

PARA DRESSAGE

EDUCATION SYSTEM

1st Edition, effective on 1 January 2023
Updated on 26 September 2024

Copyright © 2024 Fédération Equestre Internationale. Reproduction strictly reserved.

Table of Contents

Education System for FEI Para Dressage Officials	2
General principles	2
Minimum Requirements for Eligibility to become an FEI Official	3
Event Participation	3
Level 1 Para Dressage Judges	4
Level 2 Para Dressage Judges	6
Level 3 Para Dressage Judges	8
Level 4 Para Dressage Judges	10
Level 1 Para Dressage Stewards	12
Level 2 Para Dressage Stewards	13
Level 3 Para Dressage Stewards	15
Level 4 Para Dressage Stewards	16
Level 1 Para Equestrian Classifiers	18
Level 2 Para Equestrian Classifiers	19
Level 3 Para Equestrian Classifiers	20
Level 4 Para Equestrian Classifiers	22
Competency-based Evaluation System (CES)	24
Maintenance	24
Re-entering the FEI Officials' System	24
Equivalency	25
Annex FEI Education Terminology	25
Annex FEI Education Processes	25

Education System for FEI Para Dressage Officials

General principles

The Education System for FEI Para Dressage Officials provides a series of learning experiences that are based on the FEI Rules and Regulations and their application at international equestrian events. It aims at ensuring that all accredited Officials apply a consistent approach to Para Dressage matters at all FEI Events, keeping the welfare of the horse at the heart of their practice at all times.

The career pathway offered to FEI Para Dressage Officials is gradual. It starts with a common core and follows with a progressive specialisation towards the various official functions and their associated levels. FEI Para Dressage Officials are first listed as Level 1 Officials, (Judge and Steward) and may then complete the requisite training and seek promotion to higher-level functions.

National Federations are responsible for the number of Para Dressage Officials needed in the country to develop the discipline of Para Dressage, endorse the application of National Officials, and follow up on their work during the year. National Federations should designate a Judge and a Steward to oversee the respective National Education Systems.

The National Federation has to submit a written application for a National Official to enter the FEI Education Pathway; this is also valid for National Federations with an Equivalency. The written application has to confirm that the applicant has fulfilled the requirements as set forth in this document. In the Transfer-Up process a National Federation has the right to object an applicant, with valid reason.

The FEI Para Dressage Department normally accepts the applicants put forward by the National Federations provided that the requisite criteria are met, and/or unless exceptional circumstances warrant otherwise. Should such a situation arise, the FEI Para Dressage Department will communicate its concerns directly to the relevant National Federation(s), and consult with them to reach a consensus.

FEI Para Dressage Officials must maintain up-to-date knowledge of relevant FEI Rules, Regulations and horse welfare matters.

FEI Para Dressage Officials' competence and performance are regularly evaluated, and their status is reviewed annually by the FEI Para Dressage Department.

Minimum Requirements for Eligibility to become an FEI Official

For their application to be considered, FEI Para Dressage Officials must:

- ✓ Have an appropriate level of English, both written and spoken.
- ✓ Be minimum 18 years of age.
- ✓ Be in good standing with the National Federation.
- ✓ Be familiar with the FEI General Regulations, FEI Dressage Rules, FEI Veterinary Regulations, Para Dressage Stewards Manual and Annexes, Dressage Handbook; FEI Classifiers also need to be familiar with the FEI Classification Manual, IPC Athlete Classification Code and International Standards including: International Standards for Eligible Impairments, Athlete Evaluation, Protests and Appeals, Classification Data protection and IPC Classifier's Code of Conduct.
- ✓ Accept the applicable Codes and Code of Conduct.
- ✓ Be formally recommended by the National Federation.

National Federations are responsible for informing the FEI Para Dressage Department of any Official who is not in good standing with the National Federation.

Event Participation

Lists of FEI Para Dressage Officials are available on the FEI website for the use of Organising Committees and other interested stakeholders, and are updated on a daily basis. Only FEI Para Dressage Officials who are current with their status maintenance and report submission obligations will be listed, and may officiate at, or be appointed to FEI Events.

FEI Para Dressage Officials must abide by the applicable Code of Conduct and commit to act according to the principles, Rules and Regulations of the FEI.

FEI Para Dressage Officials' duties are outlined in their relative job descriptions. However, these documents do not substitute FEI Rules and Regulations.

