

## PROPOSALS FOR RULES CHANGES OF PARA DRESSAGE RULES 2022

### Introduction

Further to the approval of the FEI Periodical Rules Revision Policy at the 2019 General Assembly (available here: <https://inside.fei.org/fei/about-fei/governance/rules-revision-process>) the Para Dressage Rules are subject to a full review in 2022 (to come into force in 2023).

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

**A. Rules Proposals received from NFs/MOU Stakeholders by 1 March 2022.** In this section you will find each of the Rules Proposals received from NFs/MOU Stakeholders addressed by the FEI with the relevant feedback from the Para Equestrian Committee; and

**B. Rules Proposals put forward by the FEI**

All article numbers relate to the numbers in the 2023 document, so may be different from the 2022 Rules. Where NFs had sent in an article number the corresponding 2023 article number is also noted.

As presented at the 2022 FEI Sports Forum, the Para Equestrian Committee is proposing the full revision of the Para Dressage Rules, with the following main amendments:

- A revised structure of the Para Dressage rules, with new Chapters. The first part, called "General Principles of Dressage" will be removed from the rules and will be published separately, as guidelines, together with the Dressage Handbook and Judging guidelines.
- A more progressive structure of Events, which should encourage National Federations to hold Competitions at every level. Each level proposed will have different sets of tests with progressive technical difficulty.
- A qualification system, in the higher levels (CEPDI3\* and above), with the aim of creating a space for progression between \*level Events will be introduced.
- New Names of the Para Dressage Tests, which will better reflect the differences in the skill level required in the Para Dressage sport structure. The tests at the highest levels (CPEDI3\*, World, European Championships and Paralympic Games) will be use the term Grand Prix.
- A change in the minimum age requirement and allow Athletes to compete in Championships and Games from 14yo. There are no youth classes in Para Dressage and Athletes are allowed to compete in CPEDIs from 14yo, so it seems logical to allow them to qualify for and compete in Championships at that age as well.
- A change to one collective mark for "General Impression"
- Updating the Judges levels to L1-L4 to align with other FEI disciplines.



Bettina De Rham,  
FEI Director, Dressage, Para Dressage and Vaulting

## A. Rules Proposals received from NFs/MOU Stakeholders by 1 March 2022

<b>Rules Proposal Submitted By</b>
<b>British Equestrian (British Dressage)</b>
<b>Article No.–Article Name</b>
<b>Article No. 8421 – Dressage Tests (2023 Article 8417.6)</b>
<b>Explanation for Proposed Change</b>
<b>8421</b> – Clarification is required on the permitted movements (by grade) that a combination may use in and around the arena prior to or following their test.
<b>Proposed Wording</b>
When competing in the Individual or Team tests athletes may demonstrate any work that is permitted within their Grade of Ind/Team/Freestyle test as they work around the outside of the dressage arena prior to entering at C.
<b>FEI Feedback</b>
The PETC agreed to clarify that Athletes were allowed to use any movement as allowed in the Tests of their Grade (including Freestyle) when riding around the arena on the Field of Play.
<b>FEI Proposed Wording (if applicable)</b>
<b>Article 8416.2.5</b> <u>When riding around the Field of Play before entering the arena, the Athlete may only perform movements allowed in the tests of their Grade, at their level, including those allowed in Freestyle. Contravening this rule will result in a Yellow Warning Card.</u>

<b>Rules Proposal Submitted By</b>
<b>British Equestrian (British Dressage)</b>
<b>Article No.–Article Name</b>
<b>Article No. 8421.2.4.1 – Dressage Tests / Freestyle to music (2023 Art 8402.3/8402.4)</b>
<b>Explanation for Proposed Change</b>
<b>8421.2.4.1</b> – Remove the mandatory requirement for 1* & 2* Freestyle tests. Often harder than Novice A tests through the mandatory movements.  Make Freestyle an optional requirement for athletes at 1&2* level, with no requirement to produce a certificate. Athletes can declare their intention to compete in the Freestyle on entry or arrival. Or produce a Freestyle test with different mandatory movements that reflect the technical ability of Horse and rider at this stage of their competitive journey.
<b>Proposed Wording</b>

**8421.2.4.1** – At CPEDI3\* level all levels of Events it is mandatory to participate if qualified, unless otherwise supported by a Veterinary or Doctor's Certificate. At a CPEDI 1\* and 2\* it is not mandatory to compete in the Freestyle, but the athlete must declare their intention to compete on entry or arrival. An Athlete who does not participate without legitimate reasons in a Competition where the participation is mandatory, will lose their placing and prize money from the previous Competition(s) in the Event and will be disqualified from the Event.

#### FEI Feedback

With the new Competition formats, the PETC have decided that Freestyles in CPEDI1\* and CPEDI2\* would be optional, both in scheduling and for the Athletes to participate.

#### FEI Proposed Wording (if applicable)

##### Art 8404.3.1

At CPEDI 1\* and 2\*, all Athletes may compete in the Freestyle, when scheduled. Athletes must declare their intention to compete on entry.

#### Rules Proposal Submitted By

**British Equestrian (British Dressage)**

#### Article No.–Article Name

**Article No. 8421.2.4.11 – Dressage Tests / Piaffe and Passage**

#### Explanation for Proposed Change

**8421.2.4.11** – Clarification is required on permitted movements in the warm-up arena as athletes prepare for their test. The current ruling does not cover warm up arenas and we would not support this inclusion. The warm-up arena should be a free space for athletes and coaches to prepare their Horses effectively and appropriately, as they would at home, relative to their Horse's ability and training. However, this clarity must be offered for officials present at the Competition.

#### Proposed Wording

**2.4.11.** Piaffe and Passage may not be shown intentionally by Athletes at any time while riding their Horse in the Competition arena prior, during and immediately after the Test. **This does not include warm up areas.** Contravening this rule may result in a Warning Card.

#### FEI Feedback

Please see the comment for Article 8416.2.5 above, which covers not allowed movements in the Field of Play.

Athletes riding in the warm-up arena have a responsibility for themselves. Stewards will take charge in the case of any dangerous riding (eg in case it seems an Athlete is in danger with their riding), but there are not restrictions on the movements that can be ridden in the warm-up arenas. The PETC did not agree to make any changes to the text, as the article on movements around the Field of play were clear enough.

#### FEI Proposed Wording (if applicable)

N/A

#### Rules Proposal Submitted By

**British Equestrian (British Dressage)**

<b>Article No.–Article Name</b>
<b>Article 8422.2 (2023 Article 8429.3.1)/ Para Classification Rules 15.10 / 15.13</b>
<b>Explanation for Proposed Change</b>
<b>Rules 15.10 / 15.13</b> – more flexibility is required for reviews where the medical condition of the rider has deteriorated and there are concerns for the health and safety of athletes to compete in their current allocated grade. In the athlete evaluation review, the rider should be able to compete in the new Grade allocated to them (if a new Grade is allocated to them) at that CPEDI event to allow them to complete the grade status review process.
<b>Proposed Wording</b>
15.10. An Athlete with Grade Status Review (R) must complete Athlete Evaluation at any subsequent International Event at which they will appear in Competition, unless the FEI specifies otherwise. <b>Where the medical condition of the rider has deteriorated and there are health and safety concerns for athletes to compete in their current allocated grade, in the Athlete Evaluation review, the rider should be able to compete in the new Grade allocated to them (if a new Grade is allocated to them) at that CPEDI event to allow them to complete the Grade Status Review process.</b>
<b>FEI Feedback</b>
The FEI Para Dressage Rules already allow for an Athlete to compete in their old or new Grade if they change Grades due to a Classification Evaluation at an Event. They are deducted 10% from the final score if their old Grade is a lower Grade than the new Classification. The PETC decided that Athletes riding in the new Grade at an Event where they are classified should be allowed the use of a Commander. This would only be at CPEDIs.  This would not be added in the FEI Para Equestrian Classification Rules as it is sport-specific for Para Dressage.
<b>FEI Proposed Wording (if applicable)</b>
Any Athlete who changes Grade as a result of a Classification Evaluation will be required to compete in their allocated Grade from the time that it appears on the FEI Masterlist. Where the new Grade is allocated at a Competition, the Athlete can choose to compete in their new Grade or compete in the entered Grade. Where the entered Grade is lower than the newly allocated Grade, each of the Athlete’s test’s final percentage will be reduced by ten (10%) percentage points. Such a decision must be reported to the PGJ and FTD/FJ by the Chief Classifier. <u>The Athlete can also choose to ride in their new Grade, with a Commander, for that event only (not including Championships and Games).</u> The Athlete must compete in a Championship or Paralympic Games in their newly assigned Grade, providing that they meet the qualification requirements.

