considered cheating and against horse welfare as it can hide lip injuries. This will result in a warning or a yellow card.

7. Fly masks: fly masks are forbidden in the training and competition arena.

Proposal from (Name of National Federation or MOU Stakeholder)

AIDEO

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<td>428.6.3</td>
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Proposed Wording on 12 July 2021
## ANNEX Pt 17.2

17 November 2021, Antwerp (BEL)

| 6.3 Earplugs on Horses are allowed at Horse Inspections and prize-giving ceremonies only. |
| Comments received by 30 August 2021 |
| GBR NF: Fully agree with proposal |

### FEI feedback

Agreed in principle by the DC upon confirmation from the FEI Vet. Department

### Proposed Final Wording to be voted at the FEI General Assembly 2021

| 6.3 Earplugs on Horses are allowed at Horse Inspections and prize-giving ceremonies only. |

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### Proposal from (Name of National Federation or MOU Stakeholder) FEI

| Article No.– 429.7 |
| 7. Pause. It is necessary to pause for about ten (10) minutes after every six (6) to ten (10) Athletes, to reconstitute the surface of the ground. A pause or break during a Dressage Competition may never exceed more than two (2) hours (lunch, etc.) and must not be interrupted by another Competition. However, if the number of Athletes in a Competition exceeds approximately forty (40) the OC must spread this Competition over two (2) days. |

### Explanation for Proposed Change

Urgent repair in favour of Athletes and Organisers. Sometimes there is a situation, when there are for example 4ponies in the class and one rider is riding 2 of them. If the program is quite full, the OC cannot wait 45 minutes for the rider to warm up the second pony. Make it possible to get a special permission from the FEI to put a small class in-between as an exception.

### Proposed Wording on 12 July 2021

| 7. Pause. It is necessary to pause for about ten (10) minutes after every six (6) to ten (10) Athletes, to reconstitute the surface of the ground. A pause or break during a Dressage Competition may never exceed more than two (2) hours (lunch, etc.) and must not be interrupted by another Competition. An exception to this rules may only be granted under extraordinary circumstances by FEI HQ (request to be submitted in writing to the FEI). If a small in-between class is scheduled, it should be judged by another panel of judges. However, if the number of Athletes in a Competition exceeds approximately forty (40) the OC must spread this Competition over two (2) days. |

### Comments received by 30 August 2021

None
FEI feedback

As per above, remove “However”.

Proposed Final Wording to be voted at the FEI General Assembly 2021

7. Pause. It is necessary to pause for about ten (10) minutes after every six (6) to ten (10) Athletes, to reconstitute the surface of the ground. A pause or break during a Dressage Competition may never exceed more than two (2) hours (lunch, etc.) and must not be interrupted by another Competition. An exception to this rules may only be granted under extraordinary circumstances by FEI HQ (request to be submitted in writing to the FEI). If a small in-between class is scheduled, it should be judged by another panel of judges. However, if the number of Athletes in a Competition exceeds approximately forty (40) the OC must spread this Competition over two (2) days.

Proposal from (Name of National Federation or MOU Stakeholder)

AUT NF, GER NF, IDRC

Article No.–Article Name

430 Execution of the tests
6.2 Other penalties

Explanation for Proposed Change

In practice, there are problems in the mathematical details if two points are deducted per fault.

The 2 points to be deducted are an absolute value that changes relatively with the number of lessons. In the Grand Prix with 46 lessons, 2 points mean approximately 0.5 %, but in a Children’s competition with 20 lessons, 2 points mean approximately 1.0 %.

In competitions for 7-year-old Horses and for Children where two judging methods are combined (joint judging and technical judging with score sheets), problems arise.

The technical Judge at C must notice and penalise if the rider enters the arena with a whip, and he can do so because he judges with points, so he can deduct the two points at the end. The Judges at the side who judge the quality together cannot do so, because they do not have a point system in this sense, but only the 5 decimal marks. Common practice at present is that their mark remains unaffected. This is not only wrong but violates Article 430.6.3 according to which deductions of penalty points must be made on each Judge’s sheet.

It would be fair to deduct 0.5 % instead of 2 points per fault. That way an equipment fault can be punished in both judging procedures as it is stipulated in Article 430.6.3. Simply deducting 0.5 % from the averaged final result would lead to a wrong result, because the non-reduced mark from the Judges at the sides would remain and thus the addition would be wrong.


6.2 Other Penalties – Technical faults

It is the responsibility of the Judge at C to decide whether a penalty should be applied and the other judges sheets should be marked accordingly to ensure consistency.

All of the following are considered technical faults, and two (2) points 0.5% (zero point five percentage points) will be deducted per fault by each Judge, but these deductions are not cumulative and will not result in Elimination (including for Freestyle tests):
- Entering the space around the arena with a whip or with boots/bandages on the Horse’s legs or with discrepancy in dress (e.g. lack of gloves) and/or;
- Entering the Dressage arena with whip or with boots/bandages on the Horse’s legs or with discrepancy in dress (e.g. lack of gloves). If the test has already started before the discrepancy has been noticed, the Judge at C stops the Athlete and if needed and possible, an assistant may enter the arena to remove the item(s). The Athlete then continues the test, either starting from the beginning (from the inside of the fence) or from the movement where he was stopped. The marks given before he was stopped are not changed;
- Entering the arena before the sound of the bell;
- Not entering the arena within forty five (45) seconds after the bell, but within ninety (90) seconds;
- For Freestyle tests, entering the arena after more than thirty (30) seconds of music;
- If the Freestyle test is longer or shorter than stipulated on the test sheet, zero point five percentage points (0.5%) will be deducted from the total artistic score, for other technical faults, 0.5% (zero point five percentage points) will be deducted per fault from the technical score.
- Using voice or clicking the tongue repeatedly
- Athletes not taking the reins in one (1) hand at the salute.

