



Para Equestrian Forum 2022





Day 1 – Developing Para Dressage

18 January 2022





Housekeeping

- The Para Forum sessions will be recorded
- Participants are all muted and have no video
- Please write any questions in the Chat (“To all Panellists”).

These will be answered in the Q&A session following each topic.

- Please use the Chat just for questions.
- During Q&A please “Raise Hand” to ask a question. You can be unmuted by the host to speak.



WELCOME

Amanda Bond

Chair Para Equestrian Technical Committee





Looking back... and forward





Para Dressage from the start

An Overview of the Sport's journey to date

1970's
Para Dressage started in Scandinavia and GBR – riders competed on borrowed horses

1991
INTERNATIONAL PARALYMPIC EQUESTRIAN COMMITTEE FORMED (IPEC)

1987
Para Dressage World Championships held in Sweden – 8 Nations took part

1991
Para Dressage World Championships held in Denmark – 10 Nations took part

1992
DR CHRIS MEADEN'S CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM INTRODUCED

1994
Para Dressage World Championships held in GBR – 16 Nations took part

1996
PARALYMPIC GAMES: Atlanta: 16 Nations on Borrowed Horses

OWN HORSE COMPETITIONS STARTED

PARALYMPIC GAMES: Sydney: 24 Nations on Borrowed Horses

1999
Para Dressage World Championships held in Denmark – 28 Nations took part

2001

Para Dressage World Championships held in Belgium – 33 Nations took part on Own Horses

2003

2007
The first FEI Para Dressage World Championships held in GBR

PARALYMPIC GAMES: Athens: 29 Nations on Own Horses

2004

PARALYMPIC GAMES: Beijing: 28 Nations. The first Games to have 5 Grades

2008

2006

PARA EQUESTRIAN DRESSAGE JOINS FEI

2010

FEI Para Dressage World Games held in Kentucky – 24 Nations took part in first WEG that includes Para Dressage

FEI Para Dressage World Games held in Normandy – 32 Nations took part

PARALYMPIC GAMES: London: 27 Nations

2014

2012

2018

FEI Para Dressage World Games held in Tryon – 24 Nations took part

2016

PARALYMPIC GAMES: Rio: 29 Nations

2020
PARALYMPIC GAMES: Tokyo: 27 Nations

PARA EQUESTRIAN DRESSAGE: A SUMMARY OF KEY MILESTONES & WORLD EVENTS

GLOBAL MEDAL WINNING STANDARDS: BEIJING 2008 – TOKYO 2020 (OWN HORSE – 5 GRADES)



Grade 1

Tokyo 2020

Individual Bronze Medal : 76.96%

Beijing 2008

Individual Bronze Medal : 68.80%



Grade 2

Tokyo 2020

Individual Bronze Medal : 72.76%

Beijing 2008

Individual Bronze Medal : 67.71%



Grade 3

Tokyo 2020

Individual Bronze Medal : 75.76%

Beijing 2008

Individual Bronze Medal : 68.18%



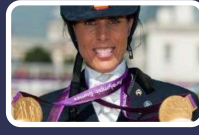
Grade 4

Tokyo 2020

Individual Bronze Medal : 72.85%

Beijing 2008

Individual Bronze Medal : 70.88%
(short arena)



Grade 5

Tokyo 2020

Individual Bronze Medal : 73.40%

Beijing 2008

Individual Bronze Medal : 68.25%



TEAM

Tokyo 2020

Team Bronze Medal : 74.78%

Beijing 2008

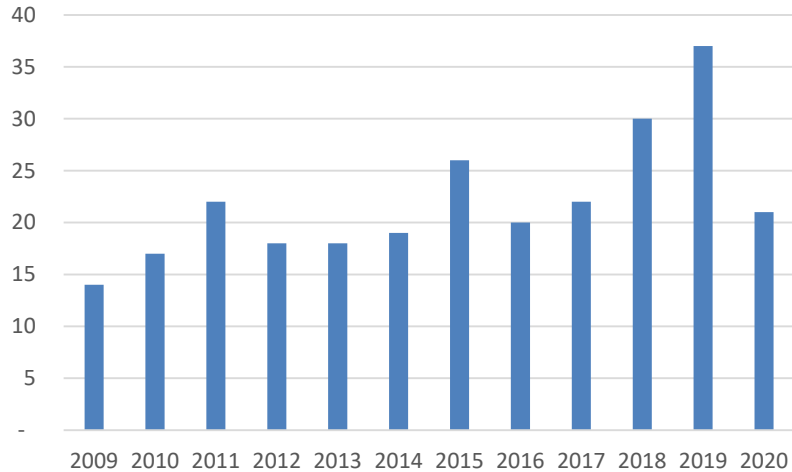
Team Bronze Medal : 67.18%

N.B: Data does not account for increase in technical difficulty and test format changes