<b>Rules Proposal Submitted By</b>
<b>British Dressage / British Equestrian</b>
<b>Article No.–Article Name</b>
<b>Article No. 8427 – Dress (2023 Article 8427)</b>
<b>Explanation for Proposed Change</b>

**8427.7** Through developing technology, allow other forms of material to be used as an alternative to metal. E.G. Polyamide a rubber-based material that is designed for more comfort for Horse and rider. Must have the ability to flex in all directions to show that the spur itself does not snap. We fully support that plastic-based material that can snap are not permitted, however, there are some new items within the marketplace that would be acceptable to use and comply with any welfare concerns. Include must be worn in their manufactured state as this then allows any spur with degradation shown, falls under an elimination.

### Proposed Wording

**8427.7** Spurs are optional as a standard compensating aid. Spurs ~~must~~ **can** be made of metal **or a flexible non-brittle material and used in their manufactured state**. The shank must be either curved or straight, pointing directly back from the centre of the spur when on the Athlete's boot. Spurs must not be offset, unless allowed as a non-standard compensating aid and noted on the FEI Classification Master List. The arm of the spur must be smooth and blunt. If rowels are used, they must be blunt, smooth and free to rotate. Metal spurs with round hard plastic knobs ('Impuls' spurs) or "Dummy" spurs with no shank are also allowed.

### FEI Feedback

This request was refused in Dressage and Para Dressage, as the Technical Committees felt that a non-metal material was more likely to deteriorate and cause friction on the Horse's side.

In 2023 a full equipment revision will take place in all disciplines, and spurs will be included.

### FEI Proposed Wording (if applicable)

N/A

### Rules Proposal Submitted By

Equestrian Australia

### Article No.–Article Name

**Article 8428 – Equipment and Compensating Aids (2023 Article 8431 and 8432)**

### Explanation for Proposed Change

The addition of clip on reins to be added to Equipment and Compensating Aids as 1.2.1 currently states that "Except for the buckles and padding the headstall and noseband must be made entirely of leather or leather-like material" with 1.2.5 stating that "A rein is a continuous, uninterrupted strap or line from the bridle bit to the hand. Each bit must be attached to a separate rein and reins may only be attached to the bit so that the reins can freely glide. Reins must not be made of rope or rope-like material. Any rein from any bit in the Horse's mouth must be in direct contact with the Athlete".

The use of clip on reins would be for Athletes who have a diagnosis of controlled epilepsy, as there may be there need for the reins to be removed quickly and efficiently by a support person in the event of a seizure where the athlete cannot let go of the reins or needs to be assisted to dismount and put in the epilepsy recovery position. This practise would assist the combination and others to stay as safe as possible in this type of incident.

### Proposed Wording

Clip on reins may be used when there is an eligible impairment which requires the reins to be removed quickly and efficiently by a support person in the event of a seizure when the athlete cannot let go of the reins or needs to be assisted to dismount and put in the Epilepsy recovery position.

### FEI Feedback

The PETC did not agree to this change in 2022, as a full equipment review will take place in 2023. If an athlete has a medical reason requiring different equipment a Non-Standard Compensating Aids request can be made.

### FEI Proposed Wording (if applicable)

N/A

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

**Swedish Equestrian Federation**

### Article No.–Article Name

**Article 8430 Execution of the Tests (2023 Article 8421.7)**

### Explanation for Proposed Change

It appears that bleeding from one or two nostrils is not covered in current regulations. Nose blood can occur from bleeding in upper and/or lower airways (in racing horses not unusual with even lung bleeding, Exercise Induced Pulmonary Haemorrhage, EIPH, usually after exercise).

To distinguish from a suspected minor bleeding due to a small laceration of a nostril, it should be checked by an FEI Veterinarian after the ride.

Nose blood should be a reason for elimination because of the impact on Horse welfare, but also for general perception, i.e., Social License to Operate (SLO).

### Proposed Wording

#### **11.4 Bleeding:**

If the Judge at C suspects fresh blood anywhere on the Horse during the Test, they will stop the Horse to check for blood. If the Horse shows fresh blood, it will be Eliminated. The Elimination is final. If the Judge through examination clarifies that the Horse has no fresh blood, the Horse may resume and finish its Test.

If the FEI Steward discovers fresh blood in the Horse's mouth, **nostril** or in the area of the spurs during the equipment check at the end of the Test (Art. 8430.12), they must inform the Judge at C, who will Eliminate the Horse and the Athlete.

If the FEI Steward discovers fresh blood anywhere else on the Horse's body (i.e. other than the Horse's mouth, **nostril** or in the area of the spurs) during the check at the end of the test, the Athlete/Horse combination is not automatically eliminated. The FEI Steward shall inform the Judge at C and an FEI Veterinarian must be called to examine the Horse and advise the Judge at C whether the Horse is fit to continue in following Competition(s) in the Event. The Judge at C will take a decision on the Horse's fitness to continue, based on the FEI Veterinarian's advice. If the Judge at C decides the Horse is not fit to continue, the Horse will not be permitted to take part in any further Competition(s) or tests at the event but the result(s) obtained by the Athlete/Horse combination in any Competition(s) or tests already completed shall stand. If the Horse is Eliminated pursuant to the above, or if the Horse is injured during the Test and starts bleeding after finishing the Test, it should be examined by an FEI Veterinarian prior to the next Competition to determine if it is fit to continue in the Event the following day(s). The decision of the President of the Ground Jury, based on the recommendation of the FEI Veterinarian, is not subject to appeal.

<b>FEI Feedback</b>
The Veterinary department would look into this rule change, but needed further research and so the change would not be made in this Rules revision.
<b>FEI Proposed Wording (if applicable)</b>
N/A

<b>Proposal from (Name of National Federation or MOU Stakeholder)</b>
<b>British Equestrian (British Dressage)</b>
<b>Article No.–Article Name</b>
<b>Article No. 8430.11 – Execution of test / Eliminations (2023 Article 8421.5)</b>
<b>Explanation for Proposed Change</b>
<b>8430.11</b> – Clarification is required on elimination following the fall of horse / and or athlete. Does this rule apply in or around the arena before the bell / between bell and opening halt or only during the test?
<b>Proposed Wording</b>
<b>FEI Feedback</b>
This article is under “Eliminations” which is purely for the duration of the Competition. This would cover the duration of the Test. If an Athlete or Horse were to fall in any situation they would need to be checked by medical/veterinary, but this would not impact on the result of the Competition. If the Horse or Athlete were unable to start a test then they would have DNS.
<b>FEI Proposed Wording (if applicable)</b>
N/A

<b>Proposal from (Name of National Federation or MOU Stakeholder)</b>
<b>British Equestrian (British Dressage)</b>
<b>Article No.–Article Name</b>
<b>Article No. 8431.1.3. - Time &amp; Technical failure (2023 Article 8417)</b>
<b>Explanation for Proposed Change</b>
<b>8431.1.3</b> -Ruling for technical failure during or at the beginning of the Freestyle test; however, there is no ruling should the incorrect music be played, as has unfortunately happened previously in Competition at major championships.
Suggest a clear cut of point from when the rider pulls up and stops the test and allow a suitable time to correct the error from the OC EG. Within 30 seconds of entering the arena.

<b>Proposed Wording</b>
<b>1.4</b> – In the case of the wrong music being played, the athlete has 30 seconds on entering the arena to halt the test.
<b>FEI Feedback</b>
The PETC felt that only the Athlete or their Team were aware if the music was incorrect. In the Freestyle, entry music is included which gives the Athlete the time to realise that the music is wrong before they enter the arena. The PETC did not agree to change the rules as the music should be correct before they enter the arena.
<b>FEI Proposed Wording (if applicable)</b>
N/A

<b>Proposal from (Name of National Federation or MOU Stakeholder)</b>
<b>British Equestrian (British Dressage)</b>
<b>Article No.–Article Name</b>
<b>Article No. 8454– Prizes &amp; Prize Money (2023 Article 8425)</b>
<b>Explanation for Proposed Change</b>
<p><b>8454</b> - Prize money for Para Dressage was raised at the EEF Para Dressage meeting due to the inequality that exists with able bodied Competition, which does not reflect well on the sport. Suggestions were put forward, including a proposal that a small percentage of sponsorship for able bodied dressage Competition should be allocated to a para fund.</p> <p>Whilst we appreciate challenges of the organisers and do not want to introduce further barriers, from an athlete perspective the sport of Para Dressage is just as costly, if not more so, than for able bodied Competition. As such, athletes would like to see a required inclusion of prize money at 3* level. This would have to be a realistic and modest amount initially, but something that reflects the principle of equality for all athletes, whether Para or able bodied.</p>
<b>Proposed Wording</b>
<b>FEI Feedback</b>
The PETC agreed that the issue of prize money was one that needed to be examined, but they felt that imposing it on the OCs of CPEDI3*s was too early, as it cannot yet be imposed at Championships and Games. The Discipline was still in a period of growth, and without steady sponsorship the cost to OCs would be too great.
<b>FEI Proposed Wording (if applicable)</b>

N/A

**Name of National Federation or Stakeholder**

**NED NF – KNHS**

**Article No. 8432 – Marking**

New additional point

**Comment and Rationale**

To ensure fair judging at all events, we would like to propose the following:

**Proposed Wording**

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.