6.3 Penalty Points. The penalty points are deducted on each Judge’s sheet from the total points obtained by the Athlete. In Children classes and classes for 7 yo Horses, penalty points must be deducted from both judging procedures (technical Judging and quality Judging).
6.2 Other Penalties – Technical faults

It is the responsibility of the Judge at C to decide whether a penalty should be applied and the other judges sheets should be marked accordingly to ensure consistency.

All of the following are considered technical faults, and two (2) points 0.5% (zero point five percentage points) will be deducted per fault by each Judge, but these deductions are not cumulative and will not result in Elimination (including for Freestyle tests):
- Entering the space around the arena with a whip or with boots/bandages on the Horse’s legs or with discrepancy in dress (e.g. lack of gloves) and/or;
- Entering the Dressage arena with a whip or with boots/bandages on the Horse’s legs or with discrepancy in dress (e.g. lack of gloves). If the test has already started before the discrepancy has been noticed, the Judge at C stops the Athlete and if needed and possible, an assistant may enter the arena to remove the item(s). The Athlete then continues the test, either starting from the beginning (from the inside of the fence) or from the movement where he was stopped. The marks given before he was stopped are not changed;
- Entering the arena before the sound of the bell;
- Not entering the arena within forty five (45) seconds after the bell, but within ninety (90) seconds;
- For Freestyle tests, entering the arena after more than thirty (30) seconds of music;
- If the Freestyle test is longer or shorter than stipulated on the test sheet, zero point five percentage points (0.5%) will be deducted from the total artistic score, for other technical faults, 0.5% (zero point five percentage points) will be deducted per fault from the technical score.
- Using voice or clicking the tongue repeatedly
- Athletes not taking the reins in one (1) hand at the salute.

6.3 Penalty Points. The penalty points are deducted on each Judge’s sheet from the total points obtained by the Athlete. In Children classes and classes for 7 yo Horses’ classes, penalty points must be deducted from both judging procedures (technical Judging and quality Judging).

Proposal from (Name of National Federation or MOU Stakeholder)

FEI

Article No.– 437 Ground Jury

437.9.2 FEI Championships for Youth

Explanation for Proposed Change

Urgent repair. The DC supports the proposal to have a member of the JSP appointed for Youth Championships to ensure fair judging.
9.2 **FEI Championships for Youth**

For **FEI Continental Championships** for U25, Young Riders, Juniors, Children and Pony Riders, the President and the other members of the Ground Jury are appointed by the FEI with the cooperation of the Dressage Technical Committee from the FEI list of 5* and 4* Judges. **One (1) member of the JSP is appointed by the FEI with the purpose of supervision of the judging process.**

**Comments received by 30 August 2021**

**USA NF:** We believe that this proposal may add undue expense onto the organizer and recommend that this should be at the expense of FEI. We would also like confirmation that this proposal is intended for all FEI Championships for Youth. No change to the proposed wording.

Article 438 does appear to address the question about the possible change applying to only European Championships for Youth, but it is not clear in the wording used in Article 437.9.2.

**FEI feedback**

Following the feedback, clarification that this is valid for Youth Championships in Europe. The JSP member is at the expense of the Organiser.

**Proposed Final Wording to be voted at the FEI General Assembly 2021**

9.2 **FEI Championships for Youth**

For **FEI Continental Championships** for U25, Young Riders, Juniors, Children and Pony Riders, the President and the other members of the Ground Jury are appointed by the FEI with the cooperation of the Dressage Technical Committee from the FEI list of 5* and 4* Judges. **One (1) member of the JSP is appointed by the FEI with the purpose of supervision of the judging process for the European Youth Championships.**

**Proposal from (Name of National Federation or MOU Stakeholder)**

**FEI**

**Article No.– 438 JSP**

1. A Judges Supervisory Panel (JSP) is mandatory for Olympic Games, World and Continental Championships on Grand Prix level and World Cup Finals. A JSP may be present at all CDIs, CDIOs and other Championships/Games than those listed above.

   The purpose of the JSP is to ensure fair judging.

2. The JSP should consist of three (3) members, ideally two (2) judges and one (1) trainer/Athlete. All JSP members must be independent and experienced (judges: 5*), well respected and diplomatic, adhere to the judges’ codex, have integrity and communication skills. Active judges, trainers and Athletes must take time off judging, riding and training participants for equestrian events as specified in the JSP Job description during their term as JSP members. There can be a maximum of one (1) JSP member per NF on the same panel.
ANNEX Pt 17.2

3. The JSP may correct definite technical mistakes and counting errors. The JSP may not set marks outside the range of the judges’ given marks. Corrections may be made both to lower and raise marks. The JSP must inform the judges immediately after the competition which marks have been changed. A signed form with the correction will be added to the normal sheets and made available to the Athletes, and given to the Judge, whose mark has been changed.