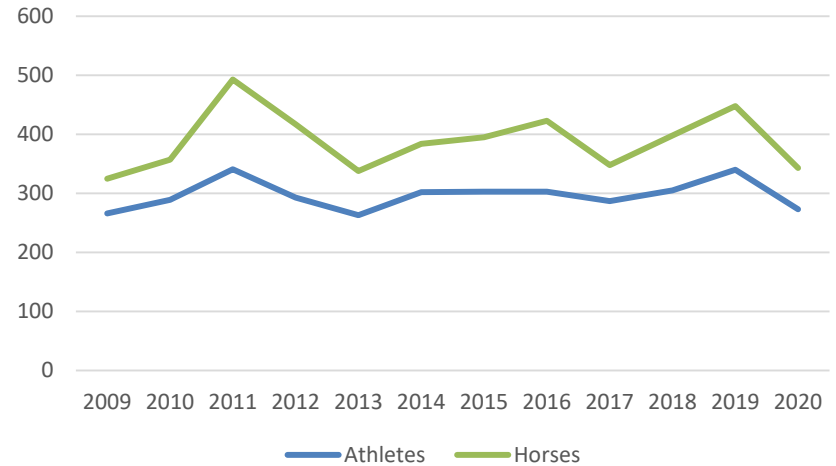


The Global growth in competitions and active competitors: 2008 - 2020

Events



FEI Registrations





And now we look to the Future.....



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FEI Update





Purpose of the 2022 Para Equestrian Forum



Para Dressage in 2022

- Full FEI Para Dressage Rules Revision
- Paralympic Rules Revision
- Update of Officials Education Systems
- Classification Research project deadline
- Compensating Aids Guidelines
- Para Dressage World Challenge



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FEI Para Dressage Rules Revision



Rules Revision Process

January 2022

- FEI Para Equestrian Forum

1 March 2022

- Deadline for NFs to send in rules revision proposals and responses to the Paralympic Survey

April 2022

- FEI Sport Forum

July 2022

- FEI provide first draft of rules changes

August 2022

- NFs have 7 weeks to review draft and provide feedback

October 2022

- Final Draft published for vote at FEI General Assembly

November 2022

- FEI General Assembly



Structure of Rules Book

FEI Para Dressage Rules 2022

Chapter I - Dressage

Chapter II – Para Dressage Events

Chapter III – Officials

Chapter IV – Veterinary Inspections, Control and Passports

Chapter V – World and Continental Championships

Chapter VI – Paralympic Games

Annexes

FEI Para Dressage Rules 2023

Chapter I – Events

Chapter II – Entries and Starters

Chapter III – Competitions, Scoring and Results

Chapter IV – Sanctions

Chapter V – Athletes

Chapter VI – Horses

Chapter VII – Officials

Annexes



Session 2 of Forum – Sport Structure

To consider in day 2:

- Sport structure with progression throughout the levels
- Tests to be ridden at each level – difficulty/type of tests
- Qualification between the levels
- Team competitions (CPEDIOs)



