

Session 5 – Monday, 25 April, 15:00 – 15:30

Paris 2024 Paralympic Regulations – Para Dressage

Format: This session will include a presentation of the key topics which were submitted for review as part of the initial online survey and then discussed during the online consultation process for the discipline of Para Dressage. Participants are invited to open the discussion in the Q&A following the presentation of each topic and the submission of proposals.

Presenters: Amanda Bond, Chair Para Equestrian Technical Committee
Bettina de Rham, FEI Director Dressage, Para Dressage and Vaulting

Panellists: Rodolpho Riskalla, Para Dressage Athlete
Michel Assouline, Member Para Equestrian Technical Committee

Paris 2024 Paralympic Regulations / PARA DRESSAGE

Topics for feedback – Para Dressage

1. Timelines for entries
2. Competition Schedule – Part 1
3. Competition Schedule – Part 2
4. Substitution Process
5. Minimum Eligibility Requirements
6. Team Test to Music
7. Feedback on any other Topics – Officials
8. Feedback on any other Topics – Music Rights and Technology
9. Feedback on any other Topics – Wildcards
10. Feedback on any other Topics – Classification
11. Feedback on any other Topics – Qualification System
12. Feedback on any other Topics – Accreditation/Owner Hospitality
13. Feedback on any other Topics – Draw for the Starting Order
14. Feedback on any other Topics – Entering the Arena

Feedback provided by

- **Tokyo2020 Para Dressage Officials**
 - o Marco Orsini (GER) – President Ground Jury
 - o Anne Prain (FRA) – Member of the Ground Jury

- Hanneke Gerritsen (NED) – Technical Delegate
- Annemiek van der Vorm (NED) – Tokyo2020 Sport Manager

- **MOUs Stakeholders**

- EEF

- **Athletes having participated in Tokyo2020 Eventing**

- Tamsin Addison (IRL)
- Rodolpho Riskalla (BRA)
- Sergio Froes Ribeiro de Oliva (BRA)
- Sir Lee Pearson CBE (GBR)
- Manon Claeys (FRA)
- Pepo Puch (AUT)

- **NFs having participated in Tokyo2020 Equestrian**

- Joyce van Rooijen-Heutink (NED)
- Venancio Garcia Ovies (ESP)
- Antonio Melo (POR)
- Evelyne Niklaus (SUI)
- Hope Hand (USA)
- Ad Wagemakers (NED)
- Tore Sannum (NOR)
- Alice Schwab (AUT)
- Wiveka Lundh (SWE)
- Jenalynn Ancliff (GBR)
- Wendy Laeremans (BEL)
- Avalon Everett (IRL)
- Fanny Delaval (FRA)
- Soenke Lauterbach (GER)
- Kostas Karakasilis (GRE)
- Kaja Koczurowska Wawrzekiewicz (POL)

1. Timelines for entries

19 June 2024 – Nominated Entries
Date TBC 2024 – OC Sport Entries deadline (Definite Entries)

Feedback received online by the deadline of 15 February 2022

Proposals for reviewing the Tokyo2020 Paralympic Regulations for Paris2024:

- **NFs**

BEL – As close to the event as possible
FRA, GER - As close as possible to the event; under no circumstances longer deadlines as in the past.

Support of maintaining Tokyo2020 Paralympic Regulations for Paris2024:

- **OFFICIALS**

Hanneke Gerritsen - It has been good and it worked. The definite entries is late and difficult for the OC to organize the schedule because it is not sure how many entries there will be in the different Grades.
Annemiek van der Vorm

- **ATHLETES**

Rodolpho Riskella, Manon Claeys, Pepo Puch

- **NFs**

POR, SUI, NOR, SWE, POL

NED – 5 weeks before competition

AUT - should be the same like for Tokyo but not earlier

GBR - The ability to submit definite entries within one month of the Games (and ideally as late as possible) is important given the challenges of preparing both athletes and horses for peak performance.

