

19 October 2017

## **2018 PARA-EQUESTRIAN DRESSAGE RULES – proposed modifications**

### **Introduction**

Please find below the Para-Equestrian Dressage Committee's proposals for changes (in red) and clarifications to the Para-Equestrian Dressage Rules. Further to several meetings organized with the stakeholders the proposals were formulated and circulated in the first version- The below document includes the feedback received and the Committee detailed proposal for approval of the General Assembly.

*The rationale of the Para-Equestrian Dressage Committee for proposing the change is indicated in italics and purple.*

Summarized feed-back from NFs are included under each proposal.

**Para-Equestrian Dressage Committee's answers further to NFs feedbacks are at the bottom of the last comment – when applicable.**

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**2018 Para-Equestrian Dressage Rules Revision – 3rd Edition, Modifications suggested for implementation in January 2018**

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## CHAPTER I – DRESSAGE

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### ARTICLE 8411 WORK ON TWO (2) TRACKS

The term “Leg-yield” to be replaced with “Diagonal-yield”.

**PED Technical Committee:** *this was proposed as there was confusion as to the use of the word leg-yield in PE Dressage tests. Stakeholders at the Para-Forum agreed the change to diagonal-yield which is easier to understand.*

**FRA NF**

We are not supporting the proposed change regarding the wording of « Diagonal yield » instead of « Leg-yield ».

Leg-yield is a Classical Dressage technical term for a very specific movement. This term is well explained in the FEI Dressage and PE rules, in the FEI Handbook, and is understood by all the people involved in Dressage and Para Dressage. So :

- Changing a classical, academical, Dressage term will start to put Para Dressage away from Dressage. It's not at all our target: as Para Dressage must stay « Parallel to Dressage ».
- If everybody in the world knows « leg-yield », nobody has a clue about « diagonal-yield ».
- Moreover, if we want to get more judges from Dressage, it's not the best way to attract them if we start to change classical terms.
- The new term is not appropriate as the movement can be done on a diagonal but also along the track.

**USA NF**

The U.S. does not support this proposal. The term leg yield is a classical dressage term. If it is changed to "diagonal yield" para dressage will be drifting further from dressage. It is already an uphill battle to be considered part of the dressage world - this change would only push para dressage further away. It is understood that the 5\* para dressage judges present at a meeting held during the European Championships were also in strong opposition of this recommendation. If the FEI feels the leg yield is not physically doable in the grades it is now included in - then change the tests - don't change the word to be more "politically correct".

**GER NF**

The term “leg-yield” should NOT be replaced by “diagonal-yield”.

“Leg-yield” is a well-known technical term in riding theory all over the world both in able-bodied sport and Para sport. The term “diagonal-yield” however is not known and would cause a lot of confusion. As “leg-yield” is a technical term, this will not lead to misinterpretation by Para-Riders.

**GBR NF**

On no account should this terminology be altered or changed as discussed and agreed at the FEI meeting hosted in Gothenburg. Anna Milne is aware of this feedback.

**BEL NF**

In the rules there is a term change: « leg-yield » (cession à la jambe) will be « diagonal-yield ».  
Not all yields are ridden on a diagonal. So in the context it's not always correct to use this term change.

Is it possible to call it just a yield (une cession)

**PED Technical Committee II:** *Terminology for leg yield should not change as it will complicate judges understanding of the movement. The terminology affects the athletes less. Return to leg yield, remove the change to diagonal yield.*

*Discussed changing the tests but MO noted that the leg yield was introduced because trainers and athletes had asked for it to be included in the tests at the 2015 Para Forum.*

**Decision:** *There will be no change to the terminology for 2018.*

**ARTICLE 8418.2.1 THE POSITION AND AIDS OF THE ATHLETE**

A discreet 'pat on the neck' for a well performed exercise, or for reassurance, is perfectly acceptable (as is the situation of an athlete needing to wipe a fly from their eye, or other situations such as adjusting clothing, saddle pads etc.).

However, if the rider intentionally takes the reins into one hand in order to use either the reins or the other hand to produce more impulsion from the horse, or to promote applause from the spectators during the test, it will be considered a **serious** fault and will be reflected in the mark for both the movement and the collective mark for 'Rider'.

***PED Technical Committee:** Clarification suggested by the Dressage Judge General to ensure fairness in the judging related to Article 8418 and riding with both hands.*

**GBR NF**

Discrete Pat – agree with proposal

**BEL NF**

Chap 1 art 8418.2.1 what if an athlete has only one hand?

**PED Technical Committee II**

***DECISION:** considered a fault rather than serious fault. PEDTC agreed. Clearly defined for use of one hand while using other hand for impulsion, this rule is only aimed at Athletes with the use of two hands.*

*Decision: Remove the word "serious"*

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**CHAPTER II – PARA-EQUESTRIAN EVENTS**

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**ARTICLE 8420.1.6 PROMOTIONAL DRESSAGE EVENTS**

*This will be considered to be removed in the 2019 Review of the Rules, along with an update of Annex II*

**ARTICLE 8420.2.3 TEAM COMPETITION**

An official Team Competition must be scheduled for CPEDI3\* Events and above. No Country may enter more than one (1) team in any Event. The teams must consist of a maximum of four (4) and a minimum of three (3) Athletes of the same nationality. 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 and the Team Test 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.

**SUI NF**

Teams: It is possible to build a team with two Grade I and two Grade II riders, Why isn't this possible with two Grade IV and two Grade V riders?

**PED Technical Committee:** Teams with two of the higher Grades - the team format shouldn't be changed at the moment, this would need a bigger discussion.