Level 1 Para Dressage Judges

Requirements

National Judges wishing to be listed as Level 1 Judges must:

- ✓ Be formally recommended by the National Federation.
- ✓ Achieve an English proficiency grade of A2 or higher.
- ✓ Complete the online Foundation Course for Para Dressage Officials.
- ✓ Be a listed as National Judge (FEI Junior test level).

Education

National Judges must:

- ✓ Complete one (1) sit-in covering all five grades with two (2) positive recommendations by FEI approved Mentor Judges – The sit-in must be completed before the application deadline of the transfer-up course.
- ✓ Pass a Level 1 Judges transfer-up course with examination – to be completed before the shadow judging evaluations.
- ✓ Pass two (2) shadow judgments with positive evaluations from two (2) different FEI approved Mentor Judges in all Grades with a min. of three (3) Horses. A maximum of five (5) attempts can be taken.

If an examination is not passed, the Official is given the opportunity of a re-attempt after one year.

To re-attempt an examination, all preceding education activities must be retaken.

Status

- ✓ On passing the Level 1 examination(s) and fulfilling all requirements, participants are listed as Level 1 Judges in the FEI Database.

Roles at FEI Events

According to FEI Para Dressage Rules Art. 8438, Level 1 Judges may take on the following roles at FEI Events:

- ✓ Ground Jury Member

Maintenance

To maintain status, Level 1 Judges must:

- ✓ Pass a CES Online Assessment every year.
- ✓ Pass a CES Maintenance Course every three years.
- ✓ Have officiated as a Level 1 Judge at least at three (3) international events** or FEI Challenges in the last three years*.¹

*condition not applicable for the initial three years of officiating at Level 1.

**one (1) international event can be replaced by a virtual judging seminar

¹ The CES Officiating Review will not be applied, by decision of the FEI Board on 5 June 2024.

Level 2 Para Dressage Judges

Requirements

Level 1 Para Dressage Judges wishing to be listed as Level 2 Judges must:

- ✓ Achieve an English proficiency grade of A2 or higher*.
- ✓ Have held the Level 1 status for a minimum of two years.
- ✓ Have officiated as Level 1 Judge at a minimum of four (4) international events. Two (2) international events can be replaced by two (2) FEI Challenges.

National Para Dressage Judges from NFs with an Equivalency must:

- ✓ Be formally recommended by the National Federation.
- ✓ Achieve an English proficiency grade of A2 or higher*.
- ✓ Complete the online Foundation Course for Para Dressage Officials.
- ✓ Pass the online Level 1 Judges Equivalency Examination.

National Dressage Judges (PSG level) or FEI Dressage Judges (all levels) must:

- ✓ Be formally recommended by the National Federation.
- ✓ Achieve an English proficiency grade of A2 or higher*.
- ✓ Complete the online Foundation Course for Para Dressage Officials.
- ✓ Pass the online Level 1 Judges Equivalency Examination.

Education

Level 1 Para Dressage Judges must:

- ✓ Complete one (1) sit-in covering all five Grades, with minimum one (1) competition per Grade in Para Grand Prix A and/or Para Grand B, and minimum one (1) Para Grand Prix Freestyle in all Grades.

National Para Dressage Judges from NFs with an Equivalency must:

- ✓ Complete one (1) sit-in covering all five Grades, with minimum one (1) competition per Grade in Para Grand Prix A and/or Para Grand Prix B, and minimum one (1) Para Grand Prix Freestyle in all Grades.

National Dressage Judges (PSG level) or FEI Dressage Judges (all levels) must:

- ✓ Complete one (1) sit-in at Grades I, II and III in Para Grand Prix A and/or Para Grand Prix B, and minimum one (1) Para Grand Prix Freestyle in Grades I, II and III.

All applicants in addition to the above must:

- ✓ Pass a Level 2 Judges in-person transfer-up course (2-3 days) with examination.
- ✓ Pass one (1) positive shadow judging at CPEDI3*, covering all Grades, with minimum one (1) competition per Grade in Para Grand Prix A and/or Para Grand Prix B, and with a minimum of three (3) Athletes in each Grade, within the last three years.

If an examination is not passed, the Official is given the opportunity of a re-attempt after one year.

To re-attempt an examination, all preceding education activities must be retaken.

Status

- ✓ On passing the Level 2 examination(s) and fulfilling all requirements, participants are listed as Level 2 Judges in the FEI Database.