Proposal for discussion at the Sports Forum

Note:

Definite Entries date is set by the IPC, and is still to be confirmed. The Nominated Entries date is confirmed in the Qualification system which was approved by the FEI GA in November 2021. The dates were based on the same dates for the Tokyo 2020 Games, before they were postponed. The entries dates are also linked to transport of horses.

Proposal:

Maintain the same deadline principles for Paris 2024 as for Tokyo 2020.

FEI deadlines include

- Period for Athlete to earn points for Paralympic Rankings: 1 January 2023 - 31 December 2023 (one full year)
- MER period for Athlete & Horse (Combination) : 1 January 2022 until Nominated entries 19 June 2024
- Nominated entries 19 June 2024
- Final entries - set by Paris2024 : Date TBC 2024

2. Competition Schedule – part 1

Comments on the timing of the Schedule

Feedback received online by the deadline of 15 February 2022

Proposals for reviewing the Tokyo2020 Paralympic Regulations for Paris2024:

- **OFFICIALS**

Hanneke Gerritsen- See above my answer. It worked in Tokyo and we were lucky. No rest day or extra day for emergency cases. This makes it all very unsure also because of the weather circumstances. In my opinion there should be an escape day.

- **ATHLETES**

Tamsin Addison - Should be clear from before entries start

Rodolpho Riskalla - The competition schedule could be reviewed, it's very interesting to have a medal competition already in the first day, but was very long for the horses one competition every second day and for some individual riders three days break. Even if we do light work in between, horses need to keep up in a competition mood during almost 7 days which gets long, tiring, and sometimes stressful for some sensitive horses. A normal 3 tests competition is always in 4, maximum 5 days. For Tokyo we add all the days in quarantine and the week before starts the competition in the venue.

More judges should be invited, so organizers could schedule all 5 grades in the same day. So we could have only one day break in between the second competition and the freestyle for example.

Rodolpho Riskalla - Concerning Paralympics and World Championships the duration of the competition is the main problem in my point of view. More days, more expensive and most important more tiring for the horses. Also spectators never stay that long to watch the whole competition, usually they're there for one or two competitions, and don't watch all grades. If all grades are in the same day people can be more interested to stay longer and see more rides.

Support of maintaining Tokyo2020 Paralympic Regulations for Paris2024:

- **OFFICIALS:**

Joyce van Rooijen-Heutink – Leave as it is

Annemiek van der Vorm - It was during the heat of the day, so we moved the starting times as late as possible for athletes and horses, please mind this in 2024 as well! The schedule was fine itself, mind some extra minutes for the freestyle.

- **ATHLETES**

Manon Claeys – Good

- **NFS**

POR, SUI - OK

NED – Current format

FRA, GER – Keep the schedule as it was in Tokyo

POL – No changes necessary

Proposal for discussion at the Sports Forum

Note:

In terms of the entries, the final schedule can only be confirmed once the Definite entries have been confirmed. This is the earliest that the number of Athletes per Grade is known, so timings cannot be fixed in advance.

Prior to Tokyo 2020, the rules had been changed with a view to condense the numbers of days needed for the competition schedule. With less Athletes competing in the Team competition, a day could have been saved with the competition running two days for Individual, one day for Team and one day for Freestyle. Due to the climate and lighting issues in Tokyo, the competitions could only take place at very limited times, and so the Team test had to be split over two days. In Paris, there should not be this issue, so it should be held over less days than at Tokyo.

Proposal:

Ensure in the rules that just one panel of five Judges would judge all of the Team Tests whether the team tests take place in one day or two.

3. Competition Schedule – part 2

Comments on the Competition Format

Feedback received online by the deadline of 15 February 2022

Proposals for reviewing the Tokyo2020 Paralympic Regulations for Paris2024:

- **OFFICIALS**

Marco Orsini - The Team Tests (easier) should be the first tests to be ridden. Both the Team and the Individual Tests should be qualifiers for the Freestyles - - this would give those Athletes who are not in a team more opportunity to practice and they would not have travelled for just one test.