4. If a judge’s final score for a Horse/Athlete combination varies (above or below) by five (5)% or more from the average of the scores of the other judges for the same combination, the JSP may, by unanimous decision, change that particular score to be the same as the next closest score.

5. At events, the JSP should have a good view of the entire arena and be provided with computer screens showing the judges’ marks instantly, as well as video of all the rides, which can be rewound and re-watched during each test.

6. JSP members are appointed for two (2) years periods. They may be reappointed for an unlimited number of periods. There is no age limit for JSP Members.

### Explanation for Proposed Change

Urgent repair. Restructuring of Article; adding that one JSP Member must be appointed to Youth Championships. No changes to wording other than to add that one JSP member must be appointed for Youth Championships (as per the proposed change to Article 437.9.2).

### Proposed Wording on 12 July 2021

1. The purpose of the JSP is to ensure fair judging.

2. The JSP should consist of three (3) members, ideally two (2) judges and one (1) trainer/Athlete. All JSP members must be independent and experienced (judges: 5*), well respected and diplomatic, adhere to the judges’ codex, have integrity and communication skills. Active judges, trainers and Athletes must take time off judging, riding and training participants for equestrian events as specified in the JSP Job description during their term as JSP members. There can be a maximum of one (1) JSP member per NF on the same panel.

3. A Judges Supervisory Panel (JSP) is mandatory for Olympic Games, World and Continental Championships on Grand Prix level and World Cup Finals. A JSP may be present at all CDIs, CDIOs and other Championships/Games than those listed above.

3.1 A JSP member must be appointed by the FEI for the European Championships for Youth.

4. The JSP may correct definite technical mistakes and counting errors. The JSP may not set marks outside the range of the judges’ given marks. Corrections may be made both to lower and raise marks. The JSP must inform the judges immediately after the competition which marks have been changed. A signed form with the correction will be added to the normal sheets and made available to the Athletes, and given to the Judge, whose mark has been changed.

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7. JSP members are appointed for two (2) years periods. They may be reappointed for an unlimited number of periods. There is no age limit for JSP Members.

Comments received by 30 August 2021

GBR NF: Fully agree with proposal

USA NF: (Also 437.9.2) We believe that this proposal may add undue expense onto the organizer and recommend that this should be at the expense of FEI. We would also like confirmation that this proposal is intended for all FEI Championships for Youth. No change to the proposed wording.

FEI feedback

Please see the previous proposal (437.9.2), valid for Youth Championships in Europe.

Proposed Final Wording to be voted at the FEI General Assembly 2021

1. The purpose of the JSP is to ensure fair judging.

2. The JSP should consist of three (3) members, ideally two (2) judges and one (1) trainer/Athlete. All JSP members must be independent and experienced (judges: 5*), well respected and diplomatic, adhere to the judges’ codex, have integrity and communication skills. Active judges, trainers and Athletes must take time off judging, riding and training participants for equestrian events as specified in the JSP Job description during their term as JSP members. There can be a maximum of one (1) JSP member per NF on the same panel.

3. A Judges Supervisory Panel (JSP) is mandatory for Olympic Games, World and Continental Championships on Grand Prix level and World Cup Finals. A JSP may be present at all CDIs, CDIOs and other Championships/Games than those listed above.

3.1 A JSP member must be appointed by the FEI for the European Championships for Youth.

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4. If a judge’s final score for a Horse/Athlete combination varies (above or below) by five (5)% or more from the average of the scores of the other judges for the same combination, the JSP may, by unanimous decision, change that particular score to be the same as the next closest score.
6. At events, the JSP should have a good view of the entire arena and be provided with computer screens showing the judges’ marks instantly, as well as video of all the rides, which can be rewound and re-watched during each test.

7. JSP members are appointed for two (2) years periods. They may be reappointed for an unlimited number of periods. There is no age limit for JSP Members.

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### Proposal from (Name of National Federation or MOU Stakeholder)

**IDTC**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Article No.–Article Name</th>
<th>Explanation for Proposed Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>428.8 Checking of Saddlery</td>
<td>WELFARE/SAFETY Safety issues can arise when ear hoods are checked/removed during the bit check. Therefore it should be clarified that the rider/groom shall have the responsibility to remove the ear hood.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Proposed Wording on 12 July 2021

8. **Checking of Saddlery.** A visual check before leaving the last warm up arena may be conducted by the Stewards to prevent Athletes going into the field of play with any forbidden equipment. A visual check can be declined, as it is designed to help Athletes but is not compulsory. However, it remains the full responsibility of the Athlete not to enter with any forbidden piece of Saddlery. A Steward must be appointed to check the Saddlery of each Horse immediately after it leaves the arena. Any discrepancy will be reported to the Judge at C and result in immediate Elimination if confirmed. The checking of the bridle must be done with the greatest caution, as some Horses are very sensitive about their mouths (see FEI Steward’s Manual). It shall be the Athlete’s/groom’s responsibility to remove ear hoods. The Steward must use disposable surgical/protective gloves when checking the bridle (one -1- pair of gloves per Horse).

