

**2009**

# **RULES**

**of EQUINE CANADA**

**Section E**  
**DRESSAGE**



## EQUINE CANADA

Equine Canada (EC) represents, promotes and serves Canada's equine community and industry. Its core areas of activity involve sport, equine health and welfare, education and safety, governance and marketing, lobbying and communication. Equine Canada is recognized by Sport Canada, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, the International Equestrian Federation (FEI), the Canadian Olympic Committee (COC) and Canadian Coaching Association of Canada (CCAC) as the national organization representing equestrian sport and equine interests in Canada.

### PATRON

Her Excellency the Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean  
Governor General of Canada

### EQUINE CANADA MISSION:

To represent, promote and develop a unified Canadian equine community.

### EQUINE CANADA VISION:

*Canada is a great equine nation, where:*

- . • Every child has the opportunity for an equestrian experience
- . • Every Canadian has access to the use of horses for leisure, hobby, sport and commerce
- . • Equine activities are an integral part of the Canadian culture
- . • We have success at international level of competition
- . • The welfare of the horse is paramount
- . • There is an economically viable horse industry

### EQUINE CANADA VALUES:

- . • Respect and Appreciation for all members, athletes, volunteers and staff
- . • Trust, Honesty and Integrity
- . • Inclusive, Fair and Equitable
- . • Credibility and Professionalism
- . • Client-focused and Service-driven
- . • Athletes' Safety and Welfare of the Horse
- . • Cooperation

## EQUINE CANADA RULEBOOK

The rules published herein are effective on January 1, 2009 and remain in effect for one year except as superseded by rule changes or clarifications published in subsequent editions of this section. Section E as printed herein is the official version of The Equine Canada Rules for Dressage for 2009.

The Rule Book comprises the following sections:

- A General Regulations
- B Breeds
- C Driving: General, Pleasure, Driven Dressage, Draft, Recreation
- D Eventing
- E Dressage
- F General Performance, Western, Equitation
- G Hunter, Jumper, Equitation and Hack
- H Combined Driving
- J Endurance
- K Reining
- L Vaulting

### Section E: DRESSAGE

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# EQUINE CANADA RULE BOOK

## SECTION E – DRESSAGE

These Rules are to be used in conjunction with the General Regulations of Equine Canada.

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# THE CODE OF ETHICS OF EQUINE CANADA

“We look to sport to impart something of moral and social values and, in integrating us as individuals, to bring about a healthy, integrated society.”  
The Honourable Chief Justice Charles L. Dubin

### Application and Structure of the Code of Ethics

1. All members (including temporary members) of Equine Canada (EC) shall be bound by this Code of Ethics.
2. All members of other National and Provincial Federations must agree to be bound by the rules of EC while competing or exhibiting at EC-sanctioned competitions.
3. The Code of Ethics consists of four parts: The Preamble, the Statement of Principle, the Code of Conduct, and Further Expectations of an EC Member. The Statement of Principle is to be considered an interpretive guide in applying the Code of Conduct. The Code of Conduct is mandatory in character and is enforceable.

### Preamble

We believe:

- that equestrian sport is based on a partnership between horse and human athlete;
- that it is the right and responsibility of EC to set standards in matters of ethics, sportsmanship and the welfare of the horse and in all matters under its jurisdiction;
- that it is desirable to define ethical practices, to delineate unethical practices, to encourage good sportsmanship, fair play, safety and high ethical behaviour and to warn, censure or bring to public attention and discipline those who commit acts detrimental to the best interests of stakeholders;
- that EC members should observe the spirit as well as the letter of this Code of Ethics;
- that membership is a privilege, not a right, and that membership may be suspended, terminated or rejected following appropriate disciplinary procedures.

## STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

EC, the National Equestrian Federation of Canada, supports adherence to humane treatment of horses in all activities under its jurisdiction.

EC is committed to:

- upholding the welfare of horses, regardless of value, as a primary consideration in all activities;
- requiring that horses be treated with kindness, respect and the compassion that they deserve, and that they never be subjected to mistreatment;
- ensuring that owners, trainers and exhibitors or their agents use responsible care in the handling, treatment and transportation of their horses as well as horses placed in their care for any purpose;
- providing for the continuous well-being of horses by encouraging routine inspection and consultation with health care professionals to achieve the highest possible standards of nutrition, health, comfort, sanitation and safety as a matter of standard operating procedure;
- continuing to support scientific studies on equine health and welfare;
- increasing education in training and horsemanship practices;
- requiring owners, trainers and exhibitors to know and follow their sanctioning organization's rules, and to work within industry regulations in all equestrian competition;
- reviewing, revising and developing competition rules and regulations that protect the welfare of horses.

The standard by which conduct or treatment will be measured is that which a person, informed and experienced in generally accepted equine training and exhibition procedures, would determine not to be cruel, abusive or inhumane.

## CODE OF CONDUCT

EC rules address the following general areas:

- Welfare of the horse
- Safety of horse and human athlete
- Administration of competitions (see also Competitions Administration Policy (CAP))
- Codes of conduct for officials and competitors
- Drug and medication control
- Individual breed and discipline rules

1. All EC members shall support the enforcement of the rules of the Federation by:
  - personal knowledge and compliance and
  - agreeing to report any alleged infractions and occasions of alleged abuse at EC-sanctioned competitions
2. The organizers of EC-sanctioned competitions shall operate within the rules of the Federation.
3. A member should be completely trustworthy, exhibit honesty, loyalty and discretion in all equestrian-related activities.
4. A member should issue public statements only in an objective and truthful manner.
5. The EC member should uphold issues of safety and fairness in all aspects of equestrian sport.
6. No member shall act to the detriment of others or of equestrian sport in any situation including situations where the responsibility of their position places them in a conflict of interest.
7. All members shall conduct themselves in a manner which reflects the values and ethics of EC. Any member who engages in or is party to conduct inappropriate to an EC member will be subject, after due process, to such sanctions as the Federation may impose.