Roles at FEI Events

According to FEI Para Dressage Rules Art. 8438, Level 2 Judges may take on the following roles at FEI events:

- ✓ Ground Jury Member

Maintenance

To maintain status, Level 2 Judges must:

- ✓ Pass a CES Online Assessment every year.
- ✓ Pass a CES Maintenance Course every three years.
- ✓ Have officiated as a Level 2 Judge at least at three (3) international events** in the last three years*.¹

* condition non applicable to Equivalency Officials and National Dressage judges for the initial three years of officiating.

** one (1) international event can be replaced by a virtual judging seminar.

¹ The CES Officiating Review will not be applied, by decision of the FEI Board on 5 June 2024.

Level 3 Para Dressage Judges

Requirements

Level 2 Judges wishing to be listed as Level 3 Judges must:

- ✓ Achieve an English proficiency grade of B1 or higher*.
- ✓ Have been listed as a FEI Level 2 Judge for a minimum of two years.
- ✓ Have judged as a member of a Ground Jury at four (4) CPEDIs in the last three years.

Education

Level 2 Judges must:

- ✓ Pass a Level 3 Judges in-person transfer-up course (3 days) with examination.
- ✓ Pass one (1) positive Shadow-Judging at CPEDI3*, covering all Grades (minimum one (1) competition per Grade in Para Grand Prix A and/or Para Grand Prix B) with a minimum of three (3) Athletes in each Grade within the previous three years.

If an examination is not passed, the Official is given the opportunity of a re-attempt after one year.

To re-attempt an examination, all preceding education activities must be retaken.

Status

- ✓ On passing the Level 3 examination(s) and fulfilling all requirements, participants are listed as Level 3 Judges in the FEI Database.

Roles at FEI Events

According to FEI Para Dressage Rules Art. 8438, Level 3 Judges may take on the following roles at FEI Events:

- ✓ Ground Jury Member
- ✓ President of the Ground Jury
- ✓ Foreign Judge

Maintenance

To maintain status, Level 3 Judges must:

- ✓ Pass a CES Online Assessment every year.
- ✓ Pass a CES Maintenance Course every three years.
- ✓ Have officiated as a Level 3 Judge at least at three (3) international events* in the last three years.¹

* one (1) international event can be replaced by a Virtual Judging Seminar

¹ The CES Officiating Review will not be applied, by decision of the FEI Board on 5 June 2024.

Level 4 Para Dressage Judges

Requirements

The JSP will propose appropriate prospective Level 4 Judges following an objective evaluation and analysis of the performance and conduct as Level 3 Judges to ensure that the Level 3 Judges who are considered for Transfer-up to Level 4 are judging accurately, are generally consistent with the other Judges' scoring and that there is no indication of nationalistic judging. Judges considered appropriate for proposal to Level 4 will have previously demonstrated professional integrity, honesty and good communication skills to date.

Level 3 Judges wishing to be listed as Level 4 Judges must:

- ✓ Achieve an English proficiency grade of B2 or higher*.
- ✓ Have been listed as an FEI Level 3 Judge for a minimum of three years.
- ✓ Be in good standing with the FEI.

The following officiating experience has to be achieved within the last 10 years:

- ✓ Have officiated at a minimum 15 (fifteen) CPEDIs 3* or above.
- ✓ Have officiated as President of the Ground Jury or Foreign Judge at a minimum of five (5) CPEDIs 3* or above.

Education

Level 3 Judges must:

- ✓ Pass the Level 4 Judges blended learning programme with examinations:
 - The online Level 4 Judges examination(s).
 - The online interview.
 - An in-person course of three days for those who have passed the Level 4 Judges online examination(s).

The objective of this interactive course is to enhance the participants' communication and interpersonal skills. This will allow them to officiate at international events more effectively, while ensuring rule compliance and technical requirements at the highest level.

Through theory and action learning, participants will enhance their abilities to look, act and sound calm and confident, achieve greater credibility and project a commanding presence.

Participants will acquire the awareness, motivation and skills to improve their decision-making process and obtain the desired outcomes with less conflict.

If an examination is not passed, the Official is given the opportunity of a re-attempt after one year.

To re-attempt an examination, all preceding education activities must be retaken.