**ARTICLE 8421.2.4.1**

At CPEDI 3\* ~~and above~~ only the best one third of the Athlete/Horse combinations per Grade of the total number of Athletes are qualified to participate in the Freestyle (based on the total result of the Team and Individual tests). Where one third of the class is less than ~~seven-eight (78)~~ Athletes, then ~~seven-eight (78)~~ will be allowed to compete. However, all

participants must have reached a minimum score of sixty percent (60%) as an average of the Team and Individual tests. Athletes may only compete with one (1) Horse in the Freestyle Competition and for those with more than one (1) Horse qualified; they must participate on the highest placed Horse (based on qualification results). Should a qualified combination withdraw or be disqualified etc. the next qualified combination may compete.

***PED Technical Committee:** Increase in number of athletes allowed to compete in the freestyle and to clarify what happens in the event of a withdrawal.*

**SUI NF**

Athletes are qualified to participate in the Freestyle (based on the total result of the Team and Individual tests)  Does this mean, that only at Championships Individual riders can't compete at the Team Test? – **PEDTC: Yes, this is correct**

**GBR NF**

Freestyle – agree with proposed changes to align with Dressage rules

**ARTICLE 8422.1.3**

Following **Classification** Athletes will be assigned a **Tracking Code of Observation Assessment (OA)** or a Grade Status of ~~New~~, Review (R) or Confirmed (C) ~~following Classification~~ and all relevant details will be included on the FEI Classification Master List and published on the FEI website.

To align with the updated FEI Classification Rules

**ARTICLE 8421.2.4.11**

**Piaffe and Passage may not be shown intentionally by Athletes at any time while riding their Horse in the Event. Contravening this rule may result in a Warning Card.**

***PED Technical Committee:** as these movements are not allowed in the tests, it is not beneficial that they are shown at any time at an Event to "impress the Judges or audience".*

**SUI NF**

If we understand the new proposition correctly then Piaffe and Passage are forbidden during the whole time of the event for every Grade. We don't see why this is necessary? This may sometimes help to bring horses correctly in the collection in the warm-up area, we agree with a prohibition in the test. Otherwise in every Grade higher lessons than requested in the test should be forbidden.

**USA NF**

The U.S. supports part but not all of this proposal and proposes the following rewrite: *Piaffe and passage may not be shown intentionally by Athletes at any time while riding their horse on the field of play. Contravening this rule may result in a warning card. This would allow the athletes and trainers to use piaffe and passage on an FEI horse to develop better collection if that is useful to their horse - in the warm up.* The concern that created this recommended change was that athletes would confuse the public by doing piaffe around the outside of competition arena right before going in to do a walk only test. Education will better help explain this, and if these exercises are limited to the warm-up arena then there shouldn't be confusion. These exercises can be a useful tool - but if over used it can backfire on the competitor in competition. This is a risk they need to determine how to balance. The Rule as written would be very difficult to monitor.

***PED Technical Committee II:** Allow in warm up but not allowed in field of play. Change 'event' for 'field of play', make clear that this is during the competition, prior to or after the test in and around the competition arena.*

**Final proposed wording:**

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. ~~If shown Contravening~~ this rule, ~~this will~~ may result in a Warning Card

**ARTICLE 8422.2 COMPETING IN A DIFFERENT GRADE**

**8422.2.1** If the Athlete's Grade changes to Not Eligible (NE) in the Competition where they are Classified they will be Not Eligible (NE) to enter competitions from the moment it appears on the FEI Classification Masterlist.

*PED Technical Committee: in fairness to Athletes who have entered an Event for classification and competition, they should be given the chance to compete, but will have the 10% penalty if their grade has changed for NE.*

**ITA NF**

The rewording of the Art. is not clear and does not relay the intentions of the PED Technical Committee in "purple"???

**8422.2.2** If an Athlete's Grade changes as a result of International reclassification, they may choose to ride in the new Grade from the date of reclassification or they may compete in the original Grade for no more than two (2) months from the date of reclassification. In this instance, the Athlete must ride with compensating aids relevant to the Grade they are competing in.

**ITA NF**

Add: However, if the athlete starts in a Grade lower than the one given in the new classification, the final result will be reduced by ten (10) percentage points.

**GER NF**

Competing in a different grade

If an Athlete's Grade changes as a result of International reclassification, he may choose to ride in the new Grade from the date of reclassification or he may compete in the original Grade

Delete the rest of the sentence: "for no more than two (2) months from the date of reclassification. In this instance, the Athlete must ride with compensating aids relevant to the Grade they are competing in."

Add:

"However, if he starts in that competition in a Grade lower than the one given in the new classification, the final result will be reduced by ten (10) percentage points."

**FRA NF**

We propose to remove this 2 months gap. The reclassification may be applied with an immediate effect.

**GBR NF**

Clarity on all aspects of classification is required; in particular, when riders are reclassified. The timescales need to be reviewed from a legal perspective, to ensure that they are applied consistently and fairly.

**8422.2.3** If an Athlete's Grade changes as a result of international classification at their first CPEDI they may start in the new Grade at that Competition or they may choose to start in the original Grade for that competition. However, if they start in a Grade lower than the one given in the new classification, the final result will be reduced by ten (10) percentage points. This penalty will also apply to Review Status Athletes who are reclassified as Not Eligible (NE). Such a decision must be reported to the PGJ and FTD (at Championships) by the Chief Classifier.

*PED Technical Committee: Clarification*

**GER NF**

Replace existing paragraph by:

"In the next competition after International reclassification the Athlete has to start in the new Grade."

**NED NF**

Advise: If an Athlete's Grade changes as a result of International reclassification undertaken at a competition, they may choose to ride in the new Grade immediately or they may compete in the original Grade for that competition only. However, if they start in a Grade lower than the one given in the new classification, the final result will be reduced by ten (10) percentage points. In this instance, the Athlete must ride with compensating aids relevant to the Grade they are competing in. If an Athlete's Grade changes outside of competition, the Athlete must assume the new Grade immediately. At all times at Championships and Games the athlete has to start in his new Grade.