- **NFS**

GBR - As per our feedback before Tokyo, we strongly believe that there are still welfare concerns with running the Team test after the Individual test. Athletes and horses that may not be fit enough to compete will inevitably feel under pressure to do so, and not let their team down.

AUT – We would prefer team competition scheduled before individual

GBR - Order of the Competitions (Individual and Teams): We would recommend that the schedule follows able-bodied competition at the Olympics, with the Team competition determined first, followed by Individual medals.

TEAMS OF FOUR/DROP SCORE: We would recommend returning to teams of four athletes with a drop score in order to maximise every rider's exposure and opportunity to compete in the Paralympics. With five grades there is a very different structure to able bodied competition and so the same considerations should not apply. There are also strong welfare reasons for reverting to a team of four, for the well-being of both athletes and horses.

- **ATHLETES**

Sergio Froes Ribeiro de Oliva - Could you put the team test at first days of Paralympic games so the athletes can train more if the horse.

Pepo Puch – Should be same as Dressage

Support of maintaining Tokyo2020 Paralympic Regs for Paris2024:

- **NFS**

NED – Current format

Joyce van Rooijen-Heuitink – Teams of 3, no scratch result

Proposal for discussion at the Sports Forum

Note:

The IPC's guiding principles for the Paralympic Sports Programme are:

Excellence – highest level of competition;

Diversity – giving athletes with varying types/ranges of impairment to compete in equitable competition that offer opportunities to all genders and levels of support needs;

Universality – including athletes from all regions of the world representing the maximum possible number of NPCs;

Integrity – featuring excellences in judging and officiating;

Sustainability – to have a positive impact on the host country and society, leaving a long-term legacy for people with an impairment.

The new format at Tokyo had been widely accepted, and was appreciated by the IPC for fulfilling many of the above criteria as well as being easy to understand by stakeholders.

Proposal:

The proposal would be to keep the format as at Tokyo 2020, with the Individual competition first, Team competition second and Freestyle last. The names of the Tests should be

changed and no longer linked to the competition (individual Medal or Team Medal) and it should be ensured that the easier test is ridden first.

4. Substitution Process

Feedback received online by the deadline of 15 February 2022

Proposals for reviewing the Tokyo2020 Paralympic Regulations for Paris2024:

- **OFFICIALS**

Hanneke Gerritsen– In my eyes too complicated

- **ATHLETES:**

Tamsin Addison - Very strong views on ability for NFs to award places based on individual qualification

Anon – I want you to clearly indicate your future policy

Pepo Puch – Should be same as Dressage

- **NFS/MOUS**

EEF, IRL, GER, GRE - The deadline for Substitution 1 (between definite entries and DRM) shall be on a uniform date for all NPCs, preferably on the date of stable opening, because currently this deadline differs from one NPC to the other depending on their DRM date.

ESP - In the case of "Substitutions 2", changes can be made to both the athlete and the horse without the need for veterinary or medical authorization, but rather under the technical criteria of the NF.

POR - Agreed changes to be made to both, the athlete and the horse without the need of medical or veterinary authorization.

GBR - PROCESS: We would propose that the requirement for medical or veterinary certificates be removed, permitting substitutions to be made for tactical reasons, at the discretion of the NF. The current system is not open and transparent, and it is potentially open to abuse. Substitutions should be allowed for any reason, or not at all, to protect the integrity of competition and ensure a level playing field for all participants.

There are very narrow parameters for permissible substitutions, including same sport class, eligibility, on the nominated entry list, horse in quarantine / health status etc. This means that there are likely to be only a small number of cases where this is possible and does not allow sufficient flexibility.

All athletes who have competed for their nation at any stage (whether in the team qualifier or team final) should be awarded a medal if the team finishes on the podium.