### Further Expectations of an EC Member

1. Members are encouraged to continuously educate themselves and to take an active role in the activities of the Federation.
2. The EC member should strive to preserve and enhance the image of the sport so that society's respect will be maintained.

## THE EQUINE CANADA RULEBOOK

Knowledge of the rules of any sport is required of each participant, and the exhibitor at a sanctioned competition must accept from this responsibility. Both a complete knowledge of and compliance with the rules are essential, and all participants must be fully cognizant of all rules as well as class specifications in the discipline/breed sport in which they compete.

It is not possible to provide for every conceivable eventuality in these rules. If there is no rule to deal specifically with a particular circumstance, or if the nearest interpretation of the pertinent rule would result in an obvious injustice, it is the duty of those responsible to make a decision based on common sense and fair play, thus reflecting as closely as possible the intention of the rules and regulations of Equine Canada.

### Organization of the Rulebook

The EC Rulebook is divided into multiple sections. Each section, identified by a letter of the alphabet, relates to specific disciplines or groups of disciplines or breeds. Section A covers general regulations that pertain to all breeds and disciplines. Within each section, the rules are numbered according to chapter and paragraph.

### “Evergreen Rules Process”

All Equine Canada rulebooks are amended annually. The rulebook for any given year will be published on the EC website no later than January 1 of that year. The website version of every rulebook is the official version.

### Amendment of the Rules

It is the right of every member of Equine Canada to propose amendments to the rules, subject to the current policies, procedures and schedules.

The amendment process will be strictly followed and extraordinary rule amendments will be permitted only for safety, monetary, ethical and equine welfare reasons. Extraordinary rule amendments will be effective when published

In addition FEI Rules applicable to EC competitions are effective upon publication by the FEI, and clarifications of existing rules may be published at any time. All other rule amendments will come into effect with the website publication of the rulebooks by January 1 of the following year.

### Interpretation of the Rules

Please read all cross-references carefully and refer to the EC website for rule changes or clarifications. Should the English and French versions differ, the English version shall prevail. In the case of conflict between General Regulations and the regulations of the disciplines/breed sports, the discipline/breed sport rules will prevail.

## SECTION E – DRESSAGE

### IMPORTANT NOTICE:

**The 2009 Equine Canada Rules for Dressage have changed substantially from the 2007 Rules (2008 Edition). It is very important that you read through each rule carefully.**

### INTRODUCTION

For any circumstances not specifically covered in these rules, reference should be made to the publications listed below. EC General Regulations can be purchased through the EC order desk at (613) 248-3433 ext. 107 or downloaded from the EC website at [www.equinecanada.ca](http://www.equinecanada.ca). FEI rules can be obtained from the FEI website at [www.fei.org](http://www.fei.org).

- EC General Regulations
- FEI General Regulations (FEI Sanctioned Events)
- FEI Rules for Dressage Events (FEI Sanctioned Dressage Events)
- FEI Rules for Children, Ponies, Young Riders and Juniors (FEI Sanctioned Dressage Events)
- FEI Veterinary Regulations (FEI Sanctioned Events)

Since every eventuality cannot be provided for in the EC rules, for any unforeseen or exceptional circumstances, it is the duty of the officials and the competition management to make a decision in a sporting spirit and approaching as nearly as possible the intention of these rules.

**Note:** An Equine Canada rule amendment that alters the dressage rules will be effective when published and can be found on the EC [www.equinecanada.ca](http://www.equinecanada.ca) and DC [www.equinecanada.ca/dressage](http://www.equinecanada.ca/dressage) websites. The FEI rules for Dressage can be found on the FEI website [www.fei.org](http://www.fei.org).

## CHAPTER 1 OBJECTS & PRINCIPLES

### ARTICLE E 1.1 OBJECTS & PRINCIPLES – EC

1. EC adheres strictly to the FEI dressage terminology. Riders therefore can study the description of the paces, movements and figures and be sure that they are on the correct path to international competition, which is governed by the FEI.
2. Any FEI rule amendments that alter the following FEI Rules will be effective when published by the FEI.

### ARTICLE E 1.2 FEI ARTICLE 401 OBJECTIVES AND GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF DRESSAGE

1. The object of dressage is the development of the horse into a happy athlete through harmonious education.  
As a result, it makes the horse calm, supple, loose and flexible, but also confident, attentive and keen, thus achieving perfect understanding with the rider.  
These qualities are revealed by:
2. The freedom and regularity of the paces;
  - the harmony, lightness and ease of the movements;
  - the lightness of the forehand and the engagement of the hindquarters, originating from a lively impulsion;
  - the acceptance of the bridle, with submissiveness throughout and without any tension or resistance.
3. The horse thus gives the impression of doing, of its own accord, what is required of it. Confident and attentive, submitting generously to the control of the rider, remaining absolutely straight in any movement on a straight line and bending accordingly when moving on curved lines.
4. The walk is regular, free and unconstrained. The trot is free, supple, regular, and active. The canter is united, light and balanced. The hindquarters are never inactive or sluggish. They respond to the slightest indication of the rider and thereby give life and spirit to all the rest of its body.
5. By virtue of a lively impulsion and the suppleness of its joints, free from the paralyzing effects of resistance, the horse obeys willingly and without hesitation and responds to the various aids calmly and with precision, displaying a natural and harmonious balance both physically and mentally.
6. In all the work, even at the halt, the horse must be "on the bit". A horse is said to be "on the bit" when the neck is more or less raised and arched according to the stage of training and the extension or collection of the pace, accepting the bridle with a light and soft contact and submissiveness throughout. The head should remain in a steady position, as a rule slightly in front of the vertical, with a supple poll as the highest point of the neck, and no resistance should be offered to the rider.
7. Cadence is shown in trot and canter, and is the result of the proper

harmony that a horse shows when it moves with well-marked regularity, impulsion and balance. Cadence must be maintained in all the different trot or canter exercises and in the variations of these paces.