**USA NF**

It is proposed that implementation of re-classification should be immediate as soon as the new Grade is officially listed on the FEI Website.

**ITA NF**

Suggested rewording:

8422.2.3 If an Athlete's Grade changes as a result of international classification or re-classification, for whatever reason, in ~~at~~ their first CPEDI following international classification or re-classification, they may start in the new Grade at that Competition or they may choose to start in the original Grade for that competition. However, if they start in a Grade lower than the one given in the new classification, the final result will be reduced by ten (10) percentage points. This penalty will also apply to Review Status Athletes who are reclassified as Not Eligible (NE). Such a decision must be reported to the PGJ ~~and FTD (at Championships)~~ by the Chief Classifier. The Athlete may only compete in a Championship or Paralympic Games in their new assigned Grade, providing that they are qualified to do so.

***PED Technical Committee II:** Can remove reference to ruling for Not Eligible - this would cover all Grade changes.*

*Can justify allowing Athletes to compete in the event they have travelled to, due to the costs incurred from travelling with horses and learning tests.*

*If an athlete's Grade changes, that change would become effective when it appears on the Masterlist, which is updated approximately every two weeks during the season. If they choose to ride at their old, lower grade they would have a 10% penalty. They would only be allowed to do that before the Masterlist is updated.*

*Fair in that you can compete in the Competition you have arrived at for classification, but also then fair for all other Athletes that when the Grade appears on the Masterlist it is final.*

**Final proposed wording (to replace 8422.2.1-2.3):**

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 result will be reduced by ten (10) percentage points. Such a decision must be reported to the PGJ and FTD/FJ by the Chief Classifier. The Athlete may only compete in a Championship or Paralympic Games in their newly assigned Grade, providing that they meet the qualification requirements.

**ARTICLE 8422.8.3**

**SUI NF**

If it is forbidden to ride a horse on the showground without the presence of a Steward, we think it is important that after the arrival of the first horses there should be a Steward available. This is not always the case. Or is this only after Horse Inspection

**PED Technical Committee:** An Event officially starts 1 hour before horse inspection. Enforcing Officials being on site earlier will cause Organisers more costs. If there are stewards on site they will be able to issue a warning card. Wording proposed below for Articles 8422.8.3 and 8428.13.

**Proposed Wording:**

**Article 8428.13** 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**.

**Article 8422.8.3** 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 (see Article 8428.13)**. 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 his representative is permitted. ~~An exception to this rule may only be granted under extraordinary circumstances in writing by the FEI or the President of the Ground Jury.~~

**ARTICLE 8425.1412 DRAW FOR THE STARTING ORDER**

The starting order for Freestyle to Music Competitions will be drawn in groups of ~~four~~ **five (5)** using the ~~combined results of the Team test and Individual Championship test already held~~ relevant results.

**PED Technical Committee:** as the best 8 qualify, this allows for two equal groups

**NED NF**

The starting order for Freestyle to Music qualifiers will be drawn in groups of four using relevant results. There should be indicated if it concerns the Team test and/or the Individual test.

The first four (4) to compete in the Freestyle will be the four (4) lowest scoring combinations. The last four (4) to compete in the Freestyle will be the four (4) highest scoring combinations. Where the number of Athletes in the Grade is not divisible by four (4), the remaining Athletes (not in a group of four -4-) will be drawn as the first group. The first group will be the larger one, the second group the smaller one.

**PED Technical Committee:** NED idea contradicts draw in all other disciplines. BDR suggest to keep draw in line with other disciplines. Keep as it is suggested but clarify "qualifying results".

**Final proposed wording:**

The starting order for Freestyle to Music Competitions will be drawn in groups of ~~four~~ **five (5)** using the ~~combined results of the Team test and Individual Championship test already held~~ ~~relevant results~~ **qualifying results**.

**ARTICLE 8426.8 DRESS**

~~8. Earphones and/or other electronic communication devices are strictly prohibited at FEI PE Dressage Events (except for cases as specified in Article 8430.14.3) and such usage is penalised by elimination. Earphones or similar devices are however permitted during training and warm-up.~~

8. Noise cancelling ear-muffs for Horses are allowed at prize-giving ceremonies only.

8428.8.4. 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, with the exception of Article 8428.8.5. The ear hoods should be discreet in colour and design. Ear hoods may not be attached to the noseband.

8428.8.5. Ear plugs on Horses are allowed at prize giving ceremonies only.

**USA NF**

Ear Muffs. This appears contradictory to Articles 8428.8.4 / 8.5.

**PED Technical Committee II: remove article 8426.8**

**ARTICLE 8427.2.2 SADDLERY**

The diameter of the mouthpiece of the bridoon and/or curb must be such so as not to hurt the Horse. Minimum diameter of mouthpiece to be twelve millimetres (12 mm) for curb bit, and ten millimetres (10 mm) for bridoon bit. **Snaffles must have a minimum diameter of fourteen millimetres (14mm) for horses and ten millimetres (10mm) for ponies.** The diameter of the mouth piece is measured adjacent to the rings or the cheeks of the mouthpiece. **The reins must be attached to the bit.**

**PED Technical Committee II: Align with AB Dressage for sizes of bits and reins attached to the bit.**

**ARTICLE 8427.7.8 SADDLERY**

An Athlete may only ride **without the use of stirrups** if this is specified on the FEI Classification Master List.