DEADLINE: The use of Delegate Registration Meeting (DRM) as the deadline for pre-arrival substitutions should be reconsidered to provide a single date for all NPCs, such as Stable Opening.

The suggestion is that deadline is a consistent one, and as late as possible. NPC DRM's take place over several weeks creating advantage/disadvantage for the duration in which a substitution can be made or necessitating a change that sits out with the rules as written.

FRA - Pre-competition change/substitution rules must be clearly defined beforehand. We need a guarantee that we can substitute Athletes/Horses until very shortly before the competition starts (less than 2 hours before the start of the competition).

Multiple pre-competition changes must be possible before travelling to the event without losing an accreditation because e. g. a deadline has passed.

GER - Pre-competition change/substitution rules must be clearly defined beforehand. We need a guarantee that we can substitute Athletes/Horses until very shortly before the competition starts (less than 2 hours before the start of the competition).

Multiple pre-competition changes must be possible before travelling to the event without losing an accreditation because e. g. a deadline has passed.

Support of maintaining Tokyo2020 Paralympic Regulations for Paris2024:

- **OFFICIALS:**

Marco Orsini – Appropriate as it is

Annemiek van der Vorm – This was good and well trained during OG

Anne Prain - Same

- **ATHLETES**

Sergio Froes Ribeiro de Oliva - If the horse dead 6 months before and the athlete were classified the can compete if a new horse. But the National Federation have To communicate the FEI the situation.

Manon Claeys – Good

- **NFS**

SUI, NOR, AUT, SWE – OK

NED – up to 2 hours before competition

Proposal for discussion at the Sports Forum

Note:

Based on Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Regulations:

1. Between the definite entries and DRM – where an Athlete can be substituted from the nominated entries list (requires accreditation/PAIC changes)
2. Between the declarations of starters for Team up until 2 hours before scheduled start time of Team competition – where an Athlete can be substituted from the list of Individuals on site.

Proposal:

Maintain substitution principles as per the Tokyo Regulations, but to review the timings with the IPC to see if one deadline could be set for Substitution 1 to replace the DRM.

5. Minimum Eligibility Requirements

Level, deadline to obtain it, special qualifying events, etc.

Feedback received online by the deadline of 15 February 2022

Proposals for reviewing the Tokyo2020 Paralympic Regulations for Paris2024:

- **OFFICIALS**

Marco Orsini - The MER should be slightly raised to 64%. Athlete/Horse combinations should have received that at least twice as a final score at a CPEI3* in either Team Test or Individual Test in their Grade. One member of the Ground Jury should be a 5* FEI Para Dressage Judge (two different 5* in the relevant 2 qualifying tests) and should give at least 64%. Deadlines may stay as they are.

- **ATHLETES**

Rodolpho Riskalla - Eligibility level should be at least 66%, and deadlines from one year prior the competition. Team qualification should be reviewed, as American league athlete, didn't look very fair countries with more disponibility (financial and organization) be allowed to make so many qualifying competitions in their own countries. All teams should have equal conditions of qualification

Pepo Puch – Should be same as Dressage

- **NFS**

ESP, POR, IRL, GRE – Maintain the minimum qualifying percentage at 62%

GBR - The Paralympic Games is the pinnacle event for Para Dressage riders and should always showcase the best athletes in the sport. The current MER sits a long way below the competitive standards of any of the grades. Whilst we welcome the small increase in MER proposed for Paris 2024, we would be in favour of a review of international scoring within each grade and an upward adjustment of MERs accordingly.

POL – only half of the qualifications can be obtained in your own country

Support of maintaining Tokyo2020 Paralympic Regulations for Paris2024:

- **OFFICIALS**

Joyce van Rooijen-Heutink – as discussed in FEI Committee

Hanneke Gerritsen- For Para fine. In Tokyo no tests with very low percentages or big problems

Annemiek van der Vorm - From my side this was fine. The level was good and no complaints about deadline etc.