**FEI Feedback**

The PETC want to introduce a JSP at Championships and Games. The text is not yet in the FEI Para Dressage Rules as a trial period is being organised, but the idea would be to have changes to the final score where a 5% difference was seen between Judges. The FEI Board have been asked if this can be introduced in a later Rules revision out of the four year period.

**FEI Proposed Wording (if applicable)**

N/A

## B. Rules Proposals put forward by the FEI

<b>Article No.–Article Name</b>
<b>Full Document</b>
<b>Explanation for Proposed Change</b>
All references in the Rules which were not considered Discipline Rules (eg Historical data, duplication of General Regulations) were removed to condense the rules.
<b>Proposed Wording</b>
N/A

<b>Article No.–Article Name</b>
<b>Chapter I - Dressage</b>
<b>Explanation for Proposed Change</b>
This chapter was removed from the Rules and would be turned into Guidelines/Directives.
<b>Proposed Wording</b>
N/A

<b>Article No.–Article Name</b>												
<b>Article 8402 Categories of Events</b>												
<b>Explanation for Proposed Change</b>												
<p>The PETC proposed to change the formats for CPEDIs to show more progression through the levels. This was both to encourage Athletes to start at an appropriate level to develop the lower levels of events, as well as to make lower level Events more attractive for OCs to host.</p> <p>Each level of Event would have it's own appropriate level of Para Dressage Tests. Team Competitions would only take place at CPEDI3* and above. Freestyles would be optional in CPEDI1* and CPEDI2* (both for OCs to schedule, and for Athletes to compete in).</p>												
<b>Proposed Wording</b>												
<p><b>3. CPEDI1*</b></p> <p>3.1 Events must comprise of two (2) or three (3) Individual Competitions for each of the five (5) Grades as follows:</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: 40px;"> <thead> <tr> <th><u>Competition</u></th> <th><u>Para Dressage Test</u></th> <th><u>Participation</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><u>First Individual Competition</u></td> <td><u>Para Novice test A</u></td> <td><u>All Athletes</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>Second Individual Competition</u></td> <td><u>Para Novice Test B</u></td> <td><u>All Athletes</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>Third Individual Competition (optional)</u></td> <td><u>Para Novice Freestyle</u></td> <td><u>All Athletes (optional)</u></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>3.2 Individual Results are produced for each Competition.</p> <p><b>4. CPEDI2*</b></p>	<u>Competition</u>	<u>Para Dressage Test</u>	<u>Participation</u>	<u>First Individual Competition</u>	<u>Para Novice test A</u>	<u>All Athletes</u>	<u>Second Individual Competition</u>	<u>Para Novice Test B</u>	<u>All Athletes</u>	<u>Third Individual Competition (optional)</u>	<u>Para Novice Freestyle</u>	<u>All Athletes (optional)</u>
<u>Competition</u>	<u>Para Dressage Test</u>	<u>Participation</u>										
<u>First Individual Competition</u>	<u>Para Novice test A</u>	<u>All Athletes</u>										
<u>Second Individual Competition</u>	<u>Para Novice Test B</u>	<u>All Athletes</u>										
<u>Third Individual Competition (optional)</u>	<u>Para Novice Freestyle</u>	<u>All Athletes (optional)</u>										

4.1 Events must comprise of two (2) or three (3) Individual Competitions for each of the five (5) Grades as follows:

<b>Competition</b>	<b>Para Dressage Test</b>	<b>Participation</b>
<u>First Individual Competition</u>	<u>Para Intermediate Test A</u>	<u>All Athletes</u>
<u>Second Individual Competition</u>	<u>Para Intermediate Test B</u>	<u>All Athletes</u>
<u>Third Individual Competition (optional)</u>	<u>Para _____ Intermediate Freestyle</u>	<u>All Athletes (optional)</u>

4.2 Individual Results are produced for each Competition.

## 5. CPEDI3\*

5.1 Events must comprise of three (3) Individual Competitions for each of the five (5) Grades, and a Team Competition as follows:

<b>Competition</b>	<b>Para Dressage Test</b>	<b>Participation</b>
<u>First Competition</u>	<u>Para Grand Prix</u>	<u>All Athletes</u>
<u>Second Competition</u>	<u>Para Grand Prix Special</u>	<u>All Athletes</u>
<u>Third Competition</u>	<u>Para _____ Grand Prix Freestyle</u>	<u>For qualified Athletes</u>

5.2 Individual Results are produced for each Competition.

5.3 The Team Competition results are produced as follows:

~~5.2.15.3.1~~ 5.3.1 No Country may enter more than one (1) team. The teams must consist of a maximum of four (4) and a minimum of three (3) Athletes of the same nationality, declared prior to the Competition. A Grade I, Grade II or Grade III Athlete must be included in each team, riding the relevant Test. The three (3) highest placed Athletes, determined by their percentage scores in the ~~Individual Test~~Para Grand Prix -and the ~~Team Test~~Para Grand Prix Special combined, shall be totalled to determine the final team placings. A team may not include more than two (2) Athletes from any one (1) Grade.

### Article No.–Article Name

#### 8402.6.4 FEI Championships, Minimum Participation

#### Explanation for Proposed Change

The PETC agreed to include Minimum participation for FEI Championships to harmonise with other disciplines and provide legitimacy to the Championships.

#### Proposed Wording

6.4 Minimum participation:

6.4.1 FEI World Championships may only be held if at least six (6) National Federations are represented by Teams at the first Horse Inspection.

~~6.4.16.4.2~~ 6.4.2 FEI Continental Championships can only be held if at least three National Federations are represented at the first Horse Inspection.

**Article No.–Article Name**

**8403.1 Para Dressage Tests**

**Explanation for Proposed Change**

The current Para Dressage Tests referred to the Competition they were used for, which was difficult to then use the test for different results (eg combining two tests to have Individual results). The PETC decided, with support from stakeholders in a Test Names survey, to change the names to reflect the Levels of Events. The test names would no longer refer to the Competition, and so different formats could be created without confusion. Competition names or Test names were changed throughout the Rules.

**Proposed Wording**

1. Each Grade has its own series of Tests:

<a href="#"><u>Para Dressage Tests – available for each Grade – published on the FEI Website</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Para Novice A and B</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Para Novice Freestyle</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Para Intermediate A and B</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Para Intermediate Freestyle</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Para Grand Prix</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Para Grand Prix Special</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Para Grand Prix Freestyle</u></a>

**Article No.–Article Name**

**8404 Qualification Criteria**

**Explanation for Proposed Change**

The PETC propose to introduce a Qualification criteria for CPEDI3\* and above. At the FEI Sports Forum two proposals were put forward, one for qualification at all levels and one just for CPEDI3\*. The feedback was that qualification at all levels would currently be too difficult for developing nations.

The Qualification criteria would be a document published on the FEI website, and approved by the FEI Board. The proposal for 2023 would be that Athletes should gain 60% at a CPEDI2\* (not in the freestyle) to qualify to compete in CPEDI3\*. The Qualification would be to the Athlete, not to the combination.

**Proposed Wording**

1. Athletes are required to qualify for [CPEDI3\\*s, FEI World and Continental Championships](#), the Paralympic Games and any other [Competitions-Events](#) where qualification is required.
2. [Qualification criteria and Minimum Eligibility Requirements](#) are [published on the FEI Website](#).

**Article No.–Article Name**

**8407.1 Arena and Footing**

**Explanation for Proposed Change**

Clarification was required on the approval of the Arena.

## Proposed Wording

1. **Approval**
- 1.1 At Paralympic Games, Regional Games, and FEI Championships the Competition arena has to be checked and approved by the Foreign Technical Delegate in order for the Competition to start.
- 1.2 At all other International Events, the Competition arena has to be checked and approved by the President of the Ground Jury in order for the Competition to start.

## Article No.–Article Name

### 8407 Arena Specifications, Publicity on Dressage Fence, and Practice Arenas

## Explanation for Proposed Change

The wording for Arena Specifications, Publicity on Dressage Fence..., Judges Huts, Pause, and Practice arenas, were all updated to reflect the FEI Dressage Rules where necessary. This included aligning distance measurements and including the text for Footing requirements.