*PED Technical Committee: Clarification*

**GBR NF**

Stirrups - agreed

**ARTICLE 8429.3.2 OTHER ERRORS PENALTIES**

For Freestyle tests, entering the Dressage arena after more than **twenty-three (2030)** seconds of music;

*PED Technical Committee: alignment with Dressage Rules – it takes more than 20 seconds to ride from B to the entrance of the Arena.*

**GBR NF**

Freestyle – agree with proposed changes to align with Dressage rules

**Change title to Other "Penalties" rather than "Errors" to align with AB Dressage**

**ARTICLE 8429.11.4 BLEEDING**

Bleeding: If the Judge at C suspects fresh blood anywhere on the Horse during the Test, he 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 or in the area of the spurs during the equipment check at the end of the Test (Art. 8430.13), he must inform the Judge at C, who will Eliminate the Horse and the Athlete. If there is blood on the Horse, an FEI Veterinarian is to be called to decide if the Horse is fit to continue in following Competition(s) in the Event.

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 FEI Veterinarian is not subject to appeal.

**NED NF**

We believe that, despite of the discipline specific differences the 'bleeding rule' should be equal for all disciplines and therefore needs to be placed in the General Regulations. Additional practical issues than can be placed in the rules of the specific discipline. To ensure that stewards and judges are able to make comprehensible and consistent decisions we recommend to involve a FEI veterinarian in the procedure when checking the horse.

***PED Technical Committee:** This has already been brought to discussion at FEI HQ. Suggestion to have an FEI vet in the procedure of checking the horse is a good one. It is a large responsibility on the steward who does the check, and would be good to have a vet there at championships and games at least.*

*This needs to be discussed with the Vet Department. It raises a broader issue and the question will be raised with Vet and Legal departments at HQ. There will be no changes for 2018.*

**ARTICLE 8429.13.8 COMMANDERS AND CALLERS**

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**.

***PED Technical Committee:** clarification*

**USA NF**

**Arena and Exercise Areas** The U.S. recommends that after "may not move around" the following language should be added "but should be allowed to move up and down centre line to a degree if no outside callers are used". It is otherwise very difficult for a blind athlete to 'locate' the caller as experience has shown.

***PED Technical Committee II:** The committee questions whether it is truly more difficult to locate the caller, that if the caller is stationary it is easier to know where they are.*

*It becomes much more difficult for the judges when an additional person is moving around in the arena. Judges need to be able to focus on the horse.*

**Final proposed wording:**

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.**

**ARTICLES 8433.4 / 8448.2 / 8455**

**8433.4** - The Team results **for CPEDIs** are calculated as follows: In all Team Competitions the winning team is the one having the highest combined percentage scores from the Team and **Championship Individual** Tests added together of their three best Athletes, the second placed team is the one with the next highest percentage, and so on. In case of equality of percentages, the winning team is the one (1) whose third placed athlete out of the best three (3) has the best result Team & Championship added together. **For Championships and Games refer to Chapters V and VI Article.**

See also Article 8439.5.2 (Re. Reducing a score of ten (10) penalty percentages per Judge if Athlete is competing in the in the wrong Grade).

**8448.2** - Teams. Each team consists of four Athletes and four (4) Horses, or three (3) Athletes and three (3) Horses. One (1) team member must be classified either Grade I, II or III. A Team may not include more than two (2) Athletes from any one (1) Grade. In a team composed of four (4) Athletes the three (3) best total scores only count for the team result.

3. NFs not entering a team may send up to two (2) individual Athlete/Horse combinations. Each Athlete may only ride one Horse in any Major Championship (as defined in the PE Dressage Rules).

- 8455** - 1. Each Grade rides its own Tests.
2. The order of the Tests will be:
- 2.1. Individual **Championship** Tests - all five Grades. (Open to all Athletes). Individual medals will be given for each Grade.
- 2.2. Team Championship Tests to music – all five (5) Grades. Only open to team Athletes (max. three (3) per NF) selected by the Chef d'Equipe. Team medals will be given based on the results of the Team Championship Test only.
- 2.3. Freestyle Tests - all five Grades. Only open to the top eight (8) Athletes per grade from the Individual **Championship** Test. Freestyle medals will be given for each Grade.
3. The approximate timing of all classes will be decided by the **Foreign** Technical Delegate in conjunction with IPC and the Competition Manager at least two (2) months before the Games. The order of the Grades will be arranged with the aim of not exceeding forty (40) Tests per day. Where possible, Grade I and Grade II Athletes should be separated by a class for other Athletes.
4. The Paralympic Games are held under the same technical rules as all other Para-Equestrian Dressage Events, but with seven (7) Judges in total (judging in groups of five -5-) , a **Foreign** Technical Delegate, an assistant **Foreign** Technical Delegate, a Chief Steward, an Assistant Chief Steward and three (3) members of the Appeal Committee.

#### **NED NF**

At a CPEDI3\* the Team result should be compound at the same way as International Championships and the Paralympic Games (only the result of the Team Test). The total result should be based on the placings of the three best placed athletes per NF, and not the percentages. It shouldn't be possible that for example three team members of one NF (Grade II, IV and V) are the best in their Grade, and another team with a second and a fourth place in Grade I, and a victory in Grade III, that the last team is the winner of the Gold Medal. Especially if you work with two different jury groups.

At a CPEDI3\* the organizer should plan an Individual test, a Freestyle test, and a Consolation test for the athletes that weren't placed for the Freestyle test. Starting order of the Consolation test should be the reversed order of the result of the Individual test. The Grades may be combined where there are less than four (4) entries in either class. Each Grade rides its own Test, and the result is calculated by comparing percentages.

**PED Technical Committee:** *This comment suggests that CPEDI 3\* should have the same format as Championships.*

*Change the scoring for teams - in the past have not agreed that placing reflects team results but that the judging should be across the grades. This is a broader discussion to have at next years in person meeting. This is a big change that needs full consultation in 2018.*

#### **ARTICLE 8435.9**

**Protective Headgear Hats** may not be removed at mounted prize-givings. See also Article 8427.3 (~~removal of hats~~)

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## Chapter III – GROUND JURY, APPEAL COMMITTEE, FOREIGN TECHNICAL DELEGATE, CLASSIFIERS, VETERINARY COMMISSION AND VETERINARY DELEGATE, STEWARDS AND ABUSE OF HORSES

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### ARTICLE 8436.5 GROUND JURY

5.1 For ~~Major Championships (as defined in the PE Dressage Rules)~~ World Equestrian Games and for the Paralympic Games, the Jury must show international representation and the President of Ground Jury and the other members of the Ground Jury must be chosen from the FEI lists of PE 5\* ~~or 4\*~~ Judges appointed by the PE Committee and approved by the Bureau of the FEI.