8. The regularity of the paces is fundamental to dressage

### ARTICLE E 1.3 FEI ARTICLE 402 THE HALT

1. At the halt, the horse should stand attentive, engaged, motionless and straight, with the weight evenly distributed over all four legs, being by pairs abreast with each other. The neck should be raised, the poll high and the head slightly in front of the vertical. While remaining "on the bit" and maintaining a light and soft contact with the rider's hand, the horse may quietly chew the bit and should be ready to move off at the slightest indication of the rider.
2. The halt is obtained by the displacement of the horse's weight to the hindquarters by a properly increased action of the seat and legs of the rider, driving the horse towards a soft closed hand, causing an almost instantaneous but not abrupt halt at a previously fixed place. The halt is prepared by a series of half-halts (see transitions).

### ARTICLE E 1.4 FEI ARTICLE 403 THE WALK

1. The walk is a marching pace in a regular four time beat. The regularity combined with full relaxation must be maintained throughout all walk movements.
2. When the foreleg and the hind leg on the same side move almost on the same beat, the walk tends to become an almost lateral movement. This irregularity, which might become an ambling movement, is a serious deterioration of the pace.
3. The following walks are recognized: Medium walk, Collected walk, Extended walk and Free walk. There should always be a clear difference in the attitude and over-tracking in these variations.
  - 3.1 Medium walk:** A clear, regular and unconstrained walk of moderate lengthening. The horse, remaining "on the bit", walks energetically relaxed with even and determined steps, the hind feet touching the ground in front of the hoof prints of the forefeet. The rider maintains a light, soft and steady contact with the mouth, allowing the natural movement of the head and neck.
  - 3.2 Collected walk:** The horse, remaining "on the bit", moves resolutely forward, with his neck raised and arched and showing a clear self-carriage. The head approaches the vertical position and a light contact is maintained with the mouth. The hind legs are engaged with good hock action. The pace should remain marching and vigorous, the feet being placed in regular sequence. The steps cover less ground and are higher than at the medium walk, because all the joints bend more markedly. The collected walk is shorter than the medium walk, although showing greater activity.
  - 3.3 Extended walk:** The horse covers as much ground as possible, without haste and without losing the regularity of his steps, the hind feet touching the ground clearly in front of the footprints of the forefeet. The rider allows the horse to stretch out the head and neck without losing contact with the mouth and control of the poll.

**3.4 Free walk:** The free walk is a pace of relaxation in which the horse is allowed complete freedom to lower and stretch out the head and neck.

#### **ARTICLE E 1.5 FEI ARTICLE 404 THE TROT**

1. The trot is a two beat pace of alternate diagonal legs (left fore and right hind leg and vice versa) separated by a moment of suspension.
2. The trot should show free, active and regular steps.
3. The quality of the trot is judged by general impression, i.e. the regularity and elasticity of the steps, the cadence and impulsion in both collection and extension. The quality originates from a supple back and well engaged hindquarters, and by the ability to maintain the same rhythm and natural balance, with all variations of the trot.
4. The following trots are recognized: Working trot, Lengthening of Steps, Collected trot, Medium trot and Extended trot.

**4.1 Working trot:** This is a pace between the collected and the medium trot, in which a horse's training is not yet developed enough and ready for collected movements. The horse showing proper balance and remaining "on the bit", goes forward with even, elastic steps and good hock action. The expression "good hock action" underlines the importance of an impulsion originating from the activity of the hindquarters.

**4.2 Lengthening of steps:** In the test for four-year-old horses "lengthening of steps" is required. This is a variation between the working and medium trot in which a horse's training is not developed enough for medium trot.

**4.3 Collected trot:** The horse, remaining "on the bit", moves forward with the neck raised and arched. The hocks, being well engaged and flexed, must maintain an energetic impulsion, enabling the shoulders to move with greater mobility, thus demonstrating complete self carriage. The horse's steps are shorter than in the other trots, without losing elasticity and cadence.

**4.4 Medium trot:** This is a pace of moderate lengthening compared to the extended trot, but "rounder" than the latter without hurrying. The horse goes forward with clear lengthened steps and with impulsion from the hindquarters. The rider allows the horse to carry the head a little more in front of the vertical than at the collected and the working trot, and allows it, at the same time, to lower the head and neck slightly. The steps should be even, and the whole movement balanced and unconstrained.

**4.5 Extended trot:** The horse covers as much ground as possible. Without hurrying, the steps are lengthened to the utmost as a result of great impulsion from the hindquarters. The rider allows the horse to lengthen the frame with a controlled poll, and to gain ground. The forefeet should touch the ground on the spot towards which they are pointing. The movement of the fore and hind legs should reach equally forward in the moment of extension. The whole movement should be well balanced and the transition to collected trot should be smoothly executed by taking more weight on the hindquarters.