### Comments received by 30 August 2021

GBR NF: Fully agree with proposal

### FEI feedback

The DC supports this proposal, for safety, and also recommends that in the Steward Manual, it is added that a fenced area to do the saddlery check is highly recommended for safety reasons.

### Proposed Final Wording to be voted at the FEI General Assembly 2021
8. **Checking of Saddlery.** A visual check before leaving the last warm up arena may be conducted by the Stewards to prevent Athletes going into the field of play with any forbidden equipment. A visual check can be declined, as it is designed to help Athletes but is not compulsory. However, it remains the full responsibility of the Athlete not to enter with any forbidden piece of Saddlery. A Steward must be appointed to check the Saddlery of each Horse immediately after it leaves the arena. Any discrepancy will be reported to the Judge at C and result in immediate Elimination if confirmed. The checking of the bridle must be done with the greatest caution, as some Horses are very sensitive about their mouths (see FEI Steward’s Manual). It shall be the Athlete’s/Groom’s responsibility to remove ear hoods. The Steward must use disposable surgical/protective gloves when checking the bridle (one pair of gloves per Horse).
B. PROPOSED RULES CHANGES THAT HAVE BEEN REJECTED OR DEFERRED TO A FUTURE RULES REVISION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposal from (Name of National Federation or MOU Stakeholder)</th>
<th>AUT NF, GER NF</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Article No.</strong>—<strong>Article Name</strong></td>
<td>422 CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION 3.8. Scheduling possibilities at Senior Dressage Events</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Explanation for Proposed Change</strong></td>
<td>Several OCs organise Prix St. Georges and Intermediate I competitions for 7- to 9-year-old Horses only on national level because they want to avoid the FEI requirement to schedule a normal, open Small Tour for older Horses in addition. However, they would prefer to schedule these competitions also as international competitions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Proposed Wording on 12 July 2021</strong></td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Comments received by 30 August 2021</strong></td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FEI feedback</strong></td>
<td>The DC believes this is not an urgent repair and should be considered in the full rules revision in 2022.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Proposed Final Wording to be voted at the FEI General Assembly 2021</strong></td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Proposals and explanations for proposed rules changes, excluding those for which feedback from the DC is available.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposal from (Name of National Federation or MOU Stakeholder)</th>
<th>AUT NF, GER NF (withdrawn by GER NF 22.04.2021)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Article No.</strong>—<strong>Article Name</strong></td>
<td>422 CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION 4. Scheduling possibilities at Youth events 4.1 Young Riders 4.2 Juniors 4.4 Pony Riders 4.5 U25 Riders</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Propositions and explanations for proposed rules changes, excluding those for which feedback from the DC is available.
### ANNEX Pt 17.2

17 November 2021, Antwerp (BEL)

#### Explanation for Proposed Change

OCs should have the possibility to limit the number of competitors not only in the Freestyle Competition, but also in the Individual Competition if the Individual Competition is scheduled as a final competition.

#### Proposed Wording on 12 July 2021

N/A (The DC suggests to further discuss this proposal for the full revision, as this is not an urgent repair and the proposal was withdrawn by the NF GER.)

#### Comments received by 30 August 2021

**GBR NF:** fully agree

**USA NF:** We support this proposal; however, we question why this is not applied across the board. For instance, for individual tests and freestyles, if it is applied to some categories, it should be applied to all. Why all tours are not included with the individual & freestyle selection between multiple horses? No change to the proposed wording.

#### FEI feedback

Individual Competition also counts for MERs for Championships, and this would not give chances to all athletes to achieve MERs.

The DC suggests to further discuss this proposal for the full revision, as this is not an urgent repair and the proposal was withdrawn by the NF GER.

#### Proposed Final Wording to be voted at the FEI General Assembly 2021

N/A

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**Proposal from (Name of National Federation or MOU Stakeholder)**

**AUT NF, GER NF, AIDEO, IDRC**

**Article No.–Article Name**

427 Dress

1. Protective Headgear and Top Hat/Bowler

**Explanation for Proposed Change**
We propose to amend the existing obligation to wear a helmet.

The traditional dress code with an elegant hat is a world-renowned recognition feature of Dressage sport. We do not want to give the impression that Dressage sport has become dangerous. We acknowledge the aspect of safety, however we are not aware of any head injuries that have ever occurred to top Athletes during a high-level Dressage competition.

Therefore, Athletes of the age category U25 and older should have the freedom to decide for themselves whether they want to wear a top hat or a helmet in the competition.

This freedom of choice should only apply to CDI4*, CDI5*, Championships and Games on Grand Prix level. For awards ceremonies and at all other times when mounted, the use of protective headgear shall remain mandatory.

Proposed Wording

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. As an exemption from the above rule, Athletes of the age category U25 and older can decide to wear a top hat or a helmet while riding in a Grand Prix level competition at a CDI4*, CDI5*, Championship or at Games.

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. 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.

1.3 A Protective Headgear formed as a top hat may be used.

Comments received by 30 August 2021

**GBR NF**: Fully agree with proposal. In line with previous submissions, British Dressage fully supports this rule and agree that it should remain in place, with due respect for the vote at the General Assembly. The welfare of our athletes is of paramount importance and tradition should not be put above the health and safety of the rider.