## Proposed Wording

2. **Approval**
- 2.1 At Paralympic Games, Regional Games, and FEI Championships the Competition arena has to be checked and approved by the Foreign Technical Delegate in order for the Competition to start.
- 2.2 At all other International Events, the Competition arena has to be checked and approved by the President of the Ground Jury in order for the Competition to start.
3. **~~The arena~~Arena Specifications**
- 3.1 Athletes in Grades I-III compete in an arena twenty meters by forty meters (20mx40m). Athletes in Grade IV-V compete ~~wherever possible~~ in an arena twenty meters by sixty meters (20mx60m).
- 3.2 The arena, flat and level, must be sixty (60) meters long and twenty (20) meters wide. The difference in elevation across the diagonal or along the length of the arena shall in no case exceed ~~zero point fifty meters~~fiftysixty centimetres (0.50m560cm). The difference in elevation along the short side of the arena shall in no case be more than twenty centimetres (20cm). The arena must be predominantly of sand. The measurements above are for the interior of the enclosure, which must be separated from the public by a distance of not less than ~~fifteen-ten~~ (1510) meters. For indoor Competitions the minimum distance should in principle be ~~three-two~~ (32) meters. The enclosure itself should consist of a low white fence (rails which must not be solid), about thirty centimetres (30cm) high. The part of the fence at A should be easy to remove, to let the Athletes in and out of the arena and must be kept closed during each Athlete's performance and between tests, until the Judge at C gives the starting signal. The width of the entrance must be at least two metres (2m).The rails of the fence should be such as to prevent the Horse's hooves from entering. The rails may not contain any metal components. Refer to Annex 2 for details on arena.
- ~~3.23.3~~ An arena of forty (40) meters long and twenty (20) meters wide must also be provided for Para Dressage Grade I, Grade II, and Grade III Athletes.
4. **Publicity on Dressage Fence and Judges Huts/Tables**
- 4.1 The FEI owns the sole right to publicity on the Dressage arena fence for all FEI Championships and FEI named Series. For these Events, the OCs may acquire

- publicity space from the FEI only by previous agreement, except for on the Dressage letters and their holders, where publicity is never allowed.
- 4.2 For all other International Events, OCs are highly encouraged to keep the Dressage arena fence free of publicity and to use extra publicity boards instead as per separately published recommendations from the FEI.
- 4.3 ~~Following application and FEI approval~~ Publicity may only be on the inside of the fence, it may be in black only and must, with the exception of A, leave at least one metre fifty (1.5 m) free of publicity on either side of the arena letters. The short side at M, C, H must be completely free of publicity. There must be at least 3 meters (3m) free of advertising on either side of B and E. A maximum of forty four (44) meters of publicity on the rails is accordingly permitted. The publicity must be positioned in a regular manner and each long side should reflect the other exactly.
- 4.4 The height of the sponsor brand/logo ~~should~~ must not exceed twenty centimetres (20 cm) and the ~~advertising-publicity~~ must be fixed level with the top of the arena fence. Publicity may only be placed on the inside of the arena fence and any requirements in terms of agreements between the FEI and ~~television~~ broadcasters as may be in force, must be respected.
- 4.5 Any publicity applied on the fence must previously be approved by the President of the Ground Jury/Foreign Technical Delegate before the start of the Competition. Any publicity at the front of the Judges huts may have a maximum dimension of 2m2.
- 4.6 In accordance with the above stated positioning of publicity, it is always permissible to place the name and/or logo of the FEI approved Event on the Dressage ~~fence following approval of the FEI President of the Ground Jury/Foreign Technical Delegate before the Competitions.~~
- 4.7 OCs who violate these Rules will be fined by the FEI as appropriate under these Rules and the FEI GRs and/or may lose the CPEDI status of their Event.
5. **Letters** The letters outside the enclosure should be placed about fifty centimetres (50cm) from the fence and clearly marked. It is compulsory to place a marker on the fence itself, level with and in addition to the letter concerned. Publicity is not allowed on letters or on letter holders. Letters should also be visible for the public.
6. **Placing of Judges.** When five (5) Judges are used, three (3) Judges must be placed along the short side, on the outside of and a maximum of five meters (5 m), minimum of three meters (3 m) from the arena at outdoor Competitions and preferably a minimum of ~~three-two~~ meters (3-2 m) at indoor Competitions; the Judge at C on the prolongation of the centre line, the two (2) others (M and H) two meters fifty (2.50 m) from and on the inside of the prolongation of the long sides. The two (2) Side-Judges (B and E) must be placed on the outside of and a maximum of five meters (5 m), minimum three meters (3 m) from the arena at B and E respectively; at indoor Competitions preferably a minimum of two meters (2 m). When three (3) Judges are used one (1) should sit on the long side. The President of the Ground Jury allocates the Ground Jury for each Competition and decides on the placing of the Judges.
7. **Judges' hut.** A separate hut or platform must be provided for each Judge. It must be raised not less than fifty centimetres (50cm) ~~(for Freestyle Tests possibly a little higher)~~ above the ground, in order to give the Judges a good view of the arena. The booth/hut must be large enough to accommodate four (4) persons. ~~Judges' booths must be equipped with side windows.~~ Judges' huts should provide good views of the entire arena. For FEI Championships and Games, each Judges hut must be ~~equipped with a button linked to the~~ Judges Signalling System, allowing each judge to discreetly inform the C-Judge in case of blood, lameness, error of course or equipment. A Judges Signalling button is optional for other Events.

- 7.1 The OC must ensure that the Judges' huts provide shelter, are suitably heated or cooled depending on weather conditions.
- 7.2 Only officiating people (to include officials fulfilling promotion requirements) are allowed in the Judges' huts. Any exceptions must have the prior approval of the President of the Ground Jury and must be included in the Foreign Judge report. No media nor recording equipment are allowed in the Judges' hut.
- 7. **Pause:** It is recommended to make a pause of about fifteen (15) minutes after every two (2) hours, to reconstitute the surface of the ground.
- 8. **Footing:** as advised in the FEI Footing Standard.

Article No.–Article Name
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<b>8408 Invitations and 8409 Expenses and Privileges</b>
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Explanation for Proposed Change
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The PETC proposed to remove the minimum number of Invitations for CPEDI1* and CPEDI2*. They also proposed to include guidelines for who should be invited per NF for Championships, and the required expenses and privileges for those invited.
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Proposed Wording
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## ARTICLE 8408 INVITATIONS

1. The Draft Schedule must include a list of National Federations invited to the Event and Invitations must be extended through the respective NF.
2. Invitations for CPEDI3\* shall be extended to a minimum ~~Where there are a minimum~~ of six (6) NFs, including host NF.
- 2.1 Teams: An NF may enter one (1) Team. Composition of Teams.
- 3 The following persons are invited per NF at FEI Championships:
  - One (1) Chef d'Equipe
  - One (1) National trainer
  - One (1) Veterinarian
  - One (1) Groom per Horse
  - One (1) support personnel for NFs bringing Individual Athletes and two (2) support personal for NFs bringing a Team.
  - Two (2) Owners per Horse (ref. Passport)

## ARTICLE 8409 EXPENSES AND PRIVILEGES

1. NFs pay their own expenses except as per the following.
- ~~3.2.~~ 3. Organising Committees of FEI World and Continental Championships may accept responsibility for meeting the travelling and living expenses of Athletes, Horses, Grooms and team Officials (Chefs d'Equipe, national trainer, support personnel and Veterinarians) to be invited according to the rules from the day before the First Horse Inspection until the day after the end of the Championships. This must be published in the schedule.
3. Organising Committees of multi discipline FEI Championships must accept responsibility for meeting the living expenses of Athletes, Horses, Grooms and team Officials (Chefs d'Equipe, national trainer, support personnel and Veterinarians) to be invited according to the rules from the day before the First Horse Inspection until the day after the end of the Championships. This must be published in the Schedule.
4. Additional Personnel for Athletes with High Support Needs  
Teams and individual Athletes are required to provide their own necessary personal support staff in order for them to compete. The OC is not responsible for providing transport, staff or helpers for Athletes, or grooms for the Horses.

Article No.–Article Name
<b>8411 Substitutions</b>
Explanation for Proposed Change
The PETC proposed to clarify substitutions for CPEDIs, which before had not be precise.
Proposed Wording

## **1. CPEDIs**

1.2 For CPEDIs, Substitutions must be made according to the Schedule may be made up to two hours before the Horse Inspection.

1.21.3 At CPEDI3\*, for the Team Competition, an Athlete/Horse substitution for medical and or veterinary reasons may take place up to two hours before the start of the Competition (first Grade), upon presentation of a valid medical and/or veterinary certificate and provided the Horse has passed the Horse Inspection.

## **2. Championships and Games**

2.1 Following receipt of definite entries, substitution of Horse(s) and Athlete(s) from the Nominated list, may be made with the agreement of the OC. The OC must print in the schedule the latest date for substitution of Horse(s) and Athlete(s), which may never be later than two (2) hours before the Horse inspection.

### **Article No.–Article Name**

#### **8412 Entry Fee**

### **Explanation for Proposed Change**

The PETC aligned with other FEI disciplines to define the entry fees that could be charged by OCs.

