



FEI™ VAULTING

**RULES 2024 + QUALIFICATION CRITERIA 2024
GUIDELINES 2024**

**ONLINE OPEN FORUM
2nd February 2024**

AGENDA

- FRIDAY February 2nd, 2024

15:00 Introduction & Welcome

- » Pavla Krauspe - Chair of FEI Vaulting Technical Committee + VTC members

Rules and Guidelines 2024

- » Pavla Krauspe - Chair of VTC + VTC members

Training approach of Vaulters

- » Lambert Leclezio - Member of Technical Committee

Training of Vaulting Horse

- » Lise Berg - Member of Technical Committee

18:00 End of the Forum

Short break after each session

How to participate

During the meetings, when the floor is open, use the chat window to put forward your questions. The chat will be moderated by FEI HQ and questions will be answered during the Q&A session after each presentation.

You can also use Raise Hand  in the Participants panel to request the floor.

FEI Vaulting Committee and Department

FEI Vaulting Department

- Ronan Murphy FEI Director of Dressage, Para Equestrian and Vaulting
- Laetitia Gilliéron FEI Vaulting Sports Manager
- Thya Moritz FEI Education Administrator

FEI Vaulting Technical Committee (VTC)

- Pavla Krauspe (SVK) Chair VTC, FEI Board Member
- Dietmar Otto (GER) Deputy Chair VTC
- Alejandra Orozco (MEX) Member VTC
- Anna Anderson (SWE) Member VTC
- Lise Berg (DEN) Member VTC
- Lambert Leclezio (FRA) Member VTC – Athlete representative

2024 Vaulting Rules - Effective date January 1, 2024

- **Rules change Timeline:**

- **1 March 2023**

- NF/Stakeholders have the opportunity to propose Rules changes – also **IVOC or EEF etc.**

- **28 June 2023**

- FEI provides National Federations and Stakeholders with the **first draft of proposed Rules changes.**

- **16 August 2023**

- NF/Stakeholders were given seven weeks to review the first Draft. They make comments and/or propose any changes **in relation to the amendments referenced in the first Draft only**

2024 Vaulting Rules - Effective date January 1, 2024

- **Rules change Timeline:**

- **24 October 2023**

- Final Draft of the proposed Rules changes to be provided to NF/Stakeholders

- **20 November 2023**

- FEI General Assembly Rules Session

- **21 November 2023**

- Voting of Vaulting Rules 2024 at the FEI General Assembly

2024 Vaulting Guidelines

- Effective date - January 15, 2024

- **Guidelines Timeline and Approval process:**
 - **New as of 2023**
 - Final version 2024 must be approved by FEI Board (14 December, 2023)
 - Each change is subject to FEI Board approval
 - **14 September 2023**
 - Published Draft version
 - **30 October 2023**
 - Feedback from NF to FEI
 - **6 November 2023**
 - Finalization of Guidelines at in-person VTC meeting (including Seminar in Salzburg conclusions)
 - **14 December 2023**
 - Approval of the FEI Board



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2024 Vaulting Rules – STARTING POSIBILITIES, Art 702



Intention:

- More opportunities for horses to get experience at „right level“.
- Supporting newly introduced Qualification criteria for Championships for Horses.

2024 Vaulting Rules – STARTING POSIBILITIES, Art 702

Vaulters 1* and 2* = 2 starts each start with different horse

- 2x in 1* or
- 2x in 2* or
- 1x in 1* + 1x in 2*
- **Plus** opportunity for **1* vaulters** to compete **one more time** on the same horse to earn **qualification score** if qualification from 1* to 2* is possible based on the schedule.