**GER NF**: Although the FEI Board opposed our proposal to have an exception for Dressage regarding the mandatory requirements to wear a protective headgear, we uphold our proposal because it comes from a significant number of NFs and stakeholders.

Proposed wording:

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. As an exemption from the above rule, Athletes of the age category U25 and older can decide to wear a top hat or a helmet while riding in a Grand Prix level competition at a CDI4*, CDI5*, Championship or at Games.

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. 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.

1.3 A Protective Headgear formed as a top hat may be used.
### FEI feedback

The Dressage Committee supported this proposal but not unanimously. The proposal was not supported by the Medical Committee. The proposal was reviewed by the Board at the June 2021 Board Meeting; the Board unanimously agreed not to support the proposal and, therefore, it is not included in the proposed rule changes. The Board noted that this topic was subject to a specific vote at the 2019 General Assembly and that vote should be respected.

### Proposed Final Wording to be voted at the FEI General Assembly 2021

N/A

### Proposal from (Name of National Federation or MOU Stakeholder)

**EEF**

### Article No.–Article Name

427 Dress

1. Protective Headgear and Top Hat/Bowler

### Explanation for Proposed Change

The EEF proposes to re-open the discussion regarding the existing obligation to wear a helmet because a survey among European NFs has shown a preference for altered rules according to which Athletes of the age category U25 and older should have the freedom to decide for themselves whether they want to wear a top hat or a helmet in the competition.

This freedom of choice should only apply to CDI4*, CDI5*, Championships and Games on Grand Prix level. For awards ceremonies and at all other times when mounted, the use of protective headgear shall remain mandatory.

### Proposed Wording on 12 July 2021

N/A

### Comments received by 30 August 2021

None

### FEI feedback
Please see above

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposed Final Wording to be voted at the FEI General Assembly 2021</th>
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<td>N/A</td>
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### Proposal from (Name of National Federation or MOU Stakeholder)

**CAN NF**

### Article No.–Article Name

427.4 Spurs

### Explanation for Proposed Change

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

The FEI Jumping Rulebook allows for “flat disk” spurs according to Article 19:

“...Spurs with flat disks are allowed. The contact surface with the horse and all edges must be smooth and rounded” (pg. 105).

We propose that this be added to the FEI Dressage Rules to align with what is already permitted in the FEI Jumping Rules. This is an inconsistency that appears to be the result of an unintended omission. As well, because the rules governing spurs are based on the safety and welfare of the horse, by omitting flat disk spurs in the Dressage Rulebook we may be contradicting the very purpose of regulating what spurs are/are not permitted at FEI Events:

Article 427. 4. Spurs are compulsory except for CDIP and CDICh Events and must be made of metal. The shank must be either curved or straight pointing directly back from the centre of the spur when on the Athlete’s boot. The arms of the spur must be smooth and blunt. If rowels are used, they must be blunt/smooth (no sharp edges) and free to rotate. Metal spurs with round hard plastic knobs are allowed (“Impuls” spur). “Dummy” spurs with no shank are also allowed. Spurs with flat disks are allowed. The contact surface with the horse and all edges must be smooth and rounded.

### Proposed Wording on 12 July 2021

N/A

### Comments received by 30 August 2021

**GBR NF:** Whilst we support the new proposed wording for this rule, we would also like to propose that the FEI considers removing the compulsory use of spurs completely. Following feedback from our members this will no longer be a mandatory requirement at national level from 2022.

With some high-profile welfare issues raised at the Tokyo Olympics, where our sports are viewed by a non-equestrian audience, some view the use of spurs as a negative aid. While we should of course focus on the educational aspect and promote the correct use of spurs,
with equine welfare now paramount it could be seen as contradictory to enforce a mandatory use of spurs in the rules.

**Proposed wording:**
Spurs are compulsory except for CDIP and CDIC optional at all FEI Events and must be made of metal.

**FEI feedback**
Further to a review of the DC, the conclusion was that the inner edge is making the contact – this is not allowed in the current rules. A more in-depth revision of the equipment rules should be undertaken. This will considered for the rules revision in 2022.

**Proposed Final Wording to be voted at the FEI General Assembly 2021**
N/A

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Proposal from (Name of National Federation or MOU Stakeholder)</th>
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<td>IDTC</td>
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<th>Article No.–Article Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>428.9 Warming-up and training areas</td>
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</table>

**Explanation for Proposed Change**
The lunging bungee is horse friendly way of relaxing horses and thus should be included in allowed lunging equipment:

9. **Warming-up and training areas.** Paragraphs 1 to 5 above are valid also for warming-up arenas and other training areas where, however, snaffles with a cavesson or a normal dropped noseband, Mexican noseband or a Flash noseband, boots, bandages are allowed.

   Lunging cavessons, single direct side reins or double sliding side reins (triangle/dreieck zügel) and the lunging bungee are permitted when lunging. Lunging is allowed with one (1) lunge line only, attached to either a lunging cavesson or a snaffle bridle/bridoon. Lunging with lunge line attached to the curb is not allowed.

**Proposed Wording on 12 July 2021**
N/A

**Comments received by 30 August 2021**
GBR NF: We would recommend that there is further clarification to include the requirement to ensure only approved equipment is used in warm up and training, to discourage the use of any unauthorised or homemade items.