Status

On passing the Level 4 final blended learning programme with examination(s) and fulfilling all requirements, participants are listed as Level 4 Judges in the FEI Database

Roles at FEI Events

According to FEI Para Dressage Rules Art. 8438, Level 4 Judges may take on the following roles at FEI Events:

- ✓ Ground Jury Member
- ✓ President of the Ground Jury
- ✓ Foreign Judge

Maintenance

To maintain status, Level 4 Judges must:

- ✓ Pass a CES Online Assessment every year.
- ✓ Pass a CES Maintenance Course every three years.
- ✓ Have officiated as a Level 4 Judge at least at four (4) CPEDI3* and/or above in the last three years.¹

¹ The CES Officiating Review will not be applied, by decision of the FEI Board on 5 June 2024.

Level 1 Para Dressage Stewards

Requirements

National Stewards wishing to be listed as Level 1 Stewards must:

- ✓ Be formally recommended by the National Federation.
- ✓ Achieve an English proficiency grade of A2 or higher.
- ✓ Complete the online Foundation Course for Para Dressage Officials.

Education

National Stewards must:

- ✓ Pass a Level 1 Stewards transfer-up course with examination.

If an examination is not passed, the Official is given the opportunity of a re-attempt after one year.

To re-attempt an examination, all preceding education activities must be retaken.

Status

- ✓ On passing the Level 1 examination(s) and fulfilling all requirements, participants are listed as Level 1 Stewards in the FEI Database.

Roles at FEI Events

According to FEI Para Dressage Rules Art. 8441, Level 1 Stewards may take on the following roles at FEI Events:

- ✓ Member of the Stewarding Team

Maintenance

To maintain status, Level 1 Stewards must:

- ✓ Pass a CES Online Assessment every year.
- ✓ Pass a CES Maintenance Course every three years.
- ✓ Have officiated as a Level 1 Steward at least at one (1) international event in the last three years*.¹

*condition not applicable for the initial three years of officiating at Level 1.

¹ The CES Officiating Review will not be applied, by decision of the FEI Board on 5 June 2024.

Level 2 Para Dressage Stewards

Requirements

Level 1 Stewards wishing to be listed as Level 2 Stewards must:

- ✓ Achieve an English proficiency grade of A2 or higher*.
- ✓ Have held the Level 1 status for a minimum of one year.
- ✓ Have officiated as a Level 1 Steward at least at one (1) international event.

National Stewards from NFs with an Equivalency must:

- ✓ Be formally recommended by the National Federation.
- ✓ Achieve an English proficiency grade of A2 or higher*.
- ✓ Complete the online Foundation Course for Para Dressage Officials.
- ✓ Pass the online Level 1 Stewards Equivalency Examination.

Education

All applicants must:

- ✓ Pass a Level 2 Stewards in-person transfer-up course (3 days) with examination.

If an examination is not passed, the Official is given the opportunity of a re-attempt after one year.

To re-attempt an examination, all preceding education activities must be retaken.

Status

- ✓ On passing the Level 2 examination(s) and fulfilling all requirements, participants are listed as Level 2 Stewards in the FEI Database.

Roles at FEI Events

According to FEI Para Dressage Rules Art. 8441, Level 2 Stewards may take on the following roles at FEI Events:

- ✓ Member of the Stewarding Team

Maintenance

To maintain status, Level 2 Stewards must:

- ✓ Pass a CES Online Assessment every year.
- ✓ Pass a CES Maintenance Course every three years.
- ✓ Have officiated as a Level 2 Steward at least at one (1) international event in the last three years*.¹

*condition not applicable to Equivalency Officials for the initial three years of officiating.

¹ The CES Officiating Review will not be applied, by decision of the FEI Board on 5 June 2024.

Level 3 Para Dressage Stewards

Requirements

Level 2 Stewards wishing to be listed as Level 3 Stewards must:

- ✓ Achieve an English proficiency grade of B1 or higher*.
- ✓ Have been listed as a FEI Level 2 Steward for a minimum of two years.
- ✓ Have officiated as a Level 2 Steward at a minimum of three (3) international events in the last three years.

Education

- ✓ Pass a Level 3 Stewards in-person transfer-up course (2-3 days) with examination.

If an examination is not passed, the Official is given the opportunity of a re-attempt after one year.

To re-attempt an examination, all preceding education activities must be retaken.

Status

- ✓ On passing the Level 3 examination(s) and fulfilling all requirements, participants are listed as Level 3 Stewards in the FEI Database.