Vaulters 3* = 2 starts each start with different horse

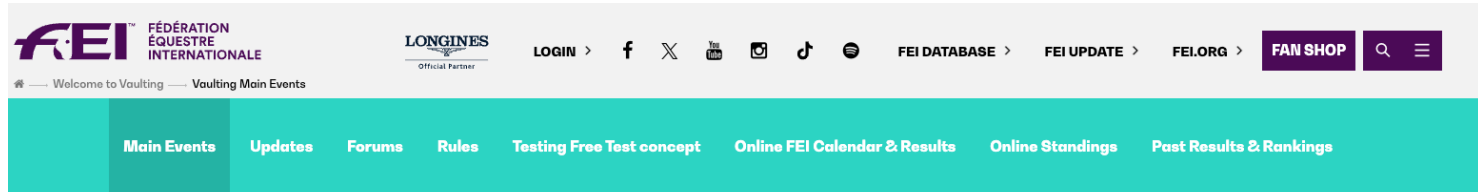
- 2x in 2* or
- 2x in 3* or
- 1x in 2* + 1x in 3*

NUMBER OF STARTS CAN BE LIMITED IN THE SCHEDULE.

2024 Vaulting Rules – QUALIFICATION, Art 703



Qualification Criteria to the FEI Championships 2024



FEI Championships



Qualification Criteria for 2024



Valid for FEI Vaulting Championships 2024

Seniors (click [here](#)) - published 07 December 2023

Juniors and Young Vaulters (click [here](#)) - published 07 December 2023

Video Judging Guidelines - Qualification for 2024 FEI Vaulting Championships can be consulted [here](#)

2024 Vaulting Rules – SALUTE, Art. 714

5. Immediately after salute, before exiting the competition circle, The Vaulters(s) and the Lunger, together with the Horse, must Salute the Judge at A from the centre of the Competition circle. ~~†The side reins may be unfastened before the Final Salute from the centre of the Competition circle or-~~ At the latest, the reins must be unfastened immediately upon exiting the competition circle, and failure to do so will entail a Warning from the Steward.

ENTRY SALUTE



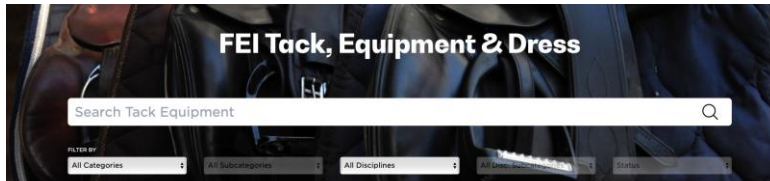
FINAL SALUTE



2024 Vaulting Rules – EQUIPMENT, Art 719

Article 719 EQUIPMENT

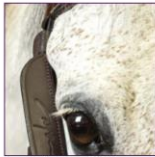
1. All equipment must be used without changing the purpose of its manufactured state. The use of any other equipment than described below, may entail elimination. [Please also refer to the FEI Tack, Equipment and Dress Database or the FEI TackApp.](https://tack.fei.org)



Recently Updated



Micklem Bridle with bit clip



Other type of blinkers



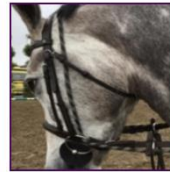
Rope Reins



Items or changes added to bits



Auxiliary Reins



Abdullah reins



SEE MORE



Draw reins



SEE MORE

<https://tack.fei.org>

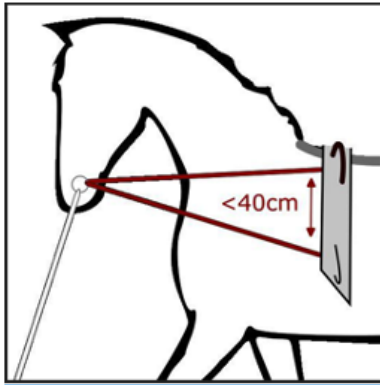
2024 Vaulting Rules – EQUIPMENT, Art 719



2024 Vaulting Rules – EQUIPMENT, Art 719

2.5 Either two side reins, or Draw reins, are permitted. Draw reins are attached from the surcingle through the bit rings back to the surcingle on the same side. The distance between the two attached points (top and bottom) on each side of the surcingle must not be greater than 40 centimeters. The draw reins must be adjustable only as per manufacture and any homemade modification of the adjustments of the draw reins (for example making a knot) is not permitted. (Standing reins or auxiliary reins are not permitted).

