

PROPOSALS FOR RULES CHANGES OF PARA DRESSAGE RULES

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 next full revision of the Para Dressage Rules will take place in 2021 (to come into force in 2022). For this year's revision process NFs and MOU stakeholders were invited to propose only modifications that fulfilled the following criteria:

1. Urgent repairs, i.e., changes in the Rules that cannot await because of their impact on the welfare of the Horses or the safety of the Athletes;
2. Correction of inconsistencies, manifest errors, contradictions, etc.;
3. New/recently introduced rule that has proven to be problematic in its implementation;
4. Implementation of new technology development(s) relevant to the specific set of Rules;
5. IOC, IPC, WADA, ASOIF and similar organisations' policies' implementation;
6. Other scenarios not foreseen by this Policy as considered and approved by the Board.

In addition, the FEI Headquarters and the Para Equestrian Committee have a number of proposals put forward based also on the above mentioned criteria.

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

A. Rules Proposals received from NFs/MOU Stakeholders by 1 March 2020. 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



Bettina De Rham,

Para Dressage Director

A. Rules Proposals received from NFs/MOU Stakeholders by 1 March 2020

Rules Proposal Submitted By
NED NF
Article No.–Article Name
N/A
Periodical Rules Revision Policy Criteria
This request does not meet the rules revision Policy Criteria as described above.
Explanation for Proposed Change
In Dressage it is compulsory to supply the judges with the floor-plan for the Freestyle Test. In order to have consistency in the rules we propose for the same rule for Para Dressage. This will allow judges and commentators to see if a movement is executed deliberately or it is a matter of an incorrect execution. This could be tried out during the Tokyo Paralympics.
Proposed Wording
N/A
FEI Feedback
This does not meet any of the six criteria to be considered for 2021 and the DOD Freestyle for Para Dressage is not developed yet. This will be considered for the full rules revision for 2022.
FEI Proposed Wording (if applicable)
N/A

Rules Proposal Submitted By
BEL NF
Article No.–Article Name
8430.7.6 Bleeding
Periodical Rules Revision Policy Criteria
This request does not meet the rules revision Policy Criteria as described above.
Explanation for Proposed Change
If the FEI Steward discovers fresh blood anywhere on the horse during the check at the end of the test, the combination must be eliminated. Not just in the horse's mouth or the spurs area.

Proposed Wording

7.6. Bleeding:

7.6.1 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.

7.6.2.1 If the FEI Steward discovers fresh blood ~~in the Horse's mouth or in the area of the spurs~~ during the check at the end of the test (Article 430.9), he informs the Judge at C, who will eliminate the Horse and the Athlete.

~~7.6.2.2 If the FEI Steward discovers fresh blood anywhere else on the Horse's body (i.e. other than the Horse's mouth 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 Chief Steward shall inform 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.~~

7.6.3 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.

FEI Feedback

The PETC would not agree to this change, as the Rule was only changed in 2020 and they did not believe that this change would be fair to the Athletes.

FEI Proposed Wording (if applicable)

N/A

B. Rules Proposals put forward by the FEI

Article No.–Article Name

8427.6 – Dress

Periodical Rules Revision Policy Criteria

Correction of inconsistency

Explanation for Proposed Change

All VI Classified athletes (eligible or not) should wear an armband. This does not apply only for Grades IV and V. This is an inconsistency in the rules.

Proposed Wording

6. An arm band, provided by the Athlete, in a distinctive colour must be worn at all times by ~~Grade IV and V~~ Athletes with classified visual impairment while mounted outside of the Competition.

Article No.–Article Name

8428.1.1.2

Stirrups must have closed branches, and no attachments. Safety stirrups may have an opening on the outside branch. The stirrup leathers must have a release mechanism where they are attached to the saddle. Unless stated on the FEI Masterlist, stirrup leathers must be on the outside of the saddle flap.

Periodical Rules Revision Policy Criteria

Correction of inconsistency

Explanation for Proposed Change

There is an inconsistency with the Stewards Manual and the Rules, where the Stewards Manual states:

“In the interests of safety, the stirrup iron and the stirrup leather (this also applies to safety stirrups) must hang freely from the safety bar of the saddle and the outside of the flap. The Athlete must not directly or indirectly tie any part of their body to the saddlery.”

The PETC would suggest to include the below in the FEI Para Dressage Rules.

Proposed Wording

1.1.2 Stirrups must have closed branches, and no attachments. Safety stirrups may have an opening on the outside branch. The stirrup leathers must have a release mechanism where they are attached to the saddle. Unless stated on the FEI Masterlist, stirrup leathers must be on the outside of the saddle flap and hang freely from the safety bar of the saddle. The Athlete must not directly or indirectly tie any part of their body to the saddlery

1.1.2.1 If athletes are using a strap from stirrup iron or leather to girth they must use safety stirrups as these straps prevent the stirrup leather releasing from the saddle

Article No.–Article Name

Article 8439 – Classifiers

Periodical Rules Revision Policy Criteria

Correction of mistake

Explanation for Proposed Change

Classifiers should be at all CPEDI events, not only in CPEDI3*s, so the contradiction between articles 8439.1 and 8439.3.2 needs to be corrected. The word “nominated” also needs to be removed as this was left from previous years.

Proposed Wording

1. Classification is carried out in line with the IPC Classification Code. For all CPEDI~~3*~~s and FEI Championships, two (2) FEI Para Equestrian 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.

2. 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 and one (1) classifier must be from a foreign NF.

3. The FEI will approve the Classifiers for all ~~nominated~~ Competitions except Major Championships (as defined in the Para Dressage Rules) 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.

3.1 For FEI Championships, the FEI will appoint one (1) Level 2 Chief Classifier and one (1) Level 2 Classifier.

3.2 At CPEDIs, one (1) Level 2 Chief Classifier and one (1) Level 1 or above Classifier must be appointed by the OC.