FEI feedback
The DC supports this proposal but does not consider this as an urgent repair and suggests to introduce it in the full revision in 2022.

The DC also asks that the name of the gear is checked to eventually find a more commonly used term to describe it.

Proposed Final Wording to be voted at the FEI General Assembly 2021

N/A

Proposal from (Name of National Federation or MOU Stakeholder)

IDTC

Article No.–Article Name
428.12 (new number) Body bandages

Explanation for Proposed Change

WELFARE
Many horses have sensitive skin, especially those recently clipped, and are susceptible to inadvertent spur marks. A body bandage protects against this injury:

12. Body Bandages are permitted in the warm-up arena but must be removed before entering the competition arena.

Proposed Wording on 12 July 2021

N/A

Comments received by 30 August 2021

GBR NF: We support the proposal not to add this, as body bandages could hide potential injuries or the misuse of spurs. On welfare grounds we agree that this is an important addition.

FEI feedback
The DC does not support this proposal and body bandages are considered as a gadget, and gadgets are not allowed in the current rules.

Proposed Final Wording to be voted at the FEI General Assembly 2021

N/A

Proposal from (Name of National Federation or MOU Stakeholder)

AUT NF, GER NF, IDRC

Article No.–Article Name

432 Marking
4. Collective Mark

Explanation for Proposed Change

In 2018, the FEI removed the collective marks for paces, impulsion and submission on the grounds that Judges could misuse these marks to manipulate the result. The score sheets contained explanations in brackets what exactly was meant by the terms paces, impulsion and submission. Only the mark for the “Athlete’s position and seat; correctness and effect of the aids” was left with the coefficient 2.

Nowadays everything is supposed to go faster and faster, to be simplified and made as equal as possible. We think that this is not the right way to improve our sport in terms of riding and judging. For some time now, it has been apparent that some principles of riding are no longer really taken into account in the tests. In our opinion, these collective marks are missing which have served the Judges as tools to illustrate the principles of Dressage training.

With his evaluation, the Judge also gives the rider and the trainer recommendations for the further education and training. It is not enough to only judge the technical execution of the test. It is often said that the judge should also recognise and judge all the principles, but the reality is somewhat different.

Since there is a collective mark for the rider, it is the logical consequence to also give a collective mark for the horse or its training status. This would force the Judge to give an evaluation of the principles of Dressage riding at the end of each test. Including it as «general principles» in the marks given would be an important step to ensure that the basic criteria, our principles of riding, remain paramount in judging the performance of a rider-horse combination.

In January 2021, the definition of Collective mark in the Dressage Tests has been updated in accordance with the 2021 FEI Dressage rules (Art 432.4) and now reads: «Collective mark: General Impression (harmonious presentation of the rider/horse combination; rider’s position and seat, discreet and effective influence of the aids)». This is included in our proposal. However, we have replaced «harmonious» by «harmony of» presentation and use this term instead of «General Impression». We have done this to avoid the misleading interpretation that it might be enough to see a «nice» harmonious ride whereas the focus should be laid on how well the interaction between horse and rider works.
The coefficient 2 shall be deleted because the new Collective mark comprises two items that each get a mark.

**Proposed Wording on 12 July 2021**

4. Collective marks: After the Athlete has finished his performance, a collective marks is awarded for the implementation of General Principles and for Harmony of Presentation.

> [This change is to come into force as of 01.01.2021 with a clear definition]

4.1 The implementation of General Principles comprises
- Freedom and regularity of the paces;
- Engagement of the hind quarters;
- Elasticity of the steps;
- Suppleness of the back;
- Straightness
- Acceptance of the bridle;
- Self-carriage.

4.2 Harmony of Presentation comprises
- attention and confidence of the Horse
- harmony in the presentation of the rider/horse combination;
- rider’s position and seat;
- discreet and effective influence of the aids.

The Collective marks are awarded from zero (0) to ten (10).

5. The collective marks for General Principles and for Harmony of Presentation are not given a coefficient. Certain difficult movements, can be given a coefficient, which is fixed by the FEI.

**Comments received by 30 August 2021**

**GBR NF:** Fully agrees with proposal

**USA NF:** We approve this in principle; however, we recommend that the FEI collect additional feedback on the proposed wording from FEI 4* and 5* judges before final approval. No change to the proposed wording.

**FEI feedback**

Proposal not supported. In line with the findings on the Dressage Judging Working Group (DJWG), the one Collective mark will be maintained. The points listed are already assessed for each movement. Both the DJWG and the JAG strongly recommended to keep the Collective mark unchanged for 2022, as the DJWG had presented strong reasoning previously as to why only one Collective mark was to be used.