*pictogram of allowed draw reins:



2024 Vaulting Rules – SQUAD FREE TEST, Art. 737

Squad 1*	Squad 2* & 3*
	
4 min.	4 min.
⋮	⋮
↓	↓
3 min.	3.30 min.
NO Triple exercises	Triple exercises not compulsory
	Triple exercises no more than 1/3 of Free Test

2024 Vaulting GUIDELINES



PAS-DE-DEUX

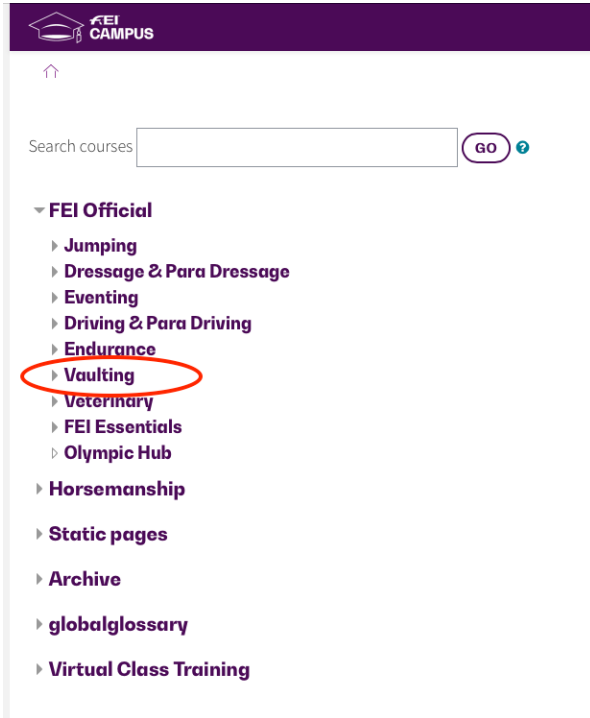
**No degree of
difficulty for 1***



SQUAD

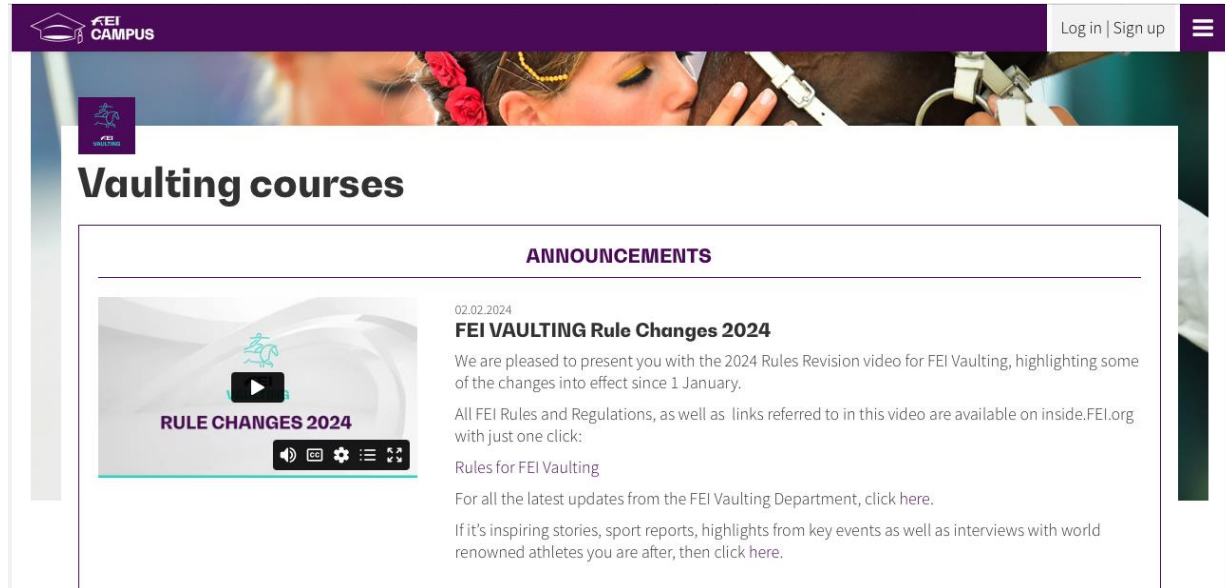
**No triple exercises
performed in 1***

Summary of changes at <https://campus.fei.org/course/>



The screenshot shows the FEI Campus website navigation menu. The 'Vaulting' link is circled in red. The menu includes the following items:

- FEI Official
 - Jumping
 - Dressage & Para Dressage
 - Eventing
 - Driving & Para Driving
 - Endurance
 - Vaulting**
 - Veterinary
 - FEI Essentials
 - Olympic Hub
- Horsemanship
- Static pages
- Archive
- globalglossary
- Virtual Class Training



The screenshot shows the FEI Vaulting courses page. The page features a purple header with the FEI Campus logo and a navigation menu. The main content area is titled 'Vaulting courses' and includes an 'ANNOUNCEMENTS' section. The announcement is dated 02.02.2024 and is titled 'FEI VAULTING Rule Changes 2024'. It includes a video player with the title 'RULE CHANGES 2024' and a play button. The text of the announcement reads: 'We are pleased to present you with the 2024 Rules Revision video for FEI Vaulting, highlighting some of the changes into effect since 1 January. All FEI Rules and Regulations, as well as links referred to in this video are available on inside.FEI.org with just one click: Rules for FEI Vaulting For all the latest updates from the FEI Vaulting Department, click here. If it's inspiring stories, sport reports, highlights from key events as well as interviews with world renowned athletes you are after, then click here.'



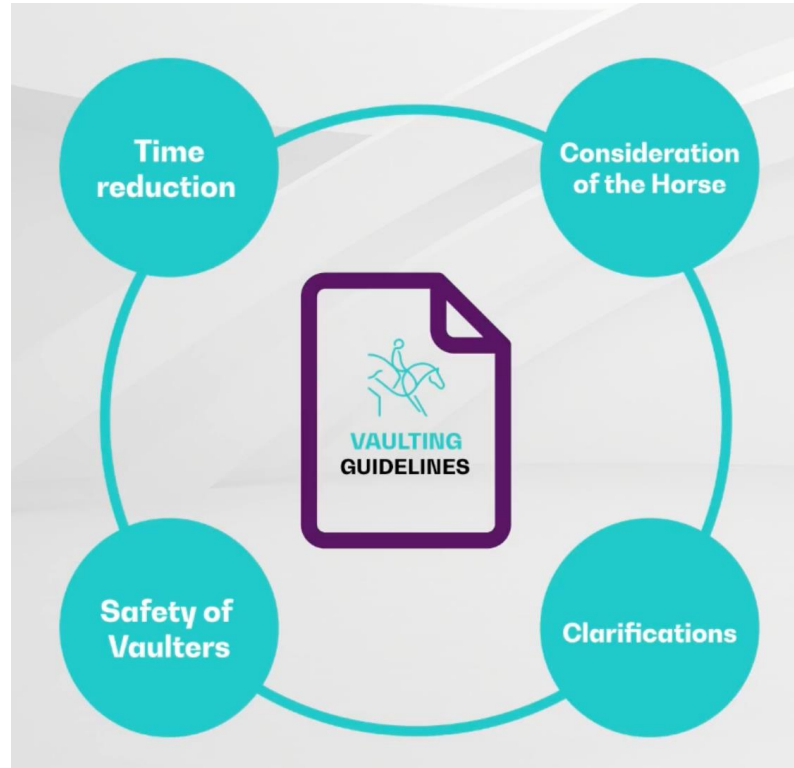
FEI™ VAULTING

GUIDELINES 2024

ONLINE OPEN FORUM

2nd February 2024

2024 Vaulting Guidelines – Main objectives



2024 Vaulting Guidelines – Main changes

- **Horse score:**
 - **Assessment of Trot round** – no deductions in A3 when the trot round is interrupted by other pace
 - **A2 Score** – Vault ability of the horse divided in to 3 separate scores
 - Willingness and obedience (50%)
 - Balance in tempo (25%)
 - Balance in circling (25%)
- **Compulsory score:**
 - Swing forward and Swing Backward are now without specification of legs

2024 Vaulting Guidelines – Main changes

- **Free test:**
 - **Degree of Difficulty:** No DoD in PDD/Squad competition 1*
 - **Artistic**
 - New score Consideration of the Horse (CoH) – All classes
 - New requirements in C1 considering level of each category– All classes
 - More detailed description of C2 – Squad and PDD classes
 - New C3 score description – Unity of Composition – All classes
 - New Percentage for CoH, C1, C2, C3, C4 - All classes
 - **SQUAD 2*/3* DO NOT REQUIRE A TRIPLE EXERCISES**

2024 Vaulting Guidelines – A3

Salute

For correct salute, the Horse should show good behaviour, stand quietly and straight in relation to judge at A from the halt during the salute. The Horse must stand square. The lunger and Vaulters salute judge at A, who returns the salute.