Anne Prain – Not Concerned

- **NF/MOU**

EEF - It is recommended to increase the MER, for example up to 62%.

SUI, NED, NOR, AUT, SWE – OK

FRA - Ok to change 62% in 64% for combination eligibility.

- **ATHLETES**

Tamsin Addison – Fine

Sergio Froes Ribeiro de Oliva – Is normal a certain score needs to be ridden

Proposal for discussion at the Sports Forum

Note:

The MER criteria was raised to 64% in the Qualification criteria which had been approved at the FEI GA in 2021.

The performances at Tokyo 2020 showed that the level of competition was good, while pushing higher than 64% could limit qualification for newer nations. The PETC felt that 64% was a good first step.

6. Team Test to Music

Athletes to bring their own music or not

Feedback received online by the deadline of 15 February 2022

Proposals for reviewing the Tokyo2020 Paralympic Regulations for Paris2024:

- **OFFICIALS**

Marco Orsini - It showed that this is a lot of extra work for the OC, the TD and the Music Manager. It is also not easy for the Athletes - - some may not have the technical and financial possibilities to create appropriate background music. We discussed this topic during our 5* Forum in Rotterdam after the European Championships and all colleagues agreed that it is sometimes more distracting and confusing than enhancing. Therefore, this rule should be taken out and, like in the past, the Music Manager should be responsible for the background music. This would ensure a more consistent and harmonious flow of the competition.

Joyce van Rooijen-Heuitink - No, too much effort and it does not benefit the riding or the performance

Hanneke Gerritsen- It is for some countries complicated to understand that the judges do not judge the music. If the OC arranges an experienced music man is it better to let him choose the back ground music.

Annemiek van der Vorm - Same as OG, about 25% brought their music to Tokyo. Athletes rely a lot on the musician I assume. It's is not a must from my side.

Anne Prain - It's not a good thing. It's a big work for nothing more. In Tryon, we even got a protest because the music for Team test was put by mistake for the Freestyle test.

It would be better to have no music or a professional setting a background music.

- **MOU/NFS**

EEF, GRE, GER, IRL - The OC shall provide background music for all athlete/horse combinations. Athletes shall then not be allowed to bring their own background music so that there is one procedure applying in the same manner to all athletes.

ESP – No it should be provided by the OC

NED – No need to continue

GBR - A consistent approach and single standard should be applied to the provision of Team test music to ensure that a level playing field is maintained. Either all athletes provide their own music, or the provision of music should be the responsibility of the Organising Committee, rather than allowing a choice.

If the music is not judged in the Team Test, then this is an unnecessary additional expense, particularly for the less affluent developing nations. If for entertainment purposes only, then the OC should provide the music for each combination to ensure that a consistent standard and quality is maintained for all.

BEL - No, the DJ's in the tower do a great job on non-freestyle days

POL – Same background music for all athletes

- **ATHLETES**

Pepo Puch – Should be the same as Dressage

Support of maintaining Tokyo2020 Paralympic Regulations for Paris2024:

- **ATHLETES**

Tamsin Addison – Yes

Rodolpho Riskalla - Yes! Makes interesting for the public! And for ride as well! Also should be extended to the individual test; or at least had the choice with the organizers at the venue

Lee Pearson - I don't mind but if it's a rule then all athletes should make the effort and comply.

Sergio Froes Ribeiro de Oliva - Why not it's not a big problem or a big effort to do that.

- **NFS**

POR – optional
USA, NOR, AUT, SUI – Yes, ok as it is
SWE - This should be by choice. The OC should provide back-ground music for those without their own music.
FRA - The team nation can bring a team music for all their riders.

Proposal for discussion at the Sports Forum

Note:

The Team test music had been introduced following Dressage rules changes for the GPS, and was intended to make the sport more attractive. This was not very successful, in either Para Dressage or Dressage, with many athletes not taking their own music (too expensive/complicated) and others even choosing to use the Music provider's over their own music. Judges had mentioned that the differences in quality and volume could be distracting, when the music was meant to be just background music.