5. All trot-work is executed "sitting", unless otherwise indicated in the test.

#### **ARTICLE E 1.6 FEI ARTICLE 405 THE CANTER**

1. The canter is a three beat pace where in canter to the right, for example, the footfalls are as follows: left hind, left diagonal (simultaneously left fore and right hind), right fore, followed by a moment of suspension with all four feet in the air before the next stride begins.
2. The canter, always with light, cadenced and regular strides, should be moved into without hesitation.
3. The quality of the canter is judged by the general impression, i.e. the regularity and lightness of the pace and the uphill tendency and cadence originating from the acceptance of the bridle with a supple poll and in the engagement of the hindquarters with an active hock action – and by the ability of maintaining the same rhythm and a natural balance, even after a transition from one canter to another. The horse should always remain straight on straight lines and correctly bent on curved lines.

4. The following canters are recognized: Working canter, Lengthening of strides, Collected canter, Medium canter and Extended canter.

**4.1. Working canter:** This is a pace between the collected and the medium canter, in which a horse's training is not yet developed enough and ready for collected movements. The horse show natural balance while remaining "on the bit", and goes forward with even, light and active strides and good hock action. The expression "good hock action" underlines the importance of an impulsion originating from the activity of the hindquarters.

**4.2 Lengthening of strides:** In the test for four-year-old horses "lengthening of strides" is required. This is a variation between the working and medium canter in which a horse's training is not developed enough for medium canter.

**4.3 Collected canter:** The horse, remaining "on the bit", moves forward with the neck raised and arched. The hocks, being well engaged, maintaining cadence and energetic impulsion, enabling the shoulders to move with greater mobility thus demonstrating complete self carriage. The horse's strides are shorter than at the other canters, without losing elasticity and cadence.

**4.4 Medium canter:** This is a pace between the working and the extended canter. Without hurrying, the horse goes forward with clearly lengthened strides and impulsion from the hindquarters. The rider allows the horse to carry the head a little more in front of the vertical than at the collected and working canter, and at the same time allows the horse, to lower the head and neck slightly. The strides should be balanced and unconstrained.

**4.5 Extended canter:** The horse covers as much ground as possible. Without hurrying, the strides are lengthened to the utmost, whilst remaining calm, light and straight as a result of great impulsion from the hindquarters. The rider allows the horse to lengthen the frame with a controlled poll and to gain ground. The whole movement should be well balanced and the transition to collected canter should be smoothly executed by taking more weight on the hindquarters.

**4.6 Counter-Canter:** The counter canter is a balancing and straightening movement that has to be executed in collection. The horse canters in correct sequence with the outside foreleg leading with positioning to the side of the leading leg. The forelegs should be aligned on the same track as the hind legs.

**4.7 Simple change of leg at the canter:** This is a movement in which, after a direct transition out of the canter into a walk, with 3 to 5 clearly defined steps, an immediate transition is made into the other canter lead.

**4.8 Flying change of leg:** The flying change is performed in one stride with the front and hind legs changing at the same moment. The change of the leading front and hind leg takes place during the moment of suspension. Flying changes of leg can also be executed in series, at every 4th, 3rd, 2nd or at every stride. The horse, even in the series, remains light, calm and straight with lively impulsion, maintaining the same rhythm and balance throughout the series concerned. In order not to restrict or restrain the lightness, fluency and groundcover of the flying changes in series, enough impulsion must be maintained.

#### **ARTICLE E 1.7 FEI ARTICLE 406 REINBACK**

1. The reinback is a rearward diagonal movement with a two beat rhythm but without a moment of suspension. Each diagonal pair of legs is raised and returned to the ground alternately, with the forelegs aligned on the same track as the hind legs.
2. During the entire exercise, the horse should remain "on the bit", maintaining its desire to move forward.
3. Anticipation or precipitation of the movement, resistance to or evasion of the contact, deviation of the hindquarters from the straight line, spreading or inactive hind legs and dragging forefeet are serious faults.
4. After completing the required number of steps backward, the horse shows
  - a) a square halt or
  - b) moves forward immediately in the required pace.
5. Reinback series (Schaukel) is a combination of two reinbacks with walk steps in between. It should be executed with fluent transitions and required number of steps.

#### **ARTICLE E 1.8 FEI ARTICLE 407 THE TRANSITIONS**

The changes of pace and variations within the paces should be exactly performed at the prescribed marker. The cadence/rhythm of a pace should be maintained up to the moment when the pace is changed or the horse halts. Transitions within the paces must be clearly defined whilst maintaining the same rhythm and cadence throughout. The horse should remain light in hand, calm, and maintain a correct position. The same applies to transitions from one movement to another, for instance from passage to piaffe or vice-versa.

#### **ARTICLE E 1.9 FEI ARTICLE 408 THE HALF-HALTS**

Every movement or transition should be invisibly prepared by a half-halt. The half-halt is an almost simultaneous, co-ordinated action of the seat, the

legs and the hand of the rider, with the object of increasing the attention and balance of the horse before the execution of the movements or transitions to lower and higher paces. In shifting slightly more weight onto the horse's hindquarters, the engagement of the hind legs and the balance on the haunches are improved for the benefit of the lightness of the forehand and the horse's balance as a whole.

#### **ARTICLE E 1.10 FEI ARTICLE 409 THE CHANGES OF DIRECTION**

1. At changes of direction, the horse should adjust the bend of his body to the curvature of the line it follows, remaining supple and following the indications of the rider, without any resistance or change of pace, rhythm or speed.
2. Changes of direction can be executed in the following ways:
  - a) Right angle turn including riding through the corner (one quarter of a volte of approx. 6 m. diameter)
  - b) Short and long diagonal.
  - c) Half voltes and half circles, with change of rein
  - d) Half pirouettes and turn on the haunches
  - e) Serpentine loops
  - f) Counter changes of hand in zigzag\*. The horse should be straight for a moment before changing direction.
  - g) Zigzag: A movement containing more than two half passes with changes of direction.

#### **ARTICLE E 1.11 FEI ARTICLE 410 THE FIGURES**

The figures asked for in dressage tests are the voltes, the serpentines and the figures of eight.