The salute should be performed within the first 30 sec.

Assessment of trot (trot round)

2.5.2. Trot Round

While the Vaulters(s) leave the centre of the circle, the lunger should direct the Horse to move straight onto the line of the circle with a tight and untwisted lunge line. ~~They may lead the Horse onto the circle, however this will earn a lower score. It is allowed to lead the Horse onto the circle, however this will earn a lower score.~~ The circle should be no smaller than 15 m. in diameter. With no undue delay upon reaching the 15 m. circle, at the aids of the lunger the Horse should move into working trot, and the Horse must trot on the circle until judge at A signals with the bell. After the bell and with no undue delay, at the aids of the lunger the Horse should make a smooth transition into canter. Before the canter transition, a short halt or walk strides are allowed.

At the aids of the lunger, the Horse must show a minimum of a quarter round of working trot with a clear two-beat trot rhythm, to be assessed by the judges. It is permitted for the Horse to halt, walk, and/or canter before showing the trot round. The Judge at A signals to the Lunger when the Horse is assessed fit to compete.

After the bell, at the aids of the lunger the Horse should make a smooth transition into canter. Before the canter transition, a short halt or walk strides are allowed. At the latest 30 sec after the bell, the first exercise must be commenced. Within the 30 sec, adjustment of equipment (e.g. length of side reins) is allowed.

The Horse is scored during the entry, salute and assessment of the trot.

If the performance has not commenced at the time limit, Judge at A may ask the lunger to start.

2024 Vaulting Guidelines – A3 - deductions

Deductions for A3 (regarding Entry, Salute and Trot Round)

	Deduction
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minor interruption (minor disobedience/reaction from the Horse, salute not centred, Horse not standing straight/still, etc.) 	0.1-0.2 points
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Medium</u> interruption (medium disobedience/reaction from the Horse, circle not entered in trot, lunge line and equipment not tidy, inappropriate use of aids, Horse canters <1 round before or during trot round, etc.) • 	0.2-0.5 points
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major interruption (major disobedience/reaction from the Horse, Horse stopping, Horse running, trot round <u>clearly</u> too small or not even, etc.) • The lunger uses excessive time after the salute before showing the trot round (slow to reach the circle, slow to transition to trot, canters >1 round before or during trot, etc.) • The lunger leads the Horse onto the circle after the salute 	0.5-1 points
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The lunger does half a circle or moves around the arena before he/she and the Horse arrive at the centre of the circle 	1 point

2024 Vaulting Guidelines

- Horse score
 - 2.1. General

~~The overall aim of training is to develop a Horse that is "Through" (Durchlässigkeit), and willing and able to immediately on the lunge's aids without the slightest resistance or hesitation.~~

Canter of a Vaulting Horse

~~The Horse goes forward in a canter with obvious impulsion from the hindquarters to develop the muscles towards the collected canter with an uphill tendency and accurate engagement of the hindquarters."~~

The Horse goes forward in a canter with energetic strides, clear impulsion from the engaged hindquarters, easy soft connection through the body, supple lifted back, lightness of the forehand, clear uphill tendency with a flexible mobile neck, the nose at or slightly in front of the vertical, and the poll as the highest point