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FEI Para Dressage Tests



Para Dressage Tests – Review Process

Create
Working
Group
01/22

Publish
updated
tests
Date TBC

Tests ridden
by Athletes
Q3-4 2023

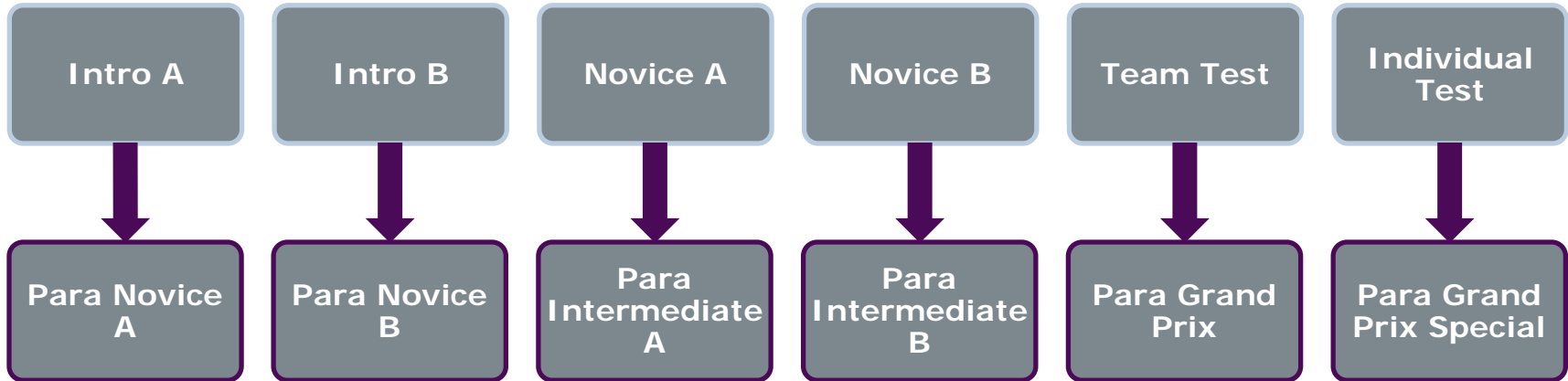
Early 2022
Define minor
required
changes

2023
Define major
changes

2025
Final tests
published



Proposal for New Test Names





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FEI Para Dressage Tests – feedback and review



FEI Para Dressage Tests: The Review of Tests for post Paris 2024

An Opportunity to give feedback



Context for the feedback and discussion

Start with the end in mind:

FEI Article 8401 Object and general principles of Dressage

The object of Dressage is the development of the Horse into a happy Athlete through harmonious education. As a result it makes the Horse supple, loose and flexible, but also confident, attentive and keen, thus achieving perfect understanding with the Athlete.



Context for the feedback and discussion

Start with the end in mind:

IPC:2020_06 Explanatory Guide to Classification Summer Sports

Classification provides a structure for competition. Athletes competing in Para sports have an impairment that leads to a competitive disadvantage. Consequently, a system has been put in place to minimise the impact of impairments on sport performance and to ensure the success of an athlete is determined by skill, fitness, power, endurance, tactical ability and mental focus. This system is called classification.

IPC Vision

To Enable Paralympic Athletes to Achieve Sporting Excellence and Inspire and Excite the World



Context for the feedback and discussion

When considering the tests we must remember that **physical capability** and **technical skill** to perform the movements must not be confused with ‘**talent**’.

When considering the tests we must remember it is only when it impacts on the physical welfare of the rider or the horse that it is beyond the **technical level** of the Grade.



Some thoughts, considerations and questions

Context Summary:

We will look at a summary of each Grade at Team and Individual test level ask for feedback on the following:

- Do the current Team and Individual level tests do this or can we raise the standards higher?
- Have we reached a point where the technical level required has reached its ceiling in terms of what is possible in each Grade when physical impairment to execute the movements is considered?
- Are there any movements in the current tests that are not compatible with the physical capabilities of athletes in terms of the level of impairment within a Grade?
- Linked to the above, are there any movements in the current tests that impact on the development of a 'happy athlete' when considering impairment within the Grades?



Current Grade I (at 3* level)

Walk

- Entrance and halt at beginning/end of test
- Medium walk
- Letting the horse stretch on longer rein in walk
- 8m volte (left and right) in medium walk
- 10 volte (left and right) in medium walk
- 20m circle (left, right and half) in medium walk
- Serpentine in medium walk
- Transitions



Current Grade II (at 3* level)

Walk and Trot

- Entrance and halt at beginning/end of test
- Medium walk
- Letting the horse stretch on a longer rein in walk
- 8m volte (right and left) in medium walk
- Leg yield (right and left) in medium walk
- Working Trot
- 20m circle (half, right and left) in working trot
- Serpentine in working trot
- Change the rein with at least 5 lengthened steps
- Transitions



Current Grade III (at 3* level) Walk and Trot

- Entrance and halt at beginning/end of test
- Letting the horse stretch on a longer rein in walk
- Medium walk
- 8m volte in medium walk
- 10m volte in working trot
- Leg yield in working trot
- Medium trot
- Serpentine in working trot
- Turn on the haunches
- Rein back
- Transitions



Current Grade IV (at 3* level)