1. **Volte:** The volte is a circle of 6, 8, or 10 metres in diameter. If larger than 10 metres, one uses the term circle stating the diameter.
2. **Serpentine:** The serpentine with several loops touching the long side of the arena consists of half circles connected by a straight line. When crossing the centerline the horse should be parallel to the short side. Depending on the size of the half-circles the straight connection varies in length. Serpentines with one loop on the long side of the arena are executed with 5 m. or 10 m. distance from the track. Serpentines around the entire line are executed between the quarter lines.
3. **Figure of Eight:** This figure consists of two voltes or circles of equal size as prescribed in the test, joined at the centre of the eight. The rider should make the horse straight for an instant before changing direction at the centre of the figure.

#### **ARTICLE E 1.12 FEI ARTICLE 411 LEG YIELDING**

1. The aim of leg yielding is to demonstrate the suppleness and lateral responsiveness of the horse.
2. The exercise is performed in working trot. The horse is almost straight, except for a slight flexion at the poll away from the direction in which it moves, so that the rider is just able to see the eyebrow and nostril on the inside. The inside legs pass and cross in front of the outside legs. Leg yielding can be performed "on the diagonal" in which case the horse should be as nearly as possible parallel to the long sides of the arena, although the forehand should be slightly in advance of the

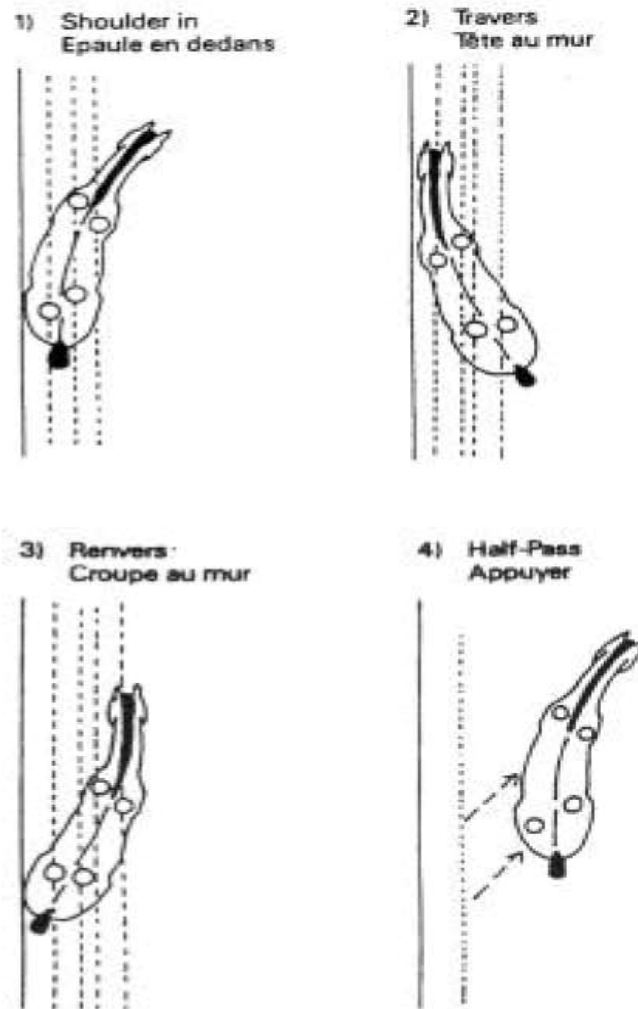
hindquarters. It can also be performed “along the wall” in which case the horse should be at an angle of about 35 degrees to the direction in which it is moving. (see diagram 1.14 fig. 5)

**ARTICLE E 1.13 FEI ARTICLE 412 THE LATERAL MOVEMENTS**

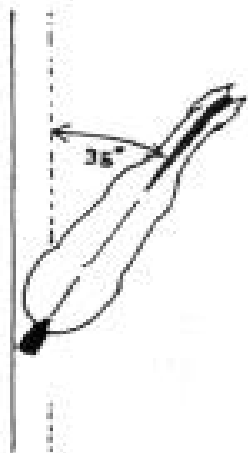
1. The main aim of lateral movements is to develop and increase the engagement of the hindquarters and thereby also the collection.
2. In all lateral movements shoulder-in, travers, renvers, and half-pass, the horse is slightly bent and moves on different tracks.
3. The bend or flexion must never be exaggerated so that it does not impair the balance and fluency of the movement.
4. In the lateral movements, the pace should remain free and regular, maintaining a constant impulsion, yet it must be supple, cadenced and balanced. The impulsion is often lost because of the rider's preoccupation with bending the horse and pushing it sideways.
5. **Shoulder-in:** This exercise is performed in collected trot. The horse is ridden with a slight but uniform bend around the inside leg of the rider maintaining cadence at a constant angle of approx. 30 degrees. The horse's inside foreleg passes and crosses in front of the outside foreleg; the inside hind leg steps forward under the horse's body weight following the same track of the outside foreleg, with the lowering of the inside hip. The horse is bent away from the direction in which it is moving. (see 1.14 diagrams)
6. **Travers:** This exercise can be performed in collected trot or collected canter. The horse is slightly bent round the inside leg of the rider, but with a greater degree of bend than in shoulder-in. A constant angle of approximately 35 degrees should be shown from the front and from behind one sees four tracks. The forehand remains on the track and the quarters are moved inwards. The horse's outside legs pass and cross in front of the inside legs. The horse is bent in the direction in which it is moving. To start the travers, the quarters must leave the track or, after a corner or circle are not brought back onto the track. At the end of the travers, the quarters are brought back on the track without any counter-flexion of the poll/neck as one would finish a circle. (see 1.14 diagrams)
7. **Renvers:** Renvers is the inverse movement in relation to travers. The hindquarters remain on the track while the forehand is moved inward. To finish the renvers the forehand is aligned with the quarters on the track. Otherwise, the same principles and conditions that apply to the travers are applicable to the renvers. The horse is slightly bent around the inside leg of the rider. The horse's outside legs pass and cross in front of the inside legs. The horse is bent in the direction in which it is moving. (see 1.14 diagrams)
8. **Half-pass:** Half-pass is a variation of travers, executed on a diagonal line instead of along the wall. It can be performed in collected trot or collected canter or in passage in freestyle. The horse should be slightly bent in the direction in which it is moving and bent around the inside leg of the rider. The horse should maintain the same cadence and balance throughout the whole movement. In order to give more freedom and mobility to the shoulders it is of great importance that the impulsion be maintained, especially the engagement of the inside hind