Roles at FEI Events

According to FEI Para Dressage Rules Art. 8441, Level 3 Stewards may take on the following roles at FEI Events:

- ✓ Member of the Stewarding Team
- ✓ Chief Steward

Maintenance

To maintain status, Level 3 Stewards must:

- ✓ Pass a CES Online Assessment every year.
- ✓ Pass a CES Maintenance Course every three years.
- ✓ Have officiated as a Level 3 Steward at least at one (1) international event in the last three years. ¹

¹ The CES Officiating Review will not be applied, by decision of the FEI Board on 5 June 2024.

Level 4 Para Dressage Stewards

Requirements

Level 3 Stewards wishing to be listed as Level 4 Stewards must:

- ✓ Achieve an English proficiency grade of B2 or higher*.
- ✓ Have been listed as a FEI Level 3 Steward for a minimum of two years.
- ✓ Be in good standing with the FEI.

The following officiating experience has to be achieved within 10 years of the application:

- ✓ Have officiated as a Chief Steward at a minimum of three (3) CPEDI3*.
- ✓ Have officiated as a Member of the Stewarding Team at a minimum of two (2) Championships.

Education

- ✓ Pass the Level 4 Stewards blended learning programme:
 - The online Level 4 Stewards examination(s)
 - The online interview
 - An In-Person Course of 3 days for those who have passed the Level 4 Stewards online examination(s)

The objective of this interactive course is to enhance the participants' communication and interpersonal skills. This will allow them to officiate at international events more effectively, while ensuring rule compliance and technical requirements at the highest level.

Through theory and action learning, participants will enhance their abilities to look, act and sound calm and confident, achieve greater credibility and project a commanding presence.

Participants will acquire the awareness, motivation and skills to improve their decision-making process and obtain the desired outcomes with less conflict.

If an examination is not passed, the Official is given the opportunity of a re-attempt after one year.

To re-attempt an examination, all preceding education activities must be retaken.

Status

On passing the Level 4 final blended learning programme with examination(s) and fulfilling all requirements, participants are listed as Level 4 Stewards in the FEI Database.

Roles at FEI Events

According to FEI Para Dressage Rules Art. 8441, Level 4 Stewards may take on the following roles at FEI Events:

- ✓ Member of the Stewarding Team
- ✓ Chief Steward and Overall Chief Steward

Maintenance

To maintain status, Level 4 Stewards must:

- ✓ Pass a CES Online Assessment every year.
- ✓ Pass a CES Maintenance Course every three years
- ✓ Have officiated as a Level 4 Steward at least at three (3) international events in the last three years.¹

¹ The CES Officiating Review will not be applied, by decision of the FEI Board on 5 June 2024.

Level 1 Para Equestrian Classifiers

Requirements

National Para Equestrian Classifiers wishing to be listed as Level 1 Para Equestrian Classifiers must:

- ✓ Be formally recommended by the National Federation.
- ✓ Achieve an English proficiency grade of A2 or higher.
- ✓ Complete the online Foundation Course for Para Dressage Officials.
- ✓ Have a current Authority to Practice within a nominated health profession in their home country.
- ✓ Have demonstrated experience as a National Para Equestrian Classifier

Education

National Para Equestrian Classifiers must:

- ✓ Be mentored by one or more Level 2 or above Para Equestrian Classifiers (Mentor Classifiers) for the entire duration of their Level 1 Status.

Status

- ✓ After fulfilling all requirements, participants are listed as Level 1 Para Equestrian Classifiers (PED & PEA) in the FEI Database.

Roles at FEI Events

According to FEI Para Dressage Rules Art. 8440, Level 1 Para Equestrian Classifiers may take on the following roles at FEI Events:

- ✓ Trainee Classifier*

A Level 1 Para Equestrian Classifier is not a member of the Classification Panel and cannot allocate an FEI Grade. They May be appointed to participate in some or all components of an Athlete evaluation under the supervision of the Classification Panel to develop classifier competencies.

Maintenance

To maintain status, Level 1 Para Equestrian Classifiers must:

- ✓ Pass a CES Online Assessment every year.
- ✓ Pass a CES Maintenance Course every three years.
- ✓ Confirm the Authority to Practice via the Annual Disclosure Declaration.