Proposal:

The fairest option would be to remove the team test music option, and to have a provision in the rules for a Music provider so that all of the music was fair with a controlled volume and quality.

7. Feedback on any other Topics

Officials

Feedback received online by the deadline of 15 February 2022

Hanneke Gerritsen

I would like to discuss the need of 7 judges present. The Team tests should be judged by the same 5 judges. This means that 2 judges do not judge 2 days. In my opinion 5 judges and 1 traveling reserve will do.

At the Paralympics in Tokyo the role of the Chief Steward was too heavy. She/ He needs an assistant or more help at the office and there should be enough stewards from arrival of the first horse.

The TD needs also an experienced assistant. (Not present in Tokyo.)

In my opinion is the responsibility as TD too high for a volunteer. That could be a discussion for all the disciplines. I like to discuss this with pleasure.

Proposal for discussion at the Sports Forum

Proposal:

Judges

Appoint five judges, one travelling reserve and one non-traveling reserve for Paris. This would be enough to judge all of the Team test and all of the Freestyle in single days. The provision for 7 judges in the rules should be maintained, especially for future Games, on non-European Continents, where there are less Officials available should one need to be replaced.

Chief Steward

The workload had been too high for the Chief Steward in the first days at Tokyo, An assistant Steward should be appointed as well as more Stewards on site from the opening of the stables.

TD

There is a rule for an Assistant TD, at Tokyo the appointment had to be removed at a late date and was not replaced due to covid-19 restrictions and difficulties.

JSP

Proposal to introduce a JSP For Para Dressage in time for Paris 2024.

8. Feedback on any other Topics

Music Rights and Technology

Feedback received online by the deadline of 15 February 2022

Annemiek van der Vorm

IPC should ask for the music in time and not during the PG. I would advise to have e-scribe in Paris, there were some small things, but it was an amazing period as well, thank you very much!

Proposal for discussion at the Sports Forum

Note:

The music rights were vital to organise in advance with the IPC and would have to be included in the rules so that there was not the same last minute request from Broadcast as at Tokyo.

Proposal:

Paperless judging (eDressage) will be used at the FEI World Championships in Herring, and the intention is to also introduce paperless judging in Paris 2024. The necessary changes would be made to the Rules and PRIS to include this.

9. Feedback on any other Topics

Wildcards

Feedback received online by the deadline of 15 February 2022

Sergio Froes Ribeiro de Oliva

Could you give to new country invitation card to Increase the players at para-dressage event.

Proposal for discussion at the Sports Forum

Note:

The Qualification system includes Bipartite Commission invitations, which act similarly to wildcards, where National Federations can put forward Athletes who did not qualify by the standard qualification system.

Proposal:

No further changes would be proposed.

10. Feedback on any other Topics

Classification

Feedback received online by the deadline of 15 February 2022

Lee Pearson

Participation and Classification – To be allowed to compete above your own Grade.

Proposal for discussion at the Sports Forum

Note:

The FEI Classification Rules have to comply with the IPC Classification code and International Standards. Athletes competing in different Grades from the one they were allocated would put into question the Classification system, which was designed for fair competition.

Proposal:

No further proposal would be put forward.

11. Feedback on any other Topics

Qualification System

Feedback received online by the deadline of 15 February 2022

SUI – Qualification system

We think that it is important that not all the team quota places are distributed at the World Championships 2 years before the Paralympics but that as well there is a chance for team quota places at the continental Championships the year before the Paralympics as this is the case as well in the other disciplines.

GBR – Quota places (Qualification System)

While we fully support the aim of providing the opportunity for more nations to compete at the Paralympics, the full quota of places has not been filled since 2016. We strongly believe that the top three ranked athletes in each grade should be automatically eligible to compete at the Paralympic Games, to showcase the best riders in all five grades, regardless of which nation they represent. By reallocating unused quota places, this would ensure optimal sport presentation without compromising the principles of universality and number of nations able to compete.