5.2 For all FEI Championships (except for World Equestrian Games and Paralympic Games) and Regional Games, the President and the other members of the Ground Jury must be appointed by the FEI and chosen from the FEI list of 5\* and 4\* Judges.

*PED TECHNICAL COMMITTEE: To align with AB Dressage*

### ARTICLE 8436.18 FEI APPOINTED FOREIGN JUDGE

The Foreign Judge is appointed by the FEI and acts on behalf of the FEI. No Foreign Judge will be appointed for Events where a Foreign Technical Delegate has been appointed by the FEI.

18.1 The President or a member of a Ground Jury can act as the Foreign Judge if he is of another nationality than from where the international Event is taking place. The role of the Foreign Judge is to work on behalf of the FEI to ensure a Competition is carried out according to the FEI rules and complies with the approved FEI Schedule.

18.2 At FEI Regional Championships and Regional Games, and all CPEDIs the President or a member of the Ground Jury will act as Foreign Judge and will be required to complete a Foreign Judge's Report. The Foreign Judge must be identified in the Schedule and should be whenever possible a 5\* Judge.

*PED TECHNICAL COMMITTEE: The Committee suggest this to align with able-body Dressage and for Clarification of the role.*

### ARTICLE 8437 FOREIGN TECHNICAL DELEGATE

1.1 A Foreign Technical Delegate must be appointed for all ~~Competitions~~ Championships and Games. The OC will appoint the Foreign Technical Delegate, who must be approved by the FEI. FEI will appoint the Foreign Technical Delegate(s) for ~~4\* Events and above~~ Championships and Games.

1.2. A list of Foreign Technical Delegates qualified to officiate at all levels of Events will be maintained by the FEI. The qualifications for such PE Foreign Technical Delegates are as follows: to be a past or present FEI PE/IPEC Dressage Judge or being appointed by the PE Dressage Technical Committee on the grounds of their extensive knowledge of PE and the specific requirements

~~At CPEDI1\* and CPEDI2\* Competitions, the Technical Delegate may also act as the FEI Steward or a Judge providing he meets the minimum criteria defined under Art. 8437.~~

~~At CPEDI3\* Competitions, the Technical Delegate may also act as a Judge providing he meets the minimum criteria defined under Art.8437.~~

#### USA NF

The U.S. fully supports measures that allow flexibility and reduce cost when it comes to Officials. However, the proposed rule changes remove the requirement for a Foreign

Technical Delegate at CPEDI3\* and below. Throughout the rules there is still reference to the Foreign Technical Delegate being responsible for many issues at these shows. The U.S. recommends the Committee consider an alternative where a "Foreign Judge" (not necessarily a TD) be designated at all CPEDs (at least 3\*) to support the President of the Ground Jury. This will also parallel the program used by dressage. The Committee will also need to consider how TDs will get experience if they only are required at Championships and Games. It has been helpful at CPED3\* for a Foreign Judge (TD) to be supportive to the President of the Ground Jury and the Chief Steward.

*PED Technical Committee: The role of the TD was important at lower levels too. FJ to take this role. FJ to support the President.*

## ARTICLE 8438 CLASSIFIERS

1. Classification will be offered at the discretion of the OC/NF and must announced as soon as the event is added into the Calendar of FEI Events (deadlines: refer to calendar rules). Each NF hosting an International Competition must nominate at least one International Event where Classification will be offered.
2. Classification, for **nominated** International Competitions **where Classification takes place**, is carried out in line with the IPC Classification Code by a Classification Panel of two (2) FEI PE Classifiers with at least one (1) classifier being from a different NF to the Athlete. For all CPEDI3\* and above, two (2) FEI PE Classifiers must be present, and one (1) classifier must be from a foreign NF. **The Classifiers must remain until the first appearance of all Classified Athletes.**
3. Classification for Athletes with visual impairment (Profile 36 and 37) must be carried out by a panel of two (2) International Blind Sports Federation (IBSA) Classifiers.  
~~3 A PE Classifier is a Physiotherapist or Medical Doctor who has met all the requirements to be an accredited FEI PE Classifier~~
- 4.1 For Championships and Games, the FEI will appoint one (1) Level 2 Chief Classifier. A second Level 2 Classifier must be appointed by the OC in addition.
- 4.2 At CPEDIs, one (1) Level 2 or Chief Classifier and one (1) Level 1 or above Classifier must be appointed by the OC.

*PED Technical Committee: Clarification and amendment to be in line with new Classification requirements. See also new Classification Rules.*

### USA NF

**8438.1** The U.S. fully supports this rule change. This rule change will allow OCs to offer classification at some shows but not all, which will significantly reduce costs. By posting the scheduled classification opportunities on the FEI calendar, Athletes can plan ahead and schedule accordingly.

**8438.2** This change is supported but it is suggested the following is added at the end of the sentence – "is completed"

*PED Technical Committee: Supports the suggestion by USA NF for Article 8438.2*

### **Final proposed wording (8438.2):**

Classification, for **nominated** International Competitions **where Classification takes place**, is carried out in line with the IPC Classification Code by a Classification Panel of two (2) FEI PE Classifiers with at least one (1) classifier being from a different NF to the Athlete. For all CPEDI3\* and above, two (2) FEI PE Classifiers must be present, and one (1) classifier must be from a foreign NF. **The Classifiers must remain until the first appearance is completed** of all Classified Athletes.