2.2. Quality of Canter and ~~Throughness~~ (Quality of Training)

2024 Vaulting Guidelines

Quality of Canter and Thoroughness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rhythm: Regularity, energy, equal length of strides, clear 3-beat, clear moment of suspension. • Relaxation: Relaxation and suppleness through the whole body of the Horse. Relaxed swinging back. Relaxed neck. Positive muscle tone. • Connection: Bridge of engagement. Flexed back and engaged core. Energy from hindquarters flow through the body to a soft and flexible connection on the side reins and lunge line. <u>Nose line at or slightly in front of vertical.</u> • Impulsion: Self carriage with elastic steps, suppleness, and engagement of hindquarters. Energy created with the hind legs well underneath Horse's centre of gravity (carrying, not pushing). Lifting of forehead (uphill tendency) and lowering of croup. • Straightness: 'Relative' straightness on the circle line. Hind legs follow footfalls of front legs. Body is vertical. The Horse is aligned with the circle line through the whole body. • Collection: Lowered, engaged hindquarters and croup. Shortening and narrowing of base of support resulting in lightness and mobility of the forehand. Whole top line is stretched. Shorter, powerful, energetic strides. <table border="1" data-bbox="956 380 1593 532"> <thead> <tr> <th>Rhythm 10 %</th> <th>Relaxation 10 %</th> <th>Connection 10 %</th> <th>Impulsion 10 %</th> <th>Straightness 10 %</th> <th>Collection 10 %</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Rhythm 10 %	Relaxation 10 %	Connection 10 %	Impulsion 10 %	Straightness 10 %	Collection 10 %							A1	60 %
	Rhythm 10 %	Relaxation 10 %	Connection 10 %	Impulsion 10 %	Straightness 10 %	Collection 10 %									
Vault Ability of the Horse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Willingness and /obedience: <u>Comfortable. Harmony and lightness. Alert and responsive to the lunger's aids.</u> –No resistance or hesitation. Alert and responsive to the lunger's aids. Harmony and lightness. • Balance in tempo (forth/back): Constant correct pace, tempo, and energy without speeding up or slowing down. • Balance in circling (in/out): Constant circle of min. 15 m. diameter without falling in or out. <table border="1" data-bbox="937 679 1613 744"> <thead> <tr> <th><u>Willingness and obedience</u> 50 %</th> <th><u>Balance in tempo</u> 25 %</th> <th><u>Balance in circling</u> 25 %</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p data-bbox="937 744 1613 788">Deductions: see listed below</p>	<u>Willingness and obedience</u> 50 %	<u>Balance in tempo</u> 25 %	<u>Balance in circling</u> 25 %				A2	25 %						
<u>Willingness and obedience</u> 50 %	<u>Balance in tempo</u> 25 %	<u>Balance in circling</u> 25 %													
Lunging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The lunging should reflect an easy and effortless collaboration and communication between the lunger and the Horse. Correct and discrete use of aids. Correct position and posture. Appropriate dress. Well-adjusted equipment. • Entry, salute, and trot round: Should be performed in a smooth flow from entering the arena, till striding off into canter and till the Vaultler touches the Horse. <p data-bbox="937 947 1613 998">Deductions: see listed below</p>	A3	15 %												

2024 Vaulting Guidelines – A2

- Horse score
 - 2.3. Vault Ability of the Horse – each criteria has a **separate Reference score**

2.3. Vault Ability of the Horse (execution)

The Horse must give the impression of carrying out the Test of its own accord and stay in true balance and self-carriage. There is a picture of harmony and lightness throughout the Test.

2.3.1. Willingness and/obedience

The Horse ooks comfortable and is working with lightness and harmony and no sign of resistance. The Horse is focused on the lunger's aids, constantly alert to the lungers signals and responding instantly with no hesitation to discrete aids. No adverse reactions or reluctance to perform (e.g. signs of stress, teeth grinding, tail swishing, etc.)

2.3.2. Balance in tempo (forth/back)

The Horse is working with constant pace, tempo and energy without speeding up or slowing down-down in response to external factors.