### **Proposed Wording**

1. Compulsory Fee: Compulsory Fees are fees that may be charged by the OC for costs/services not included in the Entry Fee. Compulsory Fees, if charged, must be paid by the Athletes concerned as outlined below. Only the following Compulsory Fees may be charged by the OC, provided that full details of the amount to be charged are included in the Schedule and approved by the FEI:

- FEI EADCMR fee if applicable (OC to indicate in the Schedule if the EADCMR fee is included in the Entry Fee or not)
- Fee for health/customs-related documents for Horses if these have been requested by the Athlete.
- Fee for manure disposal (maximum € 40 per Horse per Event)
- Fee for lorry parking if applicable (The fee indicated in the Schedule may only be charged per lorry not per Athlete.)
- Fee for electric hook-up for lorry (The fee indicated in the Schedule may only be charged per lorry, not per Athlete.)

2. Discretionary Fee: Discretionary Fees are fees that may be charged for optional commodities/services that may be purchased by an Athlete if they so choose and that do not affect the equity of the Athlete's right to compete at the Event or the well-being of the Horse, such as:

- VIP or premium parking
- VIP table
- Extra box for tack or for non-competing Horse
- Extra bedding and/or fodder (details to be included e.g. shavings, straw, hay)
- Premium stabling (all stabling at the Event must meet minimum FEI requirements)

3. Entry Fee: The Entry Fee is the fee charged to participate in an Event with one Horse and covers the following:

- Stabling of one Horse for the duration of the Event (includes cleaning and disinfecting stables before the event, water and electricity in the stables, first bedding or a fixed amount of bedding depending on the type of event, and 24 hour security services for the stables if applicable)
- Use of all facilities at the Event (no infrastructure fees may be charged)
- Right to participate in all Competitions in accordance with the conditions in the Schedule (no nomination fees or start fees may be charged)
- Administrative/Office fees (includes all services relating to administration of the Event and running of the Competitions: data/results/timing services, bookkeeping and accreditation services)

**Article No.–Article Name**

**8413 Declaration of Starters**

**Explanation for Proposed Change**

The declaration of starters of team Competitions were not clear for CPEDIs, leading to confusion for substitutions of Team members. This was proposed to be clarified.

**Proposed Wording**

1. For Team Competitions, Except where it is stated otherwise in specific rules, for Major Championships (as defined in the Para Dressage Rules), the following rules apply:
  - 1.1. -For CPEDI3\* Declaration of starters should be done no later than one hour after the Horse Inspection. The exact time of the draw should be published in the schedule.
  - 1.2. For Championships Declaration of starters should be done no later than two (2) hours before the draw. The exact time of the draw should be published in the schedule.
2. In the event of an accident or illness of an Athlete declared as a starter, who consequently cannot start in a Test, this Athlete may, with the approval of the OC, together with the President of the Ground Jury, start in a later Competition, but only as an individual Athlete.

**Article No.–Article Name**

**8414.3 Draw for the Starting Order**

**Explanation for Proposed Change**

The PETC determined there should be a provision for the Draw to be held electronically wherever possible.

**Proposed Wording**

The draw is conducted in the same manner regardless of the Competition being a Team or Individual event. Where possible the draw will be conducted electronically.

**Article No.–Article Name**

## 8415.3-.6 Pre-Competition Warm-up

### Explanation for Proposed Change

Clarity was required for warm up arenas (specifically for athletes with Visual Impairments), as well as introducing the ten minute arena. The PETC determined that the Athletes with VI should request warm-up time alone in the arena at the time of the definite entries, so that the OC and Chief Steward had time to set up a schedule for this.

### Proposed Wording

3. The "ten (10) minutes Arena" is the last practice arena before entering the Competition arena. A ten (10) minutes Arena must be available for Paralympic Games and FEI Championships and recommended for all other Events

3.1. The ten (10) minutes arena must have the same footing as the main arena.

3.2. The Athlete may enter the ten (10) minute arena following the departure of the Athlete who enters the main arena. There may never be more than one (1) Athlete in the ten (10) minutes arena, unless otherwise decided by TD/FJ.

3.3. It is not obligatory for an Athlete to use the ten (10) minutes arena.

4. A Steward must be present at all times to supervise all training/warm-up from the official opening time of the stables and may enforce Rules prior to the official start of the Event.

5. Provision must be made for Athletes with classified visual impairment to train alone and warm up alone if the Athlete requests it. This must be organised in advance by the OC and Chief Steward when necessary, upon request by the Athlete by the definite entries.

### 6. Familiarisation

At Championships and Games, a time schedule for familiarisation is mandatory, in the fully set-up Competition arena, including filming equipment (if applicable) where possible. Familiarisation is also recommended at CPEDIs.

## Article No.–Article Name

### Article 8416.1.4 Execution of Tests (Helpers around the Arena)

### Explanation for Proposed Change

There were no clear rules for how many people could be around the arena to provide safety for Athletes in Competition. This caused issues for Stewarding, as sometimes up to six stewards were required to cover these helpers. The PETC decided that this needed to be regulated.

### Proposed Wording

For Grade I, II and III, helpers (maximum four in total including the trainer or other personnel as described above) may be placed in corners outside the arena for safety reasons. Each helper must stand as directed by the Steward to ensure they do not impede the view of the Judges. In an emergency, they may give physical assistance. Penalties will be at the discretion of the Judge at C, who may eliminate the Athlete either at the time, or at the conclusion of the Test. Any outside assistance other than in case of emergency, will be considered as unauthorised assistance (see article 8430.14.1) and must result in elimination.

**Article No.–Article Name**

**8416.2 .3 Entering the Arena**

**Explanation for Proposed Change**

The timing for entering the arena for the Freestyle test was not clear, so needed to be clearly defined.

**Proposed Wording**

Para Dressage Athletes must enter the arena within sixty (60) seconds after the sound of the bell. In the Freestyle, the Athlete has sixty (60) seconds to signal to start the music, and must enter the arena within thirty (30) seconds after the start of the music.

**Article No.–Article Name**

**8419.1.1 Paperless Judging**

**Explanation for Proposed Change**

The PETC aligned with the Dressage TC to note that use of an un-approved paperless judging system would have sanctions.

**Proposed Wording**

1. The use of a paperless judging system is subject to FEI approval and must be stated in the Event schedule.
- 1.1 Failure to use an FEI approved system may lead to the FEI invalidating the results and the FEI may sanction the OC as well.

**Article No.–Article Name**

**Collective Marks**

**Explanation for Proposed Change**

The PETC agreed to align with Dressage to have just one Collective mark. This would strengthen the mark for the Athletes Skill, as the other three marks are already covered in the judging of the movements.

On the Judging sheets, the description below will be included for the Collective Mark:

“General Impression”:

- Harmonious presentation of the Athlete/Horse combination
- Equestrian Feel and Skill of the Athlete – discreet and effective influence of the aids
- Accuracy

**Proposed Wording**

1. All movements, and certain transitions from one (1) movement to another, which have to be marked by the Judges, are numbered on the Judge's sheet.
  2. They are marked from zero (0) to ten (10) by each Judge, zero (0) being the lowest and ten (10) the highest mark.
  3. The scale of marks is as follows:
 

10: Excellent	7: Fairly good	4: Insufficient	1: Very bad
9: Very good	6: Satisfactory	3: Fairly bad	0: Not executed
8: Good	5: Sufficient	2: Bad	
  4. All Half marks from 0.5-9.5 may also be used both for movements and the collective mark, at the discretion of the judge.
  5. "Not executed" means that practically nothing of the required movement has been performed.
  6. In Freestyle Tests, half marks may be used for ~~all~~ technical marks and 0.1 decimals may be used for the artistic marks.
- ~~1.—7. Collective mark - After the Athlete has finished their performance, a collective mark is allocated for "General Impression"s are awarded, after the Athlete has finished their performance for:~~
- ~~1.—1) Paces.~~
  - ~~2.—2) Activity.~~
  - ~~—3) Submission.~~
  - ~~3.—4) Equestrian feel and skill of the Athlete. Accuracy.~~
- ~~Each collective mark is awarded from zero (0) to ten (10).~~
- ~~4.7. The collective mark, as well as certain difficult movements, can be given a coefficient, which is fixed by the FEI.~~

**Article No.—Article Name**

**8421 Errors**

**Explanation for Proposed Change**

The terminology for Errors of Course and Errors of the Test/Execution, were updated to align with the wording from Dressage.

**Proposed Wording**

**1. Error of Course**

1.1 When an Athlete makes an "error of course" (takes the wrong turn, omits a movement, etc.) the Judge at C warns them, by sounding the bell. The Judge shows the Athlete, if necessary, the point at which they must take up the Test again and the next movement to be executed, then leaves them to continue on their own. However, in some cases when, although the Athlete makes an "error of the course", the sounding of the bell would unnecessarily impede the fluency of the performance - for instance if the Athlete makes a transition from Medium trot to Working trot at E instead of at K, it is up to the Judge at C to decide whether to sound the bell or not. If an Athlete makes an error of course/Test whilst executing a movement which is to be repeated later in the Test, the Judge at C should, in the interests of the Athlete, ring the bell as above and put the Athlete right. Marks will be deducted for the error by each Judge.