**ARTICLE 8441 STEWARDS**

- 1.1. The Chief Steward is responsible for the organisation of stewarding throughout the Event.
- 1.2. The Chief Steward must ensure that stable security is adequate for the level of Event and that sufficient Stewards are available.
- 1.3. The Chief Steward, the Organising Committee, Ground Jury and Foreign Technical Delegate have 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.
- 1.4. For Championships and Games, the FEI will appoint one (1) Level 3 Chief Steward. Two (2) Level 1 Stewards, or above, must be appointed by the OC in addition.
- 1.5. At CPEDIs, one (1) Level 2 (Chief Steward) and one (1) Level 1 Stewards must be appointed by the OC.
- 1.6. Stewards  
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.  
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.

*PED Technical Committee: clarification which was missing in the Rules so far.*

**USA NF**

The U.S. strongly supports approval of this rule change. This will help the smaller CPEDIs significantly reduce the financial burden

**GBR NF**

Stewards - agreed, but please also refer to notes in Dressage feedback

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**CHAPTER V – WORLD AND CONTINENTAL INDIVIDUAL AND TEAM COMPETITIONS**

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**ARTICLE 8451 TESTS TO BE RIDDEN**

1. Each Grade rides its own Tests.
2. The order of the Tests will be:
  - 2.1. Individual ~~Championship~~ Tests - all five Grades. Open to all Athletes. Individual medals will be given for each Grade.
  - 2.2. Team Tests to music – all five (5) Grades. Only open to team Athletes. Team medals will be given based on the results of the Team Test only.
  - 2.3. Freestyle Tests - all five Grades. Open to the eight (8) best Athletes per grade from the Individual ~~Championship~~ Test. Freestyle medals will be given for each Grade.

**IRL NF**

The IRL NF understand that Art. 8453, Tests to be Ridden were approved and introduced by the FEI late in 2016 and implemented in 2017. We note that Art. 8453 applies to World and Continental Individual and Team Championships. Therefore, the first opportunity of the the practical application of Art. 8453 was tested at the European Championships in Goteborg 2017 as same did not apply to any of the other CPEDI3\* events in 2017. Following the EU Championships, considered the practical application of the Art. 8453 and respectfully request that all athletes should be permitted to ride both Team Test and Individual Test and the combined score from these tests should decide qualification for Freestyle. Individual athletes at the recent European Championships were very unhappy with this new format. The IRL NF respectfully submit that the Team athletes that qualify

for Freestyle have a big advantage over individual athletes as they will have competed twice in the competition arena, allowing familiarisation. The IRL NF would ask that the FEI consider Art.8453 now that the field of play practicalities have been tested.

**ESP NF**

Please take note of our agreement with all changes and inclusions for the 2018 Regulation.

As we were urged during one of the Team Chiefs' meetings during the last Goteborg Europeans, we send you our proposal about whether it would be possible at Championships and Paralympics (Championship and Paralympic Games) that those countries that travel with less than 3 athletes and therefore can not form team, if they could have the opportunity to have a participation more than part of their Individual reprise. That is to say, it is contemplated to make a reprise of consolation of Teams or Freestyle or simply that they can leave equally in the reprise of Teams although this one does not count them to make note of equipment set.

The reason for this is that countries that are making a great effort both economic and logistic, could be in the situation (as has happened with Spain in these Europeans) that they only have the opportunity to go out once on track. There are so many expenses and efforts that are made to attend, that Federations themselves, sponsors or athletes can back down in their decision to participate for this reason. We therefore ask you to consider this proposal.

**ITA NF**

Consolation Category

Now that the rules have been changed we would also like to see the addition of a consolation category for those athletes who do not qualify for the Freestyle. As the rules stand, some of the individual athletes travel far and invest heavily to risk competing in only one category in a Championship.

**PED Technical Committee:** This comment is correct in that conditions are different for Individual athletes and Team Athletes. However, the amount of competition time could also be seen as a disadvantage for Team members who have tired horses. This format was implemented to reduce the number of days for Championships and Games and for clearer structure of the competitions with Individual results giving Individual medals and Team results giving Team medals.

There will be no changes for 2018, this requires further discussion and will be reviewed by the PEDTC in 2018

**Team test to Music**

Specifics for the future on how long should the music be and when would the audio technician start the music i.e. any time when the rider approaches the arena, or on entering the arena etc? Would the rider provide music for trot and a different for canter/walk etc? Will there be specific rules for that in the new proposed rules? These are the questions often asked by riders.

**PED Technical Committee:** More information will be made available for music for the Team Test for 2018, the PEDTC will issue Guidelines.

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## GENERAL

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**GBR NF**

The language and style differs throughout the rules, due to various amends over the years, which could potentially lead to inconsistency. This raises the risk of the overall integrity of the rules being undermined; therefore we would request that the FEI Para-Equestrian Dressage Committee considers a full review and re-write of the rules as a priority.

#### **Additional Comments**

- We would suggest that at championships stabling should be open as a minimum 48 hours before the horse inspection. This is due to the impact on travelling plans and horse welfare when Championships are held at venues that require long distances to be travelled. This will be vitally important for both Tryon and Tokyo for adequate acclimatisation.
- We would also request that the second horse inspection is reconsidered:
  1. For its objective when the judges have the remit to pull a horse deemed unsound
  2. From an equine welfare perspective, in that horses will have competed that day in potentially challenging climates and then rather than rest they have to be represented.
- The format for the second inspection in reverse order by grade was chaotic; if it must remain then we would recommend that it is run by Nation in the same way as the first inspection, which was a much slicker operation.
- It is imperative that a rest day is incorporated into future championships, for the welfare of both horse and rider, as applies in able bodied competition. Severe fatigue was an issue for several athletes in Gothenburg, when riders were required to compete on three consecutive days. This is a particularly critical point for Grade I and II riders.