**Proposed Final Wording to be voted at the FEI General Assembly 2021**
### Proposal from (Name of National Federation or MOU Stakeholder)

**EEF**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Article No. – Article Name</th>
<th>Explanation for Proposed Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>432 Marking</td>
<td>In 2018, the FEI removed the collective marks for paces, impulsion and submission on the grounds that Judges could misuse these marks to manipulate the result. Only the mark for the “Athlete’s position and seat; correctness and effect of the aids” was left with the coefficient 2. Since there is a collective mark for the rider, it is the logical consequence to also give a collective mark for the horse or its training status. This would force the Judge to give an evaluation of the principles of Dressage riding at the end of each test.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Collective Mark</td>
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</table>

**Proposed Wording on 12 July 2021**

N/A

**Comments received by 30 August 2021**

None

**FEI feedback**

Please see above

**Proposed Final Wording to be voted at the FEI General Assembly 2021**

N/A
### ANNEX Pt 17.2

**17 November 2021, Antwerp (BEL)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>New additional point</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Explanation for Proposed Change</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To ensure fair judging at all events, even when the JSP is not present.</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Proposed Wording on 12 July 2021</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6. If a judge’s final score for a Horse/Athlete combination varies (above or below) by five (5)% or more from the average of the scores of the other judges for the same combination, that particular score will automatically be changed to be the same as the next closest score.</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Comments received by 30 August 2021</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>GBR NF</strong>: Fully agrees with proposal</td>
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</table>

| **USA NF**: We strongly disagree with this proposed change. This is a year for clarifications and urgent repairs, and we believe this is a fundamental change. The current wording needs to be adjusted, for example it would have much more effect in a panel of 3 judges vs 5 judges. This may make scoring more homogeneous, but not necessarily fair. |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>FEI feedback</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Upon re-discussion, this needs to be investigated more to ensure correct calculation; postponed until full rules revision.</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Proposed Final Wording to be voted at the FEI General Assembly 2021</strong></th>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Proposal from (Name of National Federation or MOU Stakeholder)</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>FEI</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Article No.– 434 Classification</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New sub-point 4.1</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Explanation for Proposed Change</strong></th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clarification.</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Proposed Wording on 12 July 2021</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4. The Team Classification (CDIOs) is decided as follows: in all team Competitions the winning team is the one having the highest total points of their three (3) best Athletes, the second placed team is the one with the next highest total and so on.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

| 4.1 For the Team-Classification in Continental Children Championships, the average score of the Preliminary Test and the Team Test of the best three Athletes are added up for the classification. |
### ANNEX Pt 17.2

**17 November 2021, Antwerp (BEL)**

Ties. In case of equality of points, the higher ranked team will be the one whose lowest classified Athlete out of the three (3) has the best result.

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<tr>
<td>GBR NF: Fully agrees with proposal</td>
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<tr>
<th>FEI feedback</th>
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<tr>
<td>After further discussion, the DC agreed to wait with this change for the full revision in order to confirm which average was to be used.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Proposed Final Wording to be voted at the FEI General Assembly 2021</th>
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#### Proposal from (Name of National Federation or MOU Stakeholder)

**AIDEO**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Article No.–Article Name</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>435.2.3</strong></td>
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**Explanation for Proposed Change**

Based on Art. 435.2.3, it is possible that riders who have achieved the same points (not percentage) might have a different placing in a class.

This is purely mathematical due to rounding differences possible by the existing rule.

We would therefore suggest to change the wording of this rule to the following:

2.3 The final percentage is obtained by adding the total average percentage points per Judge divided by the number of Judges.

For example:

1) Total average percentage points per Judge: E= 278 points (69.500%), H= 282 points (70.500%), C= 280 points (70.000%), M= 282 points (70.500%), B= 278 points (69.500%);
   2) Final percentage: 70.000%.

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</table>
**ANNEX Pt 17.2**

17 November 2021, Antwerp (BEL)

| None |

| **FEI feedback** |
| Needs further review – The idea is supported but will be addressed in the full rules revision in 2022. Also to consider tests where there are both points and percentages. |

| **Proposed Final Wording to be voted at the FEI General Assembly 2021** |
| N/A |

| **Proposal from (Name of National Federation or MOU Stakeholder)** |
| AUT NF, GER NF, IDRC |

| **Article No.–Article Name** |
| - to be determined - Amateurs |

| **Explanation for Proposed Change** |
| The goal is to find an “Amateur” definition that is valid for international competitions in all three Olympic disciplines of Dressage, Jumping and Eventing. Amateurs should be offered a range of events/competitions that are exclusively open to this target group, where they can compete under fair and equal conditions, at their level and not against professionals. |

The proposal is based on ANNEX XIII RULES FOR AMATEUR OWNER CATEGORY of the FEI Jumping Rules, 26th edition, updates effective 1 January 2021, however it should be part of all three Olympic discipline rules and/or the General Regulations. It is not deemed necessary to define the Amateur status for any of the other FEI disciplines.

The term “Amateur” instead of “Amateur Owner” should be used. There is no concrete definition what “immediate family members” and “sponsored Horses” are. Therefore it would be best not to use these terms.

**ARTICLE 1 REQUIREMENTS**

1. To be considered an “Amateur Owner”:

1.1. The Athlete must be the owner of the Horse(s) with which he/she competes. Ownership may be extended to the immediate family members.

1.2.1. The Athlete must possess a valid licence granted by his/her NF and be registered with the FEI. Horses must be registered with the FEI and, if competing in a country outside the Horse’s country of residence, have a valid FEI passport or a national passport with an FEI recognition card. Horses competing in Amateur Events in their country of residence do not need an FEI passport or FEI recognition card but must be registered and identifiable (see GRs 137.2).
1.2.1. An “Amateur Owner’s” license will only be granted by NFs to an Athlete who has formally signed a statement that he/she does not earn money for riding other people’s Horses, giving riding lessons, riding sponsored Horses, or for publicity or commercial purposes, etc. The buying and selling of Horses, as well as receiving prize money in cash, are not forbidden providing they do not constitute the Athlete’s only main source of income.