- 1.2 However, if the bell is not sounded at an error of course and the test requires the same movement to be repeated and the Athlete again makes the same error, the Athlete is only penalised once.
- 1.3 The decision as to whether or not an error of course has been made will be ~~that at~~ the sole discretion of the Judge at C. The other Judges' scores will be adapted accordingly. ~~Communication may be made through the Athlete's representative.~~
- 2. Error of the Test/Execution**
- 2.1 When an Athlete makes an "error of the Test" they must be penalised as for an "error of the course". In principle an Athlete is not allowed to repeat a movement of the Test unless the Judge at C decides on an error of course (sounds the bell). ~~If, however, the Athlete has started the execution of a movement and attempts to do the same movement again, the Judges must consider the first movement shown only and at the same time, penalise for an error of course.~~

## Article No.–Article Name

### 8421.4.2 Other Penalties

#### Explanation for Proposed Change

The deductions of technical faults was updated to align with the Dressage rules. Clarification was also added for the extent of the fault with entering the Arena for Freestyle tests.

#### Proposed Wording

### 2.2 Other Penalties

All of the following are considered ~~error~~technical faults, and ~~two (2)~~0.5% (zero point five percentage points) points will be deducted per ~~error~~fault by each Judge. The ~~deduction~~error defined below are not cumulative and will not result in Elimination (including for Freestyle tests):

- Entering the Dressage arena with boots/bandages on the Horse's legs or with discrepancy in dress: 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 they were stopped. The marks given before they were stopped are not changed;
- Entering the Dressage arena before the sound of the bell;
- Not entering the Dressage arena within sixty (60) seconds after the bell, but within one hundred and twenty (120) seconds;
- For Freestyle tests, entering the Dressage arena after more than thirty (30) seconds of music, but within sixty (60) seconds;

## Article No.–Article Name

### 8421.5 Eliminations

#### Explanation for Proposed Change

Clarification was required for an Athlete not entering the arena 120 seconds after the bell had been rung. This was for all Para Dressage tests including Freestyles.

## Proposed Wording

7.1 If an Athlete does not enter the arena within 120 seconds of the bell being rung, the Athlete will be eliminated.

## Article No.–Article Name

### 8422.2 Calculation of Scores and Results – Individual Results

## Explanation for Proposed Change

With the change to one Collective mark, the tie breaker for Individual results was changed to align with Dressage.

## Proposed Wording

1. The Individual Results are calculated as follows:
  - 1.1. In all Competitions the winner is the Athlete having obtained the highest percentage, the second placed Athlete is the one with the next highest percentage and so on.
  - 1.2. In case of equality of percentages for the first three (3) places, the highest total median score of the Judges will decide the placing. The median score is the middle number. To calculate the median of a set of scores, the scores need to be put in ascending numerical order. E.g. 68.5% - 69% - 70% - 70.5% - 71%; 70% is the median score in this case.~~the higher collective marks will decide on the better placing. In the case of equality of collective marks for the first three (3) places, and in~~ case of equality of percentages for remaining places, the Athletes are given the same placing.
  - 1.3. In case of equality of percentages in a Freestyle Test for the first three (3) places, the higher artistic marks will decide on the better placing. Should the artistic mark be the same, the higher mark for harmony will decide. If still tied, the higher mark for choreography will decide. In the case of equality of marks for the remaining places, the Athletes are given the same placing.

## Article No.–Article Name

### 8423 Publishing of Results

## Explanation for Proposed Change

The wording was updated to harmonise with Dressage.

## Proposed Wording

1. At CPEDIs the President of the Ground Jury, Foreign Judge or Judge at C must sign an official results sheet for each Competition. At Championships and Games the Technical Delegate must sign the official results sheet for each Competition. The sheets can then be released to the Athletes.
2. After the announcement of the final results of the Competition and the general total points and percentages, the score awarded by each Judge are published under their own name, communicated to the press and to the FEI.
3. If an Athlete withdraws prior to a Competition, retires, is eliminated during their performance or does not present for the test (a “no show”), the words “withdrawn”

“retired”, “eliminated” or “no show” must appear after the Athlete’s name in the result sheet.

<u>Withdrawn</u>	<u>The Athlete has cancelled their start prior to a test with a valid reason accepted by the President of the Ground Jury</u>
<u>Retired</u>	<u>Started but abandoned</u>
<u>Eliminated</u>	<u>The Athlete has started, but had to end the performance due to a breach of the Dressage Rules</u>
<u>No show</u>	<u>The Athlete did not present for the test without further information</u>

4. No scoring should be visible to the judges during a test. Solutions to show a running score (total average percentage) and open scoring (average marks per movement for all judges) to the audience are encouraged.

## Article No.–Article Name

### 8426 Athletes – Age Requirements

#### Explanation for Proposed Change

The PETC determined that if Athletes were allowed to compete in International Competitions from the age of 14 they should also be able to compete in Championships and Games from that age.

#### Proposed Wording

Age Limits. International Events, Championships and Games are open to Athletes from the year in which they reach their 14th birthday. ~~Athletes in Major Championships (as defined in the Para Dressage Rules) may only compete from the year in which they reach their 16th birthday.~~

## Article No.–Article Name

### 8427.4 Dress

#### Explanation for Proposed Change

Clarification was needed for the article on riding boots.

#### Proposed Wording

Black or dark colour boots ~~or stout riding shoes~~ with a heels must be worn. Plain black or dark colour half-chaps or gaiters to the knee may be used.

## Article No.–Article Name

### 8429.4.10 Callers

#### Explanation for Proposed Change

The PETC and Classification Working Group determined that there needed to be a limit on the number of callers around the arena. Stewarding would be very complicated for up to 13 Callers to be used.

This only concerns human callers, electronic callers can be used at each letter.

#### Proposed Wording

Callers may only call the name of the letter(s). Only the lead caller (who may also Command where approved as in 13.3) may be in the centre of the arena and may not move around except for a safe distance to avoid the path of the Horse. All other Callers must be positioned outside the arena, and may move from one marker to another, provided they do not restrict the vision of any of the Judges. There shall be no more than ~~thirteen-four (134)~~ Human Callers placed around the arena and one (1) Caller at X, but Athletes with classified visual impairment are encouraged to use as few Callers as possible. Electronic callers can be placed at every letter. The Caller at C may be exchanged for a beacon beeper which is to be provided by the Athlete. The OC must be notified if electronic callers are being used and the set-up of such devices must not affect the running of the Competition, nor cause any disturbance to other Athletes.

## Article No.–Article Name

### 8431 Saddlery - Equipment

#### Explanation for Proposed Change

The PETC aligned with changes in the Dressage rules concerning saddlery. The Annex 11 was removed, as it is to be replaced by the "FEI Dressage and Para Dressage Guidelines for Use of Tack, Equipment and Dress".

#### Proposed Wording

Please also refer to FEI Dressage and Para Dressage Guidelines for Use of Tack, Equipment and Dress for latest clarifications, published on the FEI website ~~and to the Annex on Saddlery—Equipment.~~

#### 1. Saddle

A well fitting, well maintained saddle and a girth, suitable to the Horse and Athlete shall be used. Any modification or adaptation to a saddle must ensure the Athlete's safety and must not affect the welfare of the Horse, especially regarding size, shape and weight.

...

1.4 ~~Plain colour saddle pads may be used.~~ Saddle pads should be white or off white. Contrast colouring and piping is allowed. Striped or multi-coloured saddle pads are not permitted. Plain or national saddlecloths may be used. See Article 135 of the FEI GRs, regarding Advertising and Publicity on Athletes and Horses.

...

2.5 A rein is a continuous, uninterrupted strap or line from the bridle bit to the hand. Each bit must be attached to a separate rein and reins may only be attached to the bit so that the reins can freely glide. Reins must not be made of rope ~~or rope-like~~ material.

...

2.9 Any piece of tack that impairs the ears to move freely is forbidden.

3. Snaffle, Bridoon and curb bits must have a smooth surface. Twisted and wire bits are prohibited. Bits must be made of metal, ~~and/or rigid~~ durable plastic, flexible rubber or ~~durable~~ synthetic material. ~~Bits and~~ may be covered with rubber/latex.

...

#### 4 Additional Items

~~3.14.1 False tails/tail extensions are permitted only with the prior permission of the FEI. Requests for such permissions should be directed to the FEI Para Dressage Department, accompanied by photographs and a Veterinary Certificate.~~ False tails

may not contain any metal parts, (except for hooks and eyelets), or extra added weight. Random checks will be conducted and contravening this rule will entail a Yellow Warning Card and Elimination.

3-24.2 Ear hoods are permitted for all Events, and may also provide noise reduction. However, ear hoods must not cover the Horse's eyes and ear plugs are not permitted. The ear hoods should be discreet in colour and design. Ear hoods may not be attached to the noseband. Ear plugs on Horses are forbidden but are allowed at prize giving ceremonies only for safety reasons. Random checks will be conducted and contravening this rule will entail a Yellow Warning Card and Elimination.