#### **Other Recommendations / Feedback for 2018**

- We would request that Annex IV includes in the table the number of horses per nation allowed to compete and the order of tests for clarity.
- It is currently unnecessarily complex and discouraging to potentially now have three different formats for Para on the International stage: CPEDI (old format and numbers), Euros and WEG (new format and numbers with the four for the Team competing) and Paralympic Games (new format and numbers but with the three competing for the Team).
- Able bodied disciplines are only reducing their numbers for the Olympic Games, so the same should apply to Para-Equestrian Dressage for consistency, especially in 2018 & 2019.
- It would be much simpler to adopt the same format for all, with clear guidance as to how the quota places will be filled if not every nation fields a team.
- The allocation of spare quota places should also be incorporated into the rules for all championships, not just the Paralympics, so the process is clear and transparent.
- We remain of the view that, with five medals to contest, there should be an opportunity for athletes in all Grades to compete, with a qualification system in place for individuals.
- The format of CPEDIs has not been changed, so it is unclear why the number of athletes should be reduced at championship events in a non-Paralympic year.
- The CPEDI format provides nations with the opportunity to compete more athletes, ensuring that more athletes can compete in at least two of the tests.
- There were ten unused quota places in Gothenburg and there is a concern that the new format will actually discourage some smaller developing nations from sending athletes to Tryon and Tokyo if they are going to compete on only one day.
- If smaller nations do not have enough athletes to field a team, they may have to travel a long distance for one test only, which could result in a further reduction in numbers.

*PED Technical Committee: Good to do full rules revision, but will not be for 2018. Formats, will be discussed in full for 2019 following more reviews and full discussion as previously noted.*

#### **NED NF**

##### **Calendar fee**

Now there is a distribution in so called high and low events. Consider whether there should be an additional distinction for Olympic and non-Olympic (incl para) disciplines. Reduce the number of mandatory officials

We feel that the number of officials required for events could be decreased without negative sport impact. This Official side is costing a lot for OCs.

**Prize scale**

We would like to opt for a minimum prize scale in good relation to the entry fee for CPEDI3\* and higher

**Hilo Drop scoring per movement**

Equal to dressage, The KNHS is pleased that, after three years of insisting, the FEI has taken over this proposal. We strongly advise the FEI to adopt HiLODrop scoring per movement for all FEI dressage competitions, with the exception of Young Horse events and for all juries with 3 judges.

This will have several advantages:

1. The system would also considerably reduce the impact of unacceptable differences between judges that occur regularly (intentionally or unintentionally), also at Major Championships; for example nationalistic or anti-nationalistic judging, difficult views at some movements, or just mistakes of a judge.
2. The final score is a composite of the previously adjusted individual movement scores, and thus provides a better reflection of the quality of the performance.
3. Judges, whose scores were previously scrapped, will no longer be singled out publicly.
4. The system would also remove the need for a JSP, as any inaccuracies in the judging of individual movements will already have been removed.
5. Inexperienced judges get the chance to make mistakes and grow in their position.
6. The public and press will be able return their attention to the sport, instead of focusing on the competence of one or two individual judges, and the so-called poor quality of dressage judging.

Furthermore we would like to advise you to harmonize the rules of all eight disciplines wherever possible. Unity in the rules will create more clarity for all parties involved and will lead to less questions and/or issues in the sport."

**ITA NF**

We would like to see the following Dressage proposal adopted also for Paradressage Championships.

Dressage Rule proposals

Article 434 CLASSIFICATION

HILO DROP SCORING PER MOVEMENT

Recommendation: Adopt HiLoDrop scoring per movement for all FEI dressage competitions, with the exception of Young Horse events and for all juries with 3 judges

***PED Technical Committee:***

**Calendar fee**

The Rule changes have already created a reduction of Stewards, TD and Classifiers needed at competitions for 2018. This has been considered. The Calendar fee is a Rule that is applied across all disciplines with low level at a maximum of 2\* competitions, refer to Appendix E of the FEI General Regulations.

**Prize scale**

Prize money and entry fees are being discussed in other disciplines. This would heighten costs for OCs, as opposed to question above concerning Calendar fee. Costs for prize money changes from country to country, and it would be difficult to find a solution internationally. When a viable solution is found in other disciplines, it can be implemented for PED. PED would potentially lose a number of shows if prize money was mandatory.

**HiLo Drop**

The HiLo Drop is a proposal from the Dressage Judging Working Group, it is not yet implemented in AB Dressage.



The PEDTC's opinion is to follow AB Dressage in terms of HiLo, following appropriate analysis is made in PED.  
JSP - to discuss at the In-Person meeting in 2018 reflect on this issue more.

**CAN NF**

Equestrian Canada supports the proposed changes.

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## OTHER CHANGES WITH NO COMMENTS FROM NFs

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### CHAPTER II – PARA-EQUESTRIAN EVENTS

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#### **Article 8420 Categories of Para-Equestrian Dressage Events**

Removal of the terms CPEDI4\* and CPEDI5\*, use terms Championships and Paralympic Games instead.

~~8420.2.4 Further, there may be an unofficial team Competition at Competitions below the level of CPEDI3\*, with teams made up with Athletes from different NFs and the same or different Grades: for example, three (3) Athletes – all to count, or two (2) Athletes, both to count.~~

#### **8421 Dressage Tests**

Each Grade has its own series of Tests - Novice Test, Team Test, **Championship Individual** Test and Freestyle Test. The Official PE Tests are published by the FEI and can, in no case, be modified.