leg. The horse's body is nearly parallel to the long side of the arena with the forehand slightly in advance of the hindquarters. In the trot, the outside legs pass and cross in front of the inside legs. In the canter, the movement is performed in a series of forward sideways strides. (see 1.14 diagrams)

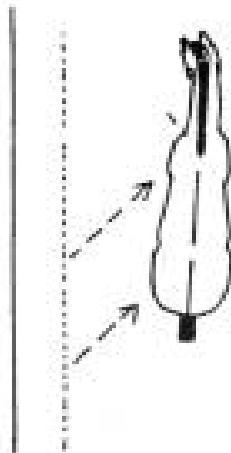
**ARTICLE E 1.14 DIAGRAMS OF LATERAL MOVEMENTS**



5) Leg yielding  
along the wall  
Cession à la jambe  
le long du mur



5) Leg-yielding  
on the diagonal  
Cession à la jambe  
sur la diagonale



**ARTICLE E 1.15 FEI ARTICLE 413 THE PIROUETTE, THE HALF PIROUETTE AND THE TURN ON THE HAUNCHES**

- Turn on the haunches from halt to halt (180 degrees):** To maintain the forward tendency of the movement, 1 or 2 steps forward at the beginning of the turn are permitted. During the turn the horse moves around a point whereby the inner hind leg remains close to that point while stepping around the point in a clear four-beat rhythm. The front legs and the outside hind leg move around the inner hind leg which is lifted and lowered in rhythm, clearly in the direction of the center of gravity and meets the ground in the same spot or only slightly in front thereof. After the completion of the turn the horse is brought back to the track in a forward sideward manner before the second halt. The horse returns to the track without the hind legs crossing. When executing the turn, the horse should be flexed in the direction of the turn.
- Turn on the haunches from walk (180 degrees):** The same criteria apply as for the turn on the haunches from halt to halt. The only difference is that the horse does not come to a halt before and after the turn. Before starting the turn, the steps of the walk should be shortened.
- The pirouette (half-pirouette):** is a turn of 360 degrees (180 degrees) executed on two tracks, with a radius equal to the length of the horse and the forehand moving round the haunches.
  - Pirouettes (half-pirouettes) are usually carried out at collected walk or canter, but can also be executed at piaffe.
  - In the pirouette (half-pirouette) the forefeet and the outside hind

foot move round the inside hind foot, which forms the pivot and should return to the same spot, or slightly in front of it, each time it leaves the ground.

- At whatever pace the pirouette (half-pirouette) is executed, the horse, slightly bent in the direction in which it is turning, should, remaining "on the bit" with a light contact, turn smoothly around, maintaining the sequence of footfalls of that pace. The poll stays the highest point during the entire movement.
- During the pirouettes (half-pirouettes) the horse should maintain its impulsion, and never in the slightest way move backwards or deviate sideways.
- In executing the pirouette or the half-pirouette in canter, the rider should maintain perfect lightness of the horse while accentuating the collection. The hindquarters are well engaged and lowered and show a good flexion of the joints. An integral part of the movement is the quality of the canter strides before and after the pirouette. In the canter pirouette a real canter stride should be recognisable although the feet of the diagonal hind leg and outside front leg may not touch the ground simultaneously. Pirouettes in canter should be executed in 6 to 8 strides (full pirouette) or 3 to 4 strides (half pirouette). The quality of the pirouette (half pirouette) is judged according to the suppleness, lightness, precision and smoothness of the execution.
- Increased activity, straightness and collection are required before entering the pirouette. The balance must be maintained as the horse exits the pirouette.

**ARTICLE E 1.16 FEI ARTICLE 414 THE PASSAGE**

- The passage** is a measured, very collected, elevated and very cadenced trot. It is characterized by a pronounced engagement of the hindquarters, a more accentuated flexion of the knees and hocks, and the graceful elasticity of the movement. Each diagonal pair of legs is raised and returned to the ground alternately, with cadence and a prolonged suspension.
- In principle, the height of the toe of the raised forefoot should be level with the middle of the cannon bone of the other supporting foreleg. The toe of the raised hind foot should be slightly above the fetlock joint of the other supporting hind leg.
- The neck should be raised and gracefully arched with the poll as the highest point. The horse should remain light and soft "on the bit" and be able to go smoothly from passage to piaffe and vice-versa, without apparent effort and without altering the cadence, with the impulsion always being lively and pronounced.
- Irregular steps with the hind or front legs, swinging the forehand or the hindquarters from one side to the other, as well as jerky movements of the forelegs or the hind legs, dragging the hind legs in the moment of suspension or double beat are serious faults.