4.3 Any artificial decoration of the Horse is not allowed. It is not allowed to paint any part of the Horse's body nor is it allowed to obscure an existing wound or injury. Contravening this rule will entail a Yellow Warning Card and Elimination.

4.4 It is strictly forbidden to use any type of substance (like "marshmallow fluff", shaving cream etc) around the Horse's mouth to imitate foaming. Contravening this rule will entail a Yellow Warning Card and Elimination.

3-34.5 Gadgets. Martingales, bit guards, and 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.

3-44.6 Fly masks: fly masks are forbidden in the Competition arena but may be allowed in warm-up and training arenas at the discretion of the Chief Steward and President of the Ground Jury.

## Article No.–Article Name

### 8432.4 Whips

#### Explanation for Proposed Change

The PETC agreed that curved whips should be considered alongside straight whips as standard compensating aids (for use of one whip). The measurements would be the same for both.

#### Proposed Wording

4.1 All Athletes may use one (1) whip (a total maximum length of one hundred twenty centimetres -120 cm-) as a standard compensating aid. The whip can be curved, the measurement should be from the tip to the point of the whip, not along the curve.

4.17.2 Athletes within nominated profiles may use two (2) whips if required and must be stated on the FEI Classification Master List for that Athlete.

4.27.3 Any alteration to a conventional ~~or a curved~~ whip must be approved by the FEI as a non-standard compensating aid and must be stated on the FEI Classification Master List.

## Article No.–Article Name

### 8432.5 Split Reins

#### Explanation for Proposed Change

The PETC approved a definition for split reins, so that the split was not acting like a rounding. The name was also changed to Joined rein, as this explains the purpose of the compensating Aid more clearly.

## Proposed Wording

5.1 ~~Joined Split~~ reins and elastic rein inserts are standard compensating aids for all Athletes and do not need to be noted on the Classification Masterlist.

5.15.2 Joined reins must have a minimum of 30cm from the bit to the join in the rein. It must be formed into a single rein in the Athlete's hand.

## Article No.–Article Name

### 8432.5.5 Reins run through rings on the saddle

## Explanation for Proposed Change

The definition for this compensating aid needed to be updated as it was not clear enough what could be used.

## Proposed Wording

Athletes within nominated functional profiles ~~with two (2) very short arms~~ may use reins ~~run through rings that are attached to the front of the saddle by leather straps. These rings must not be in a fixed position. A ring attached to the D-ring of the saddle or breastplate that the rein runs through. This must allow a direct line from the bit to the riders hand or upper limb, and must not alter the angle to produce leverage on the rein. Where the rein passes through the ring, when measured vertically from the attachment, must be no less than 10cm and no more than 12cm from the Horse's wither. These rings must not be in a fixed position.~~ Reins used in this way must be stated on the FEI Classification Mater List as a compensating aid for that Athlete.

## Article No.–Article Name

### 8432.5.6 Knotted Reins and Rein Stops

## Explanation for Proposed Change

Rein stops were added to the compensating aid of knotted reins, as they both act in the same way. The sizing of stops should be the same as for a knotted rein.

## Proposed Wording

Knotted reins may be used as a standard compensating aid. Each rein may only have one knot to consist of one twist/tie of the rein. Any larger knots, or more knots in each rein, will be considered a non-standard compensating aid. Rein stops are also allowed, and must be the same size and number as a knot in the rein.

## Article No.–Article Name

### 8432.5.7/5.8 Looped and Ladder Reins, and Connecting Rein bars

## Explanation for Proposed Change

The PETC agreed that looped and ladder reins should be considered under the same kind of compensating aid, and that they required a clearer definition of what was allowed.

They also approved adding a definition for the Connecting Rein Bar, which previously had none.

### Proposed Wording

5.7 Looped and Ladder reins are a profile-specific compensating aid. Looped reins may have a maximum of three loops on each rein, and Ladder reins can have a maximum of three soft rungs between the reins.

5.75.8 Athletes in nominated profiles can use a connecting rein bar. This is a smooth, rounded, rigid bar connecting the two reins. The bar must be within the reins and must not extend wider than the reins. The bar should be a maximum of 30 cm.

### Article No.–Article Name

#### 8432.6 Strapping attached the saddlery

### Explanation for Proposed Change

Clearer definitions were required for some of the strapping to saddlery.

### Proposed Wording

6.2 Velcro may be used on the lower limbs, and must be above the knee, to assist the Athlete in the saddle where there is an identified need as determined by the Athlete's functional profile and Grade.

...

6.4 Athletes in nominated Profiles may use a strap to attach the stirrup leather to the girth or the stirrup iron to the girth to assist control of the lower leg. The strap must measure no less than 5cm from the girth to the stirrup leather or iron, and may include Velcro to release. The strap must be stated on the FEI Classification Masterlist as a compensating aid for that Athlete.

### Article No.–Article Name

#### 8432.8 Checking Saddlery, Equipment and Compensating Aids

### Explanation for Proposed Change

The rules were updated to align with Dressage.

### Proposed Wording

8.2 It shall be the Athlete's/Groom's responsibility to remove ear hoods when required.

8.3 The Steward must use disposable surgical gloves when checking the bit (~~one~~ 1-a new pair of gloves must be used per Horse) and gloves should be worn until the tack check is complete.

### Article No.–Article Name

#### 8436.6 Schooling

## Explanation for Proposed Change

The PETC agreed with the Dressage TC to assign a sanction for schooling outside of designated schooling times without permission.

## Proposed Wording

No Horse may be schooled outside the designated schooling times without the permission of the Foreign Technical Delegate or President of the Ground Jury and/or Chief Steward. No Horse may be schooled outside the designated schooling areas at any time after the Horse has been accepted at the venue. Schooling in the stable is not allowed. Contravening this rule will entail a Yellow Warning Card and Elimination. No Horse may leave the venue until after the last Competition and prize giving without the permission of the Foreign Technical Delegate and/or President of the Ground Jury and the OC.

## Article No.–Article Name

### **8436.9 Schooling**

## Explanation for Proposed Change

The PETC agreed that the schooling Horses in Grades IV and V should have the same rules at all Events.

## Proposed Wording

9. Horses for Grade IV and Grade V Athletes ~~taking part in a Championships and Games~~, may only be schooled by the Athlete competing on that Horse after arrival at the venue under penalty of disqualification This means, for instance, that a groom mounted in the saddle may walk the Horse on a long, safe rein and that lungeing and verbal assistance from the ground from the trainer or their representative is permitted.
- ~~8. On no account, and under penalty of disqualification, may any Horse to be ridden by a Grade IV or Grade V Athlete take part in a CPEDI3\* and downwards which has been schooled by anyone other than the Athlete concerned, or any other Athlete belonging to the same team, mounted in the saddle where the Event takes place, during the twenty four (24) hours preceding the start of the first Competition of this Event as well as for the duration of the whole Event. Lungeing and assistance from the ground by someone other than the Athlete is permitted.~~

## Article No.–Article Name

### **8438 Officials – Ground Jury**

## Explanation for Proposed Change

The section on the Ground Jury was cleaned up, with requirements per Competitions set into a table. The requirements were also aligned with the updated Education System.

The levels of Judges would be changed to align with other FEI disciplines.

The numbers of combinations that could be judged in a day was extended to 45.

## Proposed Wording

# FEI™ PARA DRESSAGE

1. At CPEDIs the Ground Jury are appointed by the OC. A maximum of three Judges appointed to an FEI Championships/Games of the current year can be invited to an Event.

2. At FEI Championships and Games the Ground Jury are appointed by the FEI. The FEI will appoint the President, members of the Ground Jury and at least one travelling reserve Judge. The numbers appointed will depend on the Competition schedule and arenas.

3. Level of the Judges:

- FEI Level 4 Judge
- FEI Level 3 Judge
- FEI Level 2 Judge
- FEI Level 1 Judge

1.4. In all circumstances not covered by existing rules, the Ground Jury, in consultation with the Foreign Technical Delegate as applicable, being guided by the FEI GRs and the Para Dressage Rules, shall give such decisions as they consider will best produce a fair result.