~~8421.2.2 In Grade II Tests, Athletes compete at walk and trot. Athlete numbers in this Grade should begin with a two (2). **Grade I and Grade II** may be combined where there are less than four (4) entries in either class. Each Grade rides its own Test, and the result is calculated by comparing percentages.~~

~~8421.2.4 The same applies for the FEI PE World Dressage Challenge when this is held.~~

**8422** *Article previously 8425.3 moved to Article 8422.1.4*

**8422.8.2** Horses may not be schooled ~~by the above designated Athlete~~ unless an Official Steward is present.

~~8422.8.11 For International Competitions, PE rules are in force from the beginning of the day before the 2<sup>nd</sup> Horse inspection (the 'Trot Up'), with the exception of the Major Championships (as defined in the PE Dressage Rules), when they are in force from the arrival of the Horses. The Code of Conduct is in force at all times.~~

**8422.9.4** Horses must be identified by a bridle number, **corresponding to the relevant grade**, worn at all times when outside the stable.

~~8423.1.1 **3\* or higher: Team Test.**  
The Novice Test A or B~~

**8423.1.2** 1.2. 3\* Events ~~and above~~: Each Event will comprise of three (3) Dressage Tests for each of the five (5) Grades of Athletes as follows

**8423.4 Substitutions (for Championships and Games only)**

**8423.4.2** For CPEDIs, substitutions must be made according to the Schedule.

~~8425.2~~ ~~Where possible, Grade I and Grade II Athletes should be separated by a class for other Athletes.~~

8425.3 *This article was moved to 8422.1.4*

~~8425.16~~ ~~When the starting lists are completed copies should be given to FEI officials and to the representative of each NF.~~

~~8426~~ ~~Weight~~

~~Refer to FEI GRs and basic welfare principles~~

~~8426.8~~ ~~Earphones and/or other electronic communication devices are strictly prohibited at FEI PE Dressage Events (except for cases as specified in Article 8430.14.3) and such usage is penalised by elimination. Earphones or similar devices are however permitted during training and warm-up.~~

8427.11.1 Any discrepancy will be reported to the Judge at C, ~~and will entail elimination~~, for penalties refer to Article 8429.3.2.

8429.3.1 **“Error of Course”**. Every “error of course”, whether the bell is sounded or not, must be penalised, except as noted above.

First error Zero point five (0.5%) percentage points from the total score (per Judge).

Second error One (1%) percentage point from the total score (per Judge).

Third error Elimination.

8429.11 Eliminations

8429.13.3.2 All Athletes who have been allowed a commander or caller/s as a compensating aid on the FEI Classification Master List are permitted to use a headset during ~~Freestyle tests only~~ all tests.

8431.3 All Half-marks from zero point five (0.5) to nine point five (9.5) may also be used both for movements and collective marks, at the discretion of the Judge. ~~In Freestyle Tests half marks may be used for all marks, and 0.1 decimals for the artistic marks.~~

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**Chapter III – GROUND JURY, APPEAL COMMITTEE, FOREIGN TECHNICAL DELEGATE, CLASSIFIERS, VETERINARY COMMISSION AND VETERINARY DELEGATE, STEWARDS AND ABUSE OF HORSES**

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~~8441~~ ~~Abuse of Horses~~  
~~The FEI GRs refer to abuse of Horses~~

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## Chapter IV – VETERINARY INSPECTIONS AND EXAMINATIONS, MEDICATION CONTROL AND PASSPORTS OF HORSES

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**8442.1** Refer to the FEI GRs and VRs.

**8442.2** All Horses require FEI passports, except for those Horses competing in their country of residence up to and including CPEDI2\* and those competing in Competitions below CPEID2\*. However, these Horses must be registered with ~~their NF~~ **the FEI**, be identifiable by diagram, and have a valid vaccination certificate.

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## CHAPTER V – WORLD AND CONTINENTAL INDIVIDUAL AND TEAM COMPETITIONS

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**8453** **Miscellaneous**

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 PE Dressage Rules, shall give such decisions as they consider will best produce a fair result.

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## ANNEX I - CLASSIFICATION

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**Annex to be removed, Classification Rules to replace Classification Manual.**

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## ANNEX I – INTERNATIONAL PE DRESSAGE JUDGES

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**7.** No Judge may officiate at an Event if his duties will involve a conflict of interest (see FEI GRs). ~~The following persons may not be a member of a Ground Jury at an Event:~~ for full details please refer to Annex VII Codex for Para-Equestrian Dressage Judges.

**Removal of Articles 7.1-7.5**

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## ANNEX II – CATEGORIES OF EVENTS

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Per Diem for Judges, **Chief Steward and Classifiers** in CPEDI3\* and above: EUR 100 per day, as remuneration for miscellaneous costs. This amount is net after relevant taxes being borne by the OC

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## ANNEX VII – CODEX FOR FEI DRESSAGE JUDGES

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The FEI requires that all those officiating in international equestrian sport adhere to the FEI Officials' Code of Conduct (see General Regulations) and to the Codex for FEI Para-Equestrian Dressage Judges hereafter:

3. Activities which will lead to or may lead to a "conflict of interest" when officiating at a CPEDI, include but are not limited to:

- Training a participating Horse/Athlete for more than three days in the twelve (12) month period prior to an Event or any training of a Horse/Athlete during a period of nine (9) months before Paralympic Games, World Equestrian Games, Continental Championships, and three (3) months before any other FEI event.
- ~~Acting as Team chef of National teams at international level or being responsible/co-responsible for selecting teams and/or individuals.~~
- ~~To be owner/part-owner of horses taking part in the Event.~~
- ~~Being in a situation of financial dependence or gaining financial profit from owners, athletes, trainers, OCs or other related persons or organisations.~~
- ~~Having a close personal relationship with an Athlete.~~
- ~~Being a relative of Athletes, owners, part-owners, Chefs d'Equipe or Team Officials.~~
- Nationalistic judging.

4. ~~During a Para-Equestrian Dressage Event a judge has to be punctual and correct in the way of behaviour~~

5.1 Only officiating people are allowed in the Judges' huts.