Walk and Trot with lateral work, Canter

- Entrance and halt at beginning/end of test
- Walk – medium and extended
- Trot – collected and medium
- Canter – collected and medium
- Counter canter
- Shoulder in, collected trot
- Change of canter lead through 3-5 trot steps
- 5m Loop in collected trot
- 10m loop in collected canter
- 10m volte in collected trot
- Turn on the haunches
- 20m circle in medium canter
- Transitions



Current Grade V (at 3* level)

Walk, Trot and Canter with Lateral work

- Entrance and halt at beginning/end of test
- Walk – collected and extended
- Trot – collected and extended
- Canter – collected and extended
- Counter canter
- Simple change of leg in canter
- Shoulder in
- Half pass
- 8m volte in collected trot
- Half pirouette
- Rein back
- Transitions



Q & A



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Break
10 Minutes





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Para Dressage Education and Officials Update





Revision and update of the FEI Para Dressage Education system

1. The Para Dressage Education Working Group, together with Para Dressage and E & O Departments, draft a working document.
 - Amanda Bond (Chair Para Equestrian TC)
 - Marco Orsini - GER (Course Director General & Para Dressage Judge)
 - Sue Cunningham - AUS (5* Judge)
 - Sarah Leitch - GBR (5* Judge)
 - Juliet Whatley - GBR (Course Director Para Dressage Steward General)
 - Sharyn Gregory - AUS (Course Director, Para Dressage Classifier)
 - Bettina De Rham - FEI (Director Para Dressage)
 - Frank Spadinger - FEI (Director E & O)
2. The final Draft is sent out to the official's stakeholder club to comment.
3. The Technical Committee then reviews it (preferably at an In-Person Meeting) and advices
4. the Discipline Director and E & O Director to approve it.



Timeline

Month	Phase
January – March 2022	Review per function
April – June 2022	Align with the Para Dressage Rules 2023
July – September 2022	Consultation process
October 2022	Approval and publication
January 2023	Effective from the 01.01.2023



Competency-based Evaluation System, also known as “the” C.E.S. in 2 phases

1. Transfer-up phase

Requirements

Education & Examination

Transfer up

2. Maintenance phase

CES Online Assessment

CES Maintenance Course

CES Officiating Review

Maintenance Year and its timeline

- From 15 December to 31 March is the transition period
- From 31 March to 15 December is the regulated period



The biggest change for 2022:

There will be no more Groups - A or B, and all officials will follow the same unified process

CES Online Assessment:

- be taken by every Official, every year
- in one single place – Dashboard on FEI Campus
- modular architecture
 - General modules
 - Function specific modules
- A “not passed” result after two attempts, puts the function ON HOLD &...that’s NEW... It triggers a CES Interview assessment



CES Maintenance Course

- In-person format (IPMC) or virtual format (VMC)
- **Practical Assessments** with specific evaluations adapted to each discipline. These can be conducted through:
 - Evaluation of case studies,
 - Interactive role plays,
 - E-judging or Field Practices.

A “not passed” result, puts the function ON HOLD &...that’s NEW... It triggers a **CES Interview** assessment

For more information <https://inside.fei.org/fei/your-role/officials/ces>



When is MY next CES Maintenance Course scheduled?"

Last "passed" IPMC or Transfer-up in...	2022	2023	2024
2017 - 2018			
2019			
2020 - 2021 (with EVMPs)			



Q & A



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Break
20 Minutes





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Developing Para Dressage



Previous Forum Outcomes

Barriers:

- Funds
- Suitable Horses
- Skilled Coaches
- Big jump between RDA/National to International
- NF doesn't know how to set up Para Dressage

Solutions:

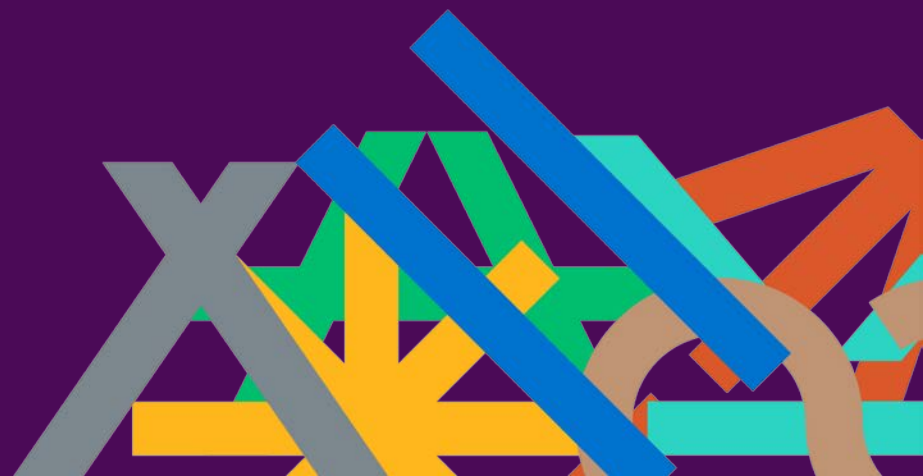
- Education
- FEI Solidarity events and Coaching course
- Funds for Officials
- Mentoring
- Borrowed Horses
- Grouped Events with CDIs



