

FEI Criteria for the participation of Russian and Belarussian Athletes, Horses and Officials in FEI Events

Information for Organising Committees

The FEI Criteria for the participation of Russian and Belarussian Athletes, Horses and Officials in FEI Events are available on the FEI website [here](#). These set the requirements to be met by the applicants. Please note that the respective National Federations shall be responsible for the selection and entries of the Neutral Individual Athletes, once such status is granted. It is also important to clarify that they are not authorised to take part in any FEI Team Competitions.

1. Requirements

Should the RUS NF and/or BLR NF make entries for their Athletes to compete at your Event, we ask you to strictly abide by the following requirements:

- Please **do not** mention the names “Russia”, “Russia NF”, “RUS NF”, respectively “Belarus”, “Belarus NF”, “BLR NF”.
- Please **only** use the acronym “NIA” (Neutral Individual Athlete) when referring to the Russian Equestrian Federation, Belarussian Equestrian Federation or any of their Athletes.
- Please **withdraw** references to **Russia and/or Belarus** on all documents and publications in both printed and electronic format, including, but not limited to, start lists, result lists, rankings and TV graphics. The acronym to be used instead of RUS and BLR shall be **NIA**.
- Flags, emblems and/or identifiers of the Russian Federation or the Republic of Belarus (current or historical) **shall not be raised or displayed** at any FEI Event venue, nor in any area where ancillary events are held, or any other area controlled by the Organiser of FEI Events.
- **No flag** will be used to identify Neutral Individual Athletes, respectively Neutral Individual Support Personnel (e.g., at ceremonies, protocol events, on-site, TV/media displays).
- The appearance of all emblems, names, acronyms, colours, flags, anthems or other country identifiers **linked to Russia and Belarus is prohibited** at all FEI Events.
- Individual Neutral Athletes **can be awarded medals** for their performances but **cannot be included in any medal table drawn up per country**, given that they are participating in their individual capacity. There will be no category or reference in any medal table for Individual Neutral Athletes.

- The national anthems of Russia and Belarus (or any other anthem associated with the Russian Federation or the Republic of Belarus) **shall not be played or sung** at any time during FEI Competitions in any competition venue, nor in any area where ancillary events are held, or any other area controlled by the Organiser of FEI Competitions.

- **No anthem** shall be used to represent any Neutral Individual Athletes at an official ceremony of an FEI competition (opening or closing, protocol, medal ceremony, etc.).

- **The uniforms** (whether competition, warm-up, formal, ceremonial, casual, etc.), clothing, equipment, accessories, personal items and **all Horse Tack and Equipment** belonging to Neutral Individual Athletes, and their Support Personnel that are worn, used and/or displayed at competition venues, or any area where ancillary events are held, or any other area controlled by the Organiser, shall be in accordance with the FEI Rules and Regulations and **must not contain**:
 - o Any recognition of or reference to the Russian Federation, the Republic of Belarus, or their NFs or NOCs, or any national identification of Russia or Belarus (such as a flag, coat of arms or any other national symbol or emblem, be it official or unofficial) in any language or format;

 - Any commercial or non-commercial emblems or identifications of any Russian or Belarusian organisations or entities;

 - Any expression (message, graphical element, symbol, etc.) with a direct or indirect political connotation.

- **No Russian and Belarusian government or state official** shall be invited to or accredited for FEI Events.

The FEI will be duly monitoring the implementation of the FEI Criteria, and we therefore count on you to strictly implement the above provisions.

2. Technical Information

Athletes granted the neutral status will have their "Competing For" updated to show them as a **Neutral Individual Athlete (NIA)**.

Two codes have been used to distinguish between Belarus (NI1) and Russia (NI2), these will appear in the FEI Entry System and entry files available to download, however all neutral individual athletes should be referred to as **NIA**.

Thank you for your attention and collaboration on this important topic and we remain at your disposal should you have any questions or need any further information/clarification.