2024 Vaulting Guidelines – Swing backwards

4.2.9. Swing Backward ~~legs open~~, followed by dismount to the inside

Essence:

Harmony with the Horse
Quality of Movement
Body Control & Posture

Mechanics:

The Swing Backward ~~legs open~~, followed by dismount to the inside is a dynamic exercise and comprises 5 biomechanical phases:

Deductions:

Up to 1 point	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deviations from described Dismount to the inside
1 point	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Legs are not open at the highest point

2024 Vaulting Guidelines – Swing forward

4.2.14. Swing forward ~~legs-closed~~

Essence:

Harmony with the Horse
Quality of Movement
Body Control & Posture

Mechanics:

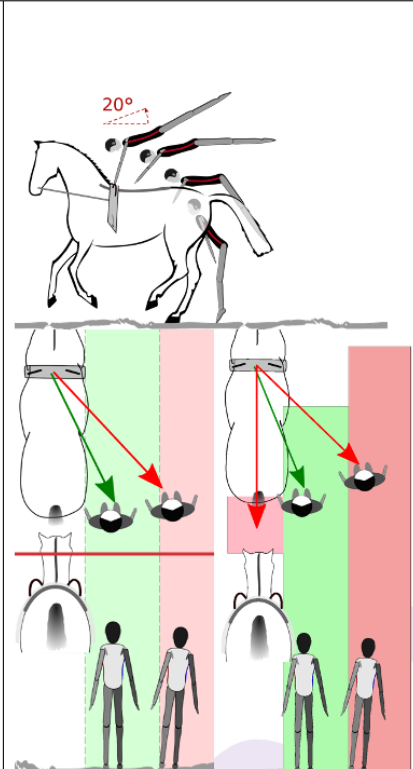
The Swing Forward ~~legs-closed~~ is a dynamic exercise and comprises 4 biomechanical phases:

1. Energy Phase starts in seat astride and includes the backswing
2. Swing and Stem phase starts when the body loses contact with Horse and the hands are the only point of contact
3. Lowering phase starts at point of maximum elevation
4. Landing Phase starts when touching the Horse (with legs, pelvis), ends in seat astride

1-point	● — Legs are not closed at the highest point
----------------	--

2024 Vaulting Guidelines – Swing off from seat astride

- Reference score 6



- At the end of the Stem Phase, medium arm extension AND angle between upper body and horizontal: 20°
- Pushing off at the horizontal or later
- Medium irregularity in fluidity
- Body Control / Posture: Medium deviations in the posture of the spine (hollow back), shoulders or hips (not parallel to the shoulderline of the Horse), not in line with longitudinal axis of the Horse
- Touching the pad during the flight phase
- Landing: Vaulter lands farther to the outside of the Horse than correct or behind the horse

2024 Vaulting Guidelines – minor clarifications

- Clarification about releasing the handles in Free Test
 - The free test mount-on is scored with a deduction for repetition:
 - when the Vaulters loses contact with the Horse before the end of the jump phase. (taking and releasing the handle).
 - Deduction of 2 points will be deducted from the performance of mount-on. The deduction needs to be given for each occasion.
- Minor description changes in Stand and Backward stand
- Minor clarification in Scissor backward

2024 Vaulting Guidelines – minor clarifications

A - Arms	KZ - Knees	SA – Changes of Supporting Area <u>SC – Scope</u>
AB - Arched Back	L - <u>Poor</u> Landing	<u>SC - Scope</u> SH – Shoulders
AL - Alignment	LA - Legs Apart	<u>SH - Shoulders</u> SI – Side Seat
<u>AS - Absorption</u>	<u>LD - Late Dismount</u>	<u>SI - Side Seat</u>
B - Balance	LD – Late Dismount	SL - Slow
<u>CH - Chin</u>		
CO - Collapse	LF - Legs Forward	SP - Suppleness
CS - Chair Seat	LH - Lands Heavily	ST - Step(s)
CT - Control	LT - Late Turn	SX - Stretch
D - Dismount	LZ - Legs	TD - Twisted
DL - Down Leg	MX - Mechanics	TH- Touched Horse
<u>DW – Distribution of Weight</u>		
E - Elevation	NC - Not Clear of Horse	TI - Turned In
FH - Front High	OC - Off Center	TL - Tilting
FK - Frog Kick	OH - Off Horse	TW - Time Wasted
FL - Flight	P - Posture	TZ - Toes
<u>FP – Flight Phase</u>	<u>PB - Push Back</u>	
FT - Feet	<u>PD - Pad</u> PB – Push Back	UE - Uneven Elevation
H - Head	<u>PE - Pelvis pushed up</u> PD – Pad	UR - Uneven Rhythm
HA - Handles	PK - Pike	UW - Uneven Width
HH - Hit Horse	PT - Partial Turn	W - Wrap
HM - Harmony	<u>PO – Pushing of the Horse</u> Q – Quick	X - Extension
HZ - Hands	<u>Q - Quick</u> RB – Rounded Back	
INT - Interruption	<u>RB - Rounded Back</u>	