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FEI World Para Dressage Challenge





Create a World Para Dressage Challenge

The FEI has already the following four World Challenges:

- Jumping
- Dressage
- Vaulting, which has been implemented in 2020
- Eventing, pilot project to be launched in 2022



The aim of FEI World Challenges

- Good pathway from National to International events:
 - ⇒ Allow a smooth transition/progression from National to International level for the athletes as well as the NFs/OCs and an opportunity for National Officials to gain experience.
- Create opportunities in developing Nations and a starting point
- Different levels within the Challenge ex:
 - Beginner (as an introduction to the discipline / accessible to new athletes)
 - Intermediate (to motivate athletes in their progression)
 - Advanced (a step just before the first International level)
- Different Para Dressage tests to be performed



Vaulting/Dressage Challenge Format

VAULTING	
3 Levels:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beginner Intermediate Advanced
5 Classes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beginner Individual Intermediate Individual Intermediate Pas-de-Deux Advanced Individual Advanced Pas-de-Deux
2 Tests per class:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compulsory Test Free Test
Officials:	2 Judges - PGJ must be FEI FJ

DRESSAGE	
5 Classes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intermediate I Prix St Georges Senior II Senior I Youth
5 Tests:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intermediate I & PSG Tests Senior II = FEI Junior Team Competition Test Senior I = FEI Children Individual Competition Test Youth = FEI Children Team Competition Test
2 Age Categories:	Senior (16 yrs and above) / Youth (12 to 16yrs old)
Officials:	2 Judges - PGJ must be FEI FJ



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FEI World Para Dressage Challenge proposed format



Proposed format

Beginner

- New set of tests to be created
- Athletes can even be new in the Sport
- National events can be organised at the same time

Intermediate

- New set of tests to be created
- Level to be defined
- National events can be organised at the same time

Advanced

- Set of tests to be defined
- The Level will be the last step before jumping it to the new CPEDI1*
- National events can be organised at the same time

Classification

- All athletes to be classified by FEI Classifier(s)
- Using the FEI Classification system
- Developing and/or helping creating National system



Provisional Timeline for Para Dressage Challenge implementation

Early 2022
Creation of
Working Group
(Para Dressage Committee
/ Department & FEI
Solidarity)

Creation of Tests
by the Test
Working Group

2023
Implementation
of WCHA-PD
series

Format & Rules
Creation

1st December
2022 NF
application
process

Sep-Oct 2023
Year one
evaluation of
the format and
NF feedback for
2024 updates



FEI Solidarity – other tools





Other FEI Solidarity tools currently available for Para Dressage:

- **Coach Education Programme**
 - ⇒ Ongoing Education for practicing National Coaches wishing to improve their knowledge and skills
 - ⇒ Introduction to Para Dressage Coaching module on FEI Campus - An overview of the discipline and coaching for people interested in taking part in a Level 1 Coaching course
- **Athletes Scholarship (Financial Assistance)**
 - ⇒ Ongoing training for individual Athletes the most in need to prepare at private stables, at home or in Training Centres in the best conditions, participation at Regional/Continental Championships & Games
- **Athletes Training (Financial Assistance)**
 - ⇒ To assist NFs to specifically prepare a Team & Individual Athletes with a national coach (Level 3) for Regional/Continental Championships & Games
- **Therapeutic Riding to Para-Dressage Sport (Financial Assistance & Technical Expert support)**
 - ⇒ To give physically handicapped Persons (Youth, Adults) access to Para-Equestrian sport via specific programmes



FEI Solidarity Programme Information & Application Process

- The various programmes are available to National Federations members of the FEI
- Full details available on our website under:
<https://inside.fei.org/fei/solidarity>



Q & A



Summary of Day 1

Next Session:

19 January

12:00 – 15:00 CET





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THANK YOU