1.3.2. The “Amateur Owner” status limits participation in other Competitions and Championships. Athletes having obtained or renewed the “Amateur Owner” license, will not be allowed to continue participating as an Amateur during the current calendar year if:
- in Jumping:
  they have taken part in international or national Competitions in which the height of obstacles in the initial round is 1.50 m or greater. This means for example that a Young Rider who has obtained his/her Amateur license and who reaches the Individual Final Competition at the Continental Championships for Young Riders may no lonAUT participate as an Amateur for the remainder of that year. An Athlete may apply to his/her NF to reinstate his/her Amateur Owner license after a waiting period according to the regulations of the NF but under no circumstances during the same calendar year.
- In Dressage:
  the Athlete/Horse combination has obtained 3 results with a score of at least 73 % in international non-Amateur Grand Prix Competitions.
- in Eventing:
  Currently not applicable, to be determined; could be related to the rider’s category or results of the rider/horse combination.

1.4.3. Age of competitors:
- in Jumping:
  Athletes may participate in all CSI Amateur Competitions from the year in which they reach the age of 14 years. Athletes from the year in which they reach their 12th birthday until the end of the year in which they reach their 13th birthday may participate in CSI Amateur Competitions providing the height of obstacles does not exceed 1.30 m (see JRs Art. 255.2).
- in Dressage: in line with the relevant Dressage Rules
- in Eventing:
  To be determined; currently not applicable

2. Age of Horses:
- in Jumping:
  Horses must be minimum six years old to take part in CSI Amateur Events and minimum seven years old to take part in Amateur Championships. (This should be added to Article 254.1 in order to have a complete overview in one article.)
- in Dressage:
  In line with the respective FEI Rules for non-Amateur competitions
- in Eventing:
  In line with the respective FEI Rules for non-Amateur competitions
### ARTICLE 2 INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

1. **Jumping:** International Events for “Amateurs Owners” may be organised as CSIAm Category A events (with prize money) or as CSIAm Category B events (without prize money). The maximum height allowed for Amateur Owner Competitions is 1.40 m, with a proportional spread not exceeding 1.55 m (except the triple bar).

Dressage: International Events for “Amateurs” may be organised as CDIAm Events at any level.

**Eventing:** International Events for “Amateurs” may be organised.

2. International Events are open to individual Athletes of the host NF and a limited number of foreign Athletes.

3. Maximum global entry fee per Horse per Event: € 1500 (one thousand five hundred Euros).

4. International Events must comply with the FEI discipline-specific sport rules for International Jumping Events. All Event draft Schedules must be submitted to the FEI for approval.

*If the definition shall be part of the GRs, the below Articles 3 to 5 are dispensable for the GRs and could be part of the discipline rules.*

### ARTICLE 3 CHAMPIONSHIPS

1. When Continental or Regional Championships for this Category are organised, the Competition formula to be used must follow the formula for Continental Championships for Seniors.

### ARTICLE 4 OFFICIALS COURSE DESIGNERS

1. In Jumping, the Course Designer is appointed by the OC, chosen from the list of FEI Level 3 Course Designers at least.

### ARTICLE 5 FACILITIES

1. All expenses relating to Competitions, transportation, travel, hotel accommodation and expenses at border crossings are borne by the Athlete.

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**Proposed Wording on 12 July 2021**

N/A

**Comments received by 30 August 2021**
**Annex Pt 17.2**

**17 November 2021, Antwerp (BEL)**

**GER NF:** “The DC will review this for the full revision in 2022.”

We were asked for patience last year. Now there is a delay again even though general consent was given by the Jumping Committee and the FEI Board. It should be possible to implement this in 2021 to keep the rules in line across the disciplines.

### FEI feedback

New definition of Amateurs will be included in the General Regulations (see General Regulations memo) with the following minor amendment for the Age of Competitors for Dressage in line with the relevant Dressage Rules. For Dressage the review of the Amateur criteria will be carried out in connection with next year’s full rule revision.

### Proposed Final Wording to be voted at the FEI General Assembly 2021

N/A

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### Proposal from (Name of National Federation or MOU Stakeholder)

**FEI**

**Article No.–Annex I – Art 13**

Team and Individual Classification (Youth Championships)

### Explanation for Proposed Change

Clarification.

### Proposed Wording on 12 July 2021

The Team classification will be calculated by adding the average scores of the best three Athletes, obtained by adding the Preliminary Test and the Team final percentage scores divided by two.

### Comments received by 30 August 2021

**GBR NF:** Fully agrees with proposal

**USA NF:** It is assumed that this will be applicable to all youth divisions covered in Annex I. If the team result is to be based on the preliminary and the team test, it appears we are encouraging the Preliminary test to be used. By offering the Preliminary test, we would then possibly have four tests at championships, and this is too many. We believe the original intent of having a preliminary test was to use the test as a warmup/familiarization test. No change to the proposed wording.

### FEI feedback
# ANNEX Pt 17.2

**17 November 2021, Antwerp (BEL)**

<table>
<thead>
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After further discussion, to be postponed to the full rules revision.