2024 Vaulting Guidelines – SQUADS FREE TEST

5. FREE TEST

5.1. Requirements of the Free Test

Squad Free Test 1

A Squad Free Test 1 apply to all Squads 1* and may include single and, double and triple exercises. There is no Degree of Difficulty score for Squads Free test 1, with a maximum of 6 static triple exercises. 20 free style exercises will be considered in the Degree of Difficulty

Squad Free Test 2

A Squad Free Test 2 apply to all Squads 2* (junior, senior) and 3* and includes single, double and triple exercises. 25 free style exercises will be considered in the Degree of Difficulty for Senior Squads and 20 free style exercises for Junior Squads. Triple exercises are limited by the time allowed. For detail see article 5.4.9.

Individual Free Test

An Individual Free Test includes static and dynamic exercises. 10 Free style exercises will be considered in the Degree of Difficulty.

Pas-de-Deux Free Test 1

The Pas-de-Deux Free Test includes single mounts, single dismounts and double exercises. During the performance, both Vaulters must remain in contact with the Horse, the handles or each other (except for free jumps). Single exercises on the Horse are not scored in the Degree of Difficulty. For Pas de Deux 1*, there is no Degree of Difficulty score. For 2* Juniors, 10 Free Test exercises will be considered in the Degree of Difficulty.

2024 Vaulting Guidelines – FREE TEST - ARTISTIC %

Individual /Pas De Deux/Squads

	1*	2*	3*
■ CoH – Consideration of the Horse	20%	20%	20%
■ C1 – Variety of Exercises	25%	20%	10%
■ C2 – Variety of Positions	20%	10%	10%
■ C3 – Unity of Composition&Complexity	20%	25%	30%
■ C4 – Music interpretation	15%	25%	30%

C1 - individuals

Free Test - Structure Score - 1*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
L-S-K-H	Flexibility	Support	Standing	Standing		Swing	Turn		
		Backbend	Heads UP	Heads Down			Rotation		

Free Test - Structure Score - 2*/3

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
L-S-K-H	Flexibility	Support	Standing	Standing	Jump	Swing	Turn	Ground jump In OR Out	D Dismount OR Mount
		Backbend	Heads UP	Heads Down			Rotation		

CoH - Consideration of the Horse, and Harmony with the Horse

Goal/Context of CoH

- Assess the vaulters' influence on the quality of the horse's canter, the precision of the circle line, and the well-being and physical integrity of the horse.
- This assessment is closely tied to the concepts of aesthetics and the overall quality of artistic presentation in our equestrian sport.
- This is why the decision was made to elevate 'Harmony with the horse' from a criterion within the C3 box, alongside other criteria, to a full-fledged artistic criterion (CoH) accounting for 20% of the score in every category (Individual, PdD, Squad).

4 criteria :

1. Weight
2. Composition
3. Balance
4. Contact - Liaison - Collaboration (CLC)

CoH - Consideration of the Horse, and Harmony with the Horse

5.4.2. CoH – Consideration of the Horse, and Harmony with the Horse

- Consideration of the Horse, and Harmony with the Horse addresses the partnership between the Vaulters and the Horse.
- Reference scores address how the Vaulters adapt to the training level and the current physical / mental / emotional state of the Horse.
- For Squads: If triples are included, it is recommended that triples do not exceed more than 1/3 of the time of the Free Test.

CoH - Consideration of the Horse, and Harmony with the Horse

- CoH is currently only in the Free Tests
- CoH will be incorporated into the Technical Test in 2025 Guidelines

CoH- Individuals

- [CoH - individual Reference Scores - YouTube](#)



CoH – examples

[YouTube Link](#)





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THANK YOU 😊