**ARTICLE E 1.17 FEI ARTICLE 415 THE PIAFFE**

- Piaffe** is a highly collected, cadenced, elevated diagonal movement giving the impression of being in place. The horse's back is supple and

elastic. The hindquarters are lowered; the haunches with active hocks are well engaged, giving great freedom, lightness and mobility to the shoulders and forehand. Each diagonal pair of legs is raised and returned to the ground alternately, with spring and an even cadence.

- 1.1 In principle, the height of the toe of the raised forefoot should be level with the middle of the cannon bone of the other supporting foreleg. The toe of the raised hind foot should reach just above the fetlock joint of the other supporting hind leg.
- 1.2 The neck should be raised and gracefully arched, with the poll as the highest point. The horse should remain light "on the bit" with a supple poll, maintaining a light and soft contact. The body of the horse should move in a supple, cadenced and harmonious movement.
- 1.3 Piaffe must always be animated by a lively impulsion and characterized by perfect balance. While giving the impression of being in place there may be a visible inclination to advance, this being displayed by the horse's eager acceptance to move forward as soon as it is asked.
- 1.4 Moving even slightly backwards, irregular or jerky steps with the hind or front legs, no clear diagonal steps, crossing either the fore or hind legs, or swinging either the forehand or the hindquarters from one side to the other, getting wide behind or in front, moving too much forward or double beat rhythm are serious faults.  
A movement with hurried, unlevel or irregular steps, without cadence or spring cannot be called a true piaffe.

#### **ARTICLE E 1.18 FEI ARTICLE 416 THE IMPULSION/THE SUBMISSION**

1. **Impulsion** is the term used to describe the transmission of an eager and energetic, yet controlled, propulsive energy generated from the hindquarters into the athletic movement of the horse. Its ultimate expression can be shown only through the horse's soft and swinging back to be guided by a gentle contact with the rider's hand.
  - 1.1 Speed, of itself, has little to do with impulsion; the result is more often a flattening of the paces. A visible characteristic is a more pronounced articulation of the hind leg, in a continuous rather than staccato action. The hock, as the hind foot leaves the ground, should first move forward rather than being pulled upwards, but certainly not backwards. A prime ingredient of impulsion is the time the horse spends in the air rather than on the ground. Impulsion is, therefore, seen only in those paces that have a period of suspension.
  - 1.2 Impulsion is a precondition for a good collection in trot and canter. If there is no impulsion, then there is nothing to collect.
2. **Submission** does not mean subordination, but an obedience revealing its presence by a constant attention, willingness and confidence in the whole behaviour of the horse as well as by the harmony, lightness and ease it is displaying in the execution of the different movements.  
The degree of submission is also manifested by the way the horse accepts the bridle, with a light and soft contact and a supple poll, or with resistance to or evasion of the rider's hand, being either "above the bit" or "behind the bit" respectively.
  - 2.1 Putting out the tongue, keeping it above the bit or drawing it up altogether, as well as grinding the teeth and swishing the tail are

mostly signs of nervousness, tension or resistance on the part of the horse and must be taken into account by the judges in their marks for the movement concerned as well as in the collective mark for "submission".

- 2.2 Also straightness is an important part of submission. A horse is straight when the forelegs are aligned in front of the hindlegs on straight and curved lines and when the horse shows equal and submissive bend in both directions.  
The fulfilling of the main requirements/movements of a dressage test is a main criterion of submission.

#### **ARTICLE E 1.19 FEI ARTICLE 417 THE COLLECTION**

The aim of the collection of the horse is:

- a) To further develop and improve the balance and equilibrium of the horse, which has been more or less displaced by the additional weight of the rider.
  - b) To develop and increase the horse's ability to lower and engage its hindquarters for the benefit of the lightness and mobility of its forehand.
  - c) To add to the "ease and carriage" of the horse and to make it more pleasurable to ride.
1. Collection is developed through the use of shoulder-in, travers, renvers and half pass (Article 412) and especially half-halts (Article 408).
  2. Collection is improved and achieved by engaging the hind legs, with the joints bent and supple, stepping forward under the horse's body by using the containing hand and seat and legs.
  3. However, the hind legs should not be engaged too far forward under the horse, as this would shorten the base of support excessively, thereby impeding the movement. In such a case, the line of the back would be lengthened and raised too much in relation to the supporting base of the legs, the stability would be impaired and the horse would have difficulty in finding a harmonious and correct balance.
  4. On the other hand, a horse with an overlong base of support, which is unable or unwilling to engage his hind legs forward under its body, will never achieve an acceptable collection, characterized by "ease and carriage" as well as a lively impulsion, originating in the activity of the hindquarters.
  5. The position of the head and neck of a horse at the collected paces is naturally dependent on the stage of training and, to some degree, on its conformation. It is distinguished by the neck being raised unrestrained, forming a harmonious curve from the withers to the poll, which is the highest point, with the nose slightly in front of the vertical.

#### **ARTICLE E 1.20 FEI ARTICLE 418 THE POSITION AND AIDS OF THE RIDER**

1. All the movements should be obtained with invisible aids and without apparent effort of the rider. The rider should be well balanced, elastic, sitting deep in the centre of the saddle and smoothly joining the rhythm of the horse with his loins and hips supple, thighs and legs steady and well stretched downwards. The heels should be the lowest point. The upper part of the body should be easy, free and erect on the vertical.

- The hands should be carried steady and low and close together, with the thumb as the highest point and independent from the seat. The elbows should be close to the body, enabling the rider to follow the movements of the horse smoothly and freely.
2. The effectiveness of the rider's aids determines the precise fulfillment of the required movements of the tests. There shall always be the impression of a harmonious co-operation between horse and rider.
  3. Riding with both hands is obligatory in tests at FEI Dressage Events. However, in Freestyle tests riding with reins in one hand in up to four movements is allowed (see Guidelines for Judges) When leaving the arena at a walk on a long rein, after having finished the performance, the rider may, at his/her own discretion, ride with only one hand.
  4. The use of the voice in any way, or clicking the tongue repeatedly, is a serious fault, involving the deduction of at least 2 marks from those that would otherwise have been awarded for the movement where this occurred as well as in the mark for the rider's seat and position.