5. Ground Jury Requirements per Competition:

<u>CPEDI1*</u>	<u>CPEDI2*</u>	<u>CPEDI3*</u>	<u>FEI Championships and Regional Games</u>	<u>FEI World Championships and Paralympic Games</u>
<u>Minimum two Judges</u>	<u>Minimum two Judges</u>	<u>GJ panel of 3 or 5</u>	<u>GJ panel of 5</u>	<u>GJ panel of 5</u>
<u>The PGJ shall be minimum L3</u>	<u>The PGJ shall be minimum L3</u>	<u>The PGJ shall be minimum L3</u>	<u>The PGJ shall be L4</u>	<u>The PGJ shall be L4</u>
<u>Minimum one FEI L2 or above</u>	<u>Minimum one FEI L2 or above</u>	<u>In a GJ panel of 5:</u> - <u>Three must be min. L3</u>	<u>Appointed by FEI from list of L3 and L4 Judges</u>	<u>Appointed by FEI from list of L4 Judges</u>
<u>One can be National or L1 in a GJ of three, two can be National or L1 in GJ of 5</u>	<u>One can be National or L1 in a GJ of three, two can be National or L1 in GJ of 5</u>	- <u>One must be L3</u> - <u>In Europe one must be L2 (recommended outside Europe)</u> - <u>Minimum four nationalities must be represented</u>	<u>Five nationalities must be represented</u>	<u>Five nationalities must be represented</u>
<u>In Europe, minimum two nationalities must be represented</u>	<u>In Europe, minimum two nationalities must be represented</u>	<u>In a GJ panel of 3:</u> - <u>Two must be min L3</u> - <u>In Europe one must be L2 (recommended outside Europe)</u> <u>Minimum three nationalities must be represented</u>		

2.6. ~~3.~~ Each Judge must be assisted by a secretary-scribe who speaks and writes the same official language.

3.7. The Judge at C may decide if they wish to be assisted, in addition to the secretary-scribe, by a special assistant, whose task is to follow the progress of the Test, to inform the President of Ground Jury of any "error of the Course" and/or "error of the Test".

4.8. ~~3\*~~Level 2, ~~4\*~~Level 3 and ~~5\*~~Level 4 Judges may never act as secretaries or assistants to the President or any other member of a Ground Jury at International Para- Equestrian Dressage Events. ~~3\*~~Level 2 Judges may, however, sit in with higher level officiating Judges if they give their permission.

**5-9.** The President or the FEI Foreign Judge must arrive in time for the Horse Inspection. At Championships and Games it is compulsory that the Ground Jury should meet prior to the first Competition, this is recommended at CPEDI3\*s and below.

**6-10.** At any Event a Judge may not be called upon to judge more than forty ~~five~~ (4045) Athletes a day.

**7-11.** Where possible it is preferred that the same Ground Jury should judge each of the separate tests in the Team Competition (all Grades) to ensure consistent results. The same Ground Jury or with changes, may judge the other Competitions.

**8-12.** No Judge may officiate at an Event if their duties will involve a conflict of interest (see FEI GRs). For full details please refer to Annex VII Codex for Para Dressage Judges.

**9-13.** FEI Para Dressage Judges may not officiate at Senior Competitions and also compete internationally on the same continent within the same calendar year. They must declare to the FEI via their NF by 1st January each year whether they wish to judge or compete during that particular year.

### **10-14. President of the Ground Jury**

14.1 The President of the Ground Jury allocates the ~~five~~ Ground Jury members for each Competition and decides on the placing of the Judges.

### **11-15. Foreign Judge**

- At CPEDIs the Foreign Judge acts on behalf of the FEI to ensure Competitions are carried out according to the FEI rules and comply with the approved FEI Schedule. The Foreign Judge will be identified in the Schedule and will be required to complete a Foreign Judge's Report. The Foreign Judge must be at least an FEI L3 Judge.

Article No.–Article Name
<b>8439 Officials – Technical Delegate</b>
Explanation for Proposed Change
The wording for Technical Delegates was updated to align with Dressage and set out clearly the role of the Technical Delegate.
Proposed Wording
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A Technical Delegate may be appointed for CPEDIs.</li> <li>2. A Foreign Technical Delegate must be appointed for all Championships and Games. <u>The FEI will appoint the Foreign Technical Delegate(s) for Championships and Games.</u></li> <li>3. <u>A list of Technical Delegates qualified to Officiate at all Levels of Events will be maintained by the FEI.</u></li> </ol> <p><del>1. A Foreign Technical Delegate must be appointed for all Championships. The FEI will appoint the Foreign Technical Delegate(s) for all the Major Championships (as defined in the Para Dressage Rules). The Foreign Technical Delegate is in charge outside the actual Competitions. See also Article 8438 of Para Dressage Rules.</del></p>

4. The Technical Delegate must, in coordination with the OC and Chief Steward, check and approve, in advance, the preparations for the Event. The Technical Delegate must approve the technical and administrative arrangements for the conduct of the Event: for the examinations and inspections of Horses; for the accommodation of Horses and Athletes and for the stewarding of the Event. Technical Delegate will supervise the briefing(s) and the conduct of all technical personnel. Technical Delegate will investigate all and report to and advise the Ground Jury on any decisions they are required to take. Until Technical Delegate has reported to the Ground Jury that they are satisfied with all the arrangements, the authority of Technical Delegate shall be absolute. Thereafter Technical Delegate will continue to supervise the technical and administrative conduct of the Event and will advise and assist the Ground Jury, the Veterinary Commission and the OC. Technical Delegate should, whenever possible, be foreign.

## Article No.–Article Name

### 8440 Officials - Classifiers

## Explanation for Proposed Change

There was some discrepancy between the definition of a Classification Panel in the FEI Para Dressage Rules and FEI Para Equestrian Classification Rules, so the Para Dressage Rules were amended to refer to the Classification Rules.

The Classifiers levels were updated to reflect changes in the Classifiers Education system, with the following changes:

Trainee Classifier becomes Level 1 Classifier  
 Level 1 Classifier becomes Level 2 Classifier  
 Level 2 Classifier becomes Level 3 Classifier  
 New Level 4 Classifier is created.

## Proposed Wording

1. Classification is carried out in line with the IPC Classification Code. For all CPEDIs and FEI Championships, a Classification Panel as defined in the FEI Para Equestrian Classification Rules must be present. The Classifiers must remain until the first appearance is completed of all Classified Athletes.
2. Classification for Athletes with visual impairment (Profile 36 and 37) must be carried out by a Classification Panel (as defined in FEI Para Equestrian Classification Rules) of International Blind Sports Federation (IBSA) Classifiers.
3. The FEI will approve the Classifiers for all Competitions except Major Championships which will be appointed by the FEI. A list of Classifiers qualified to officiate at all levels of Events will be maintained by the FEI.
4. For FEI Championships and Games (when applicable), the FEI will appoint one (1) Level 2-4 Chief Classifier and one (1) minimum Level 2-3 Classifier.
5. At CPEDIs, one (1) minimum Level 2-3 Chief Classifier and one minimum (1) Level 1-2 or above Classifier must be appointed by the OC.
6. Where required, the Classifiers must be invited to arrive 24 hours before the draw takes place.

**Article No.–Article Name**

**Officials - Stewards**

**Explanation for Proposed Change**

The section on Stewards was updated to align with other FEI disciplines, and to provide more information on the role of the Chief Steward.

The levels of the Stewards were updated to reflect changes in FEI Officials Education systems.

**Proposed Wording**

- ~~1.~~ The FEI GRs refer to the Stewards and such rules and regulations are applicable to all FEI Para Dressage Events.
- ~~2.~~ The Chief Steward is responsible for the organisation of stewarding throughout the Event.
- ~~3.~~ The Chief Steward must ensure that stable security is adequate for the level of Event and that sufficient Stewards are available.
- ~~4.~~ The Chief Steward assists the Organising Committee, Ground Jury and Technical Delegate to ensure the smooth running of all defined functions during a Competition such as opening and closing ceremonies or any required organised function within the Competition.
- ~~1-5.~~ For ~~At~~ FEI Championships and Games, the FEI will appoint ~~one (1) Level 3~~ the Chief Steward. ~~At least three (3) Level 1 Stewards, or above, must be appointed by the OC in addition:~~
- ~~2-6.~~ At CPEDIs, ~~one (1) Level 2 (Chief Steward) and at least two (2) Level 1 Stewards or above~~ the Chief Steward must be appointed by the OC.
- ~~3-7.~~ According to the size (number of overall competitors at the Event) and type of Event, a sufficient number of Stewards must be appointed by the OC in consultation with the Chief Steward prior to the Event.
- ~~8.~~ All Stewards at International Events should preferably hold at least a Level 1 status. If this is not the case, they must have received formal instruction in their specific responsibility from the Chief Steward

<u>CPEDI1*</u>	<u>CPEDI2*</u>	<u>CPEDI3*</u>	<u>FEI Championships and Regional Games</u>	<u>FEI World Championships and Paralympic Games</u>
<u>Chief Steward min FEI L3</u>	<u>Chief Steward min FEI L3</u>	<u>Chief Steward min FEI L3</u>	<u>Chief Steward min FEI L4</u>	<u>Chief Steward min FEI L4</u>
<u>Min 1 Steward FEI L1 or above</u>	<u>Min one Steward FEI L1 or above</u>	<u>Min three FEI Stewards, with at least one L2 or above</u>	<u>Min three FEI Stewards, with at least one L2 or above</u>	<u>Min three FEI Stewards, with at least one L2 or above</u>

**Article No.–Article Name**

**Annex V**

**Explanation for Proposed Change**

A table with all listed sanctions from throughout the rules was added.

**Proposed Wording**

Please see Annex V.