Level 2 Para Equestrian Classifiers

Requirements

Level 1 Para Equestrian Classifiers wishing to be listed as Level 2 Para Equestrian Classifiers must:

- ✓ Achieve an English proficiency grade of A2 or higher*.
- ✓ Have attended as a Level 1 Para Equestrian Classifier at least two (2) international events.

Education

Level 1 Para Equestrian Classifiers must:

- ✓ Complete four (4) Athlete Evaluations with a positive recommendation from a Level 3 Para Equestrian Classifier at a minimum of two (2) CPEDIs in the last three years.

Status

- ✓ On passing the Level 2 examination(s) and fulfilling all requirements, participants are listed as Level 2 Para Equestrian Classifiers (PED & PEA) in the FEI Database.

Roles at FEI Events

According to FEI Para Dressage Rules Art. 8440, Level 2 Para Equestrian Classifiers may take on the following roles at FEI Events:

- ✓ Member of the Classification Panel

Maintenance

To maintain status, Level 2 Para Equestrian Classifiers must:

- ✓ Pass a CES Online Assessment every year.
- ✓ Pass a CES Maintenance Course every three years.
- ✓ Confirm the Authority to Practice via the Annual Disclosure Declaration.
- ✓ Have officiated as a Level 2 Para Equestrian Classifier at least at one (1) international event in the last three years*.¹

*condition not applicable to Officials for the initial three years of officiating.

¹ The CES Officiating Review will not be applied, by decision of the FEI Board on 5 June 2024.

Level 3 Para Equestrian Classifiers

Requirements

Level 2 Para Equestrian Classifiers wishing to be listed as Level 3 Para Equestrian Classifiers must:

- ✓ Achieve an English proficiency grade of B1 or higher*.
- ✓ Have been listed as a FEI Level 2 Para Equestrian Classifier for a minimum of two years.
- ✓ Have officiated as a Level 2 Para Equestrian Classifier at a minimum of three (3) international events.

Education

- ✓ Pass a Level 3 Para Equestrian Classifiers Transfer-up course with examination.
- ✓ Pass one (1) positive shadow classification, with a defined set of activities associated with the role of Chief Para Equestrian Classifier, at a CPEDI within three months after the transfer-up course.

If an examination is not passed, the Official is given the opportunity of a re-attempt after one year.

To re-attempt an examination, all preceding education activities must be retaken.

Status

- ✓ On passing the Level 3 examination(s) and fulfilling all requirements, participants are listed as Level 3 Para Equestrian Classifiers (PED & PEA) in the FEI Database.

Roles at FEI Events

According to FEI Para Dressage Rules Art. 8440, Level 3 Para Equestrian Classifiers may take on the following roles at FEI Events:

- ✓ Member of the Classification Panel
- ✓ Para Equestrian Chief Classifier at CPEDIs

Maintenance

To maintain status, Level 3 Para Equestrian Classifiers must:

- ✓ Pass a CES Online Assessment every year.
- ✓ Pass a CES Maintenance Course every three years.
- ✓ Confirm the Authority to Practice via the Annual Disclosure Declaration.
- ✓ Have officiated as a Level 3 Para Equestrian Classifier at least at one (1) international event in the last three years.¹

¹ The CES Officiating Review will not be applied, by decision of the FEI Board on 5 June 2024.

Level 4 Para Equestrian Classifiers

Requirements

Level 3 Para Equestrian Classifiers wishing to be listed as Level 4 Para Equestrian Classifiers must:

- ✓ Achieve an English proficiency grade of B2 or higher*.
- ✓ Have been listed as a FEI Level 3 Para Equestrian Classifier for a minimum of two Years.
- ✓ Be in good standing with the FEI.

The following officiating experience has to be achieved within 10 years of the application:

- ✓ Have officiated as a Para Equestrian Chief Classifier at a minimum of three (3) CPEDI3*
- ✓ Have completed a minimum of ten (10) Athlete Evaluations.

Education

- ✓ Pass the Level 4 Para Equestrian Classifiers blended learning programme:
 - The online Level 4 Para Equestrian Classifiers examination(s).
 - The online interview.
 - An In-Person Course of 3 days for those who have passed the Level 4 Para Equestrian Classifiers online examination(s).

The objective of this interactive course is to enhance the participants' communication and interpersonal skills. This will allow them to officiate at international events more effectively, while ensuring rule compliance and technical requirements at the highest level.

Through theory and action learning, participants will enhance their abilities to look, act and sound calm and confident, achieve greater credibility and project a commanding presence.