Proposal for discussion at the Sports Forum

Note:

The approved Qualification system includes qualification through the European Championships in 2023, as well as the World Championships of 2022.

The quota slots were all filled in Tokyo 2020. The aim is to fill the quota as per the IPC's guiding principles for the Games, which involves the top of the sport but also universality.

The Rankings were used in the qualification system, especially to fill in slots that could not be used through universality. This was seen as a more fair qualifying system with greater commitment to universality than to do the other way around, as the rankings can also be swayed by how many competitions an athlete has access to.

Looking at Tokyo 2020, the competitions were all of a high level, which had consistently raised over the last cycles.

Proposal:

No further changes would be proposed.

12. Feedback on any other Topics

Accreditation/ Owner Hospitality

Feedback received online by the deadline of 15 February 2022

GBR – Accreditation/Owner Hospitality

ACCREDITATION/OWNER HOSPITALITY: Each Games we find ourselves in a compromised position with regards to the number of available accreditation places. Due to the limited number available, we are unable to adequately meet the personal care needs of our disabled athletes without utilising owner accreditations. Without horse owners our sport would not exist, so it is absolutely vital that they are able to fully participate in and experience the Paralympic Games, as well as receive the recognition they deserve for their contribution.

To achieve this, the allocation of accreditations to support athlete and horse welfare need to be maximised and should be considered separately from owner accreditations. We would therefore recommend the introduction of an owners' VIP pass or similar concept, providing access to Kiss and Cry, IPC family lounges, preferential seating and / or hospitality (paid for by the NF), with an option of a stable pass to be managed by the NF as required.

A full review of the accreditation allocation and provision of an appropriate VIP experience for owners is seen as a priority moving forwards to safeguard their future support for our sport.

Proposal for discussion at the Sports Forum

Note:

The accreditation allocations are controlled by the IPC, across all sports. The FEI is aware of the issue for Horse Owner accreditations, and will bring up the issue again with the IPC. In Tokyo, the pandemic had caused big issues with cuts made to accreditations, which were hopefully an isolated event.

Proposal:

We encourage all NFs to contact their NPC to put forward the request for more Training Venue Passes to be allocated.

13. Feedback on any other Topics

Draw for the Starting Order

Feedback received online by the deadline of 15 February 2022

BEL – Draw for the starting order

Draw for the starting order: The participants per grade should be divided in 2 or 3 groups (depending on the number) following their place on the FEI world ranking. Within these groups there should be a draw. So you will have the better combinations during the end of the test. In the actual system, the number 1 of the world can be drawn nr 1 of the startling list of for example 18 participants, and this with the first test being a "medal test". I don't think this system would be accepted in dressage :-). It's a judge-sport, so taking into account the FEI ranking (as in dressage) seems the only wright thing to do.

Proposal for discussion at the Sports Forum

Note:

In Dressage, the top Athletes on the ranking list are split evenly between the six groups riding the first test.

Proposal:

Discuss whether to keep the draw of the starting order as it is currently stated in the Rules or change it as per the proposal above.

14. Feedback on any other Topics

Entering the Arena

Feedback received online by the deadline of 15 February 2022

- **NFS**
FRA - Familiarisation timing before competition was good in Tokyo. For low grades (I II III) we need more time before the entrance in the stadium and the ringing bell. One minute is too short.
- **ATHLETES**
Sergio Froes Ribeiro de Oliva - Could rise to 2 minutes to get in to arena

Proposal for discussion at the Sports Forum

Note:

The timings allowed for entering the arena were driven by broadcast requirements. At Tokyo, timing was very restricted which was why there was so little time between each athlete and the ringing of the bell. In Paris, this comment will be taken into account if timing and the size of the arena allows.

The time between the bell ringing and the athlete entering the arena would not be changed, this is a Para Dressage Rule and not related only to the Paralympic Games.