Participants will acquire the awareness, motivation and skills to improve their decision-making process and obtain the desired outcomes with less conflict.

If an examination is not passed, the Official is given the opportunity of a re-attempt after one year.

To re-attempt an examination, all preceding education activities must be retaken.

Status

On passing the Level 4 final blended learning programme with examination(s) and fulfilling all requirements, participants are listed as Level 4 Para Equestrian Classifiers (PED & PEA) in the FEI Database.

Roles at FEI Events

According to FEI Para Dressage Rules Art. 8440, Level 4 Para Equestrian Classifiers may take on the following roles at FEI Events:

- ✓ Member of the Classification Panel
- ✓ Para Equestrian Chief Classifier including at Championships and Games

Maintenance

To maintain status, Level 4 Para Equestrian Classifiers must:

- ✓ Pass a CES Online Assessment every year.
- ✓ Pass a CES Maintenance Course every three years.
- ✓ Confirm the Authority to Practice via the Annual Disclosure Declaration.
- ✓ Have officiated as a Level 4 Para Equestrian Chief Classifier at least at three (3) international events in the last three years.¹

¹ The CES Officiating Review will not be applied, by decision of the FEI Board on 5 June 2024.

Competency-based Evaluation System (CES)

The Competency-based Evaluation System addresses the following areas:

- ✓ Knowledge of FEI Rules and Regulations
- ✓ Soft skills in order to interact effectively and harmoniously
- ✓ Fitness level required to correctly perform all duties relevant to the role
- ✓ English language proficiency

FEI Officials are required to take an annual Online Assessment (CES) on FEI Campus. Para Dressage Officials are assessed on their knowledge of FEI Para Dressage Rules and other relevant Rules and Regulations.

Maintenance

On 15 December of each year, the FEI Para Dressage Department will review the status of all FEI Para Dressage Officials to ascertain their compliance with the maintenance requirements. Failure to fulfil the maintenance requirements will result in either a transfer down by one level or the closure of the function.¹

- ✓ A Para Dressage Official who did not take a CES Online Assessment by 15 December annually will have the function closed.
- ✓ A Para Dressage Official who did not attend a CES Maintenance Course within the 3-year time period will have the function closed.
- ✓ A Para Dressage Official who does not get a “passed” result at a CES Maintenance Course will be transferred down by one level for that function.
- ✓ A Para Dressage Official Level 3 or 4 who fail to officiate at the minimum number of events over a rolling 3-year cycle will be transferred down by one level, and a Para Dressage Official at Level 1 and 2 will have the function closed.¹

¹ The CES Officiating Review will not be applied, by decision of the FEI Board on 5 June 2024.

Re-entering the FEI Officials' System

Any Official who has retired or has a closed function for not fulfilling the Maintenance Requirements, is able to re-enter the system. Following requirements are applicable according to the discipline concerned:

- An Official who's functions was closed for less than three years:
 - ✓ Take and pass a CES Maintenance Course*.
 - ✓ Comply with their annual Maintenance Requirements (CES Online Assessment) during the year, as every other Official.

*In case of a “Not passed” result at the CES Maintenance Course, a separate CES Interview Assessment will decide if the Official keeps the same level or is transferred down one level. The CES Interview Assessment is conducted in-person or online by two (2) Course Directors.

- An Official who’s functions was closed for three to six years:
 - ✓ Fulfil all transfer-up requirements according to the relevant Education System of each discipline.
 - ✓ Take and pass a transfer-up course to their current level.
- An Official who’s functions was closed for more than six years:
 - ✓ May only be able to re-enter at the lowest levels.
 - ✓ Is required to pass a transfer-up course for the relevant level.
 - ✓ Must also fulfill all other transfer-up requirements according to the relevant Education System of each discipline.

Equivalency

A National level/function can be made equivalent to an FEI entry level/function. National Federations have the opportunity to apply for Equivalency to the FEI.

The application process for equivalency is as follows:

In order for the FEI Education & Officials department to consider an Equivalency request, National Federations shall provide the FEI with an application form for each Function. The Application form can be downloaded [HERE](#).

* English proficiency levels have been adjusted by decision of the FEI Board on 24 September 2024.

Annex FEI Education Terminology

The Annex FEI Education Terminology is published [HERE](#).

Annex FEI Education Processes

The Annex FEI Education Processes is published [HERE](#)