## **CHAPTER 2 NATIONAL MOVEMENTS & REQUIREMENTS**

EC governs and designs the easier grades, which build up to the international standard. The following is a description of some of the movements and requirements which are used as a foundation for the more difficult movements of advanced dressage and which are not included in the objects and general principles of dressage above.

### **ARTICLE E 2.1 LENGTHENED STRIDE**

The horse is asked to lengthen its stride while engaging its hocks. A quickening of pace is to be strictly penalized. This is a preparation for the medium and extended paces of the more advanced levels. The transition between lengthened stride and ordinary stride helps to create balance and impulsion.

### **ARTICLE E 2.2 SITTING AND RISING TROT**

In all levels the working, medium, extended trots and trot with lengthened stride are all executed sitting unless otherwise instructed. The instructions for sitting or rising trot are to be followed in successive movements until the instructions are changed. At a transition from a rising trot to a canter, walk, or halt, the last few steps of the trot may be executed sitting. See test sheet for rising or sitting instructions.

**Note:** Sidesaddle: Ladies riding sidesaddle execute all trot movements sitting.

### **ARTICLE E 2.3 CHANGE OF LEG**

The change of leg when performed through the trot must not include more than three or four steps of trot. For simple changes see FEI Annex and FEI Article 405.4.7

### **ARTICLE E 2.4 TROT AND CANTER, ROUND AND LOW**

The trot and canter, round and low, will be developed on the 20m circle. The horse, by smoothly taking the rein, will stretch its head and neck forward and down, stretching over its back in a round frame, while maintaining a rhythmic gait and contact with the bit.

### **ARTICLE E 2.5 EXECUTION OF MOVEMENTS**

In a movement which must be carried out at a certain point of the arena, it should be done at the moment when the competitor's body is above this point, except in transitions where the horse approaches the letter from a diagonal or perpendicular to the point where the letters are positioned. In this case, the transitions must be done when the horse's nose reaches the track at the letter so that the horse is straight in the transition.

### **ARTICLE E 2.6 THE TRANSITIONS**

The changes of pace and variations within the paces should be performed exactly at the prescribed marker. The cadence/rhythm of a pace should be maintained up to the moment when the pace or movement is changed or

the horse halts. Transitions within the paces must be clearly defined while maintaining the same rhythm and cadence throughout. The horse should remain light in hand, calm, and maintain a correct position. The same applies to transitions from one movement to another, for instance from passage to piaffe or vice versa.

### CHAPTER 3 GENERAL

#### ARTICLE E 3.0 EC PROGRESSIVE COMPETITION AND SPORT LICENSE SYSTEM CHART FOR COMPETITION LEVELS

COMPETITION ORGANIZATION	DISCOVERY	BRONZE	SILVER	GOLD
<i>Prize Money</i>	None	Max. \$2500	Max. \$10,000 OR Max. \$15, 000 for Championships	No Limit
<i>Days of Operation</i>	1 day ONLY	Maximum 2 days	Maximum 2 days	No Limit
<i>Approved By</i>	PSO	EC/DC	EC/DC	EC/DC
<i>EC Medication Control</i>	NO	Compulsory	Compulsory	Compulsory
<b>COMPETITION ORGANIZATION</b>	DISCOVERY	BRONZE	SILVER	GOLD
<i>EC Rules (General Regs)</i>	NO	Compulsory	Compulsory	Compulsory
<i>Drug Fees</i>	NO	YES	YES	YES
<i>Dressage Rules (Sec. E)</i>	NO	Compulsory	Compulsory	Compulsory
<i>Dressage Test User Fee</i>	\$15	\$25	\$50	\$100
<i>Insurance</i>	YES	YES	YES	YES
<i>On Site Medical/ Emergency Plan</i>	YES	YES	YES	YES
<i>Veterinarian</i>	Recommended or ON CALL	Recommended or ON CALL	Recommended or ON CALL	Recommended or ON CALL
<i>Permitted Classes</i>	Up to and including First Level	All EC tests as well as all FEI tests.	All EC tests, FEI tests up to and including Intermediate 2. Grand Prix and FEI Young Horse Classes are not permitted at Silver shows. Qualifying scores from these competitions may be used for Silver Championships.	All EC tests as well as all FEI tests. Qualifying scores from these competitions may be used for Provincial, Regional and National Gold Championships and stated criteria as posted by Dressage Canada.
<i>Miscellaneous Classes</i>	Dressage Equitation, Prix Caprilli	As per General Regulations	As per General Regulations	As per General Regulations
<i>Championships</i>	None	None	Silver Championships	Provincial, Regional and National Championships

COMPETITION ORGANIZATION	DISCOVERY	BRONZE	SILVER	GOLD
<i>Ring Size</i>	20 x 40* or 20 x 60  *Walk/Trot Tests, Training Level Tests 1-4 plus First Level Test 1 may be in 20 x 40 ring.	20 x 40* or 20 x 60  *Walk/Trot Tests, Training Level Tests 1-4 plus First Level Test 1 may be in 20 x 40 ring.	20 x 40* or 20 x 60 *Walk/Trot Tests, Training Level Tests 1-4 plus First Level Test 1 may be in 20 x 40 ring. In Championships all tests must be in 20 x 60 ring	20 x 40* or 20 x 60 *Walk/Trot Tests, Training Level Tests 1-4 plus First Level Test 1 may be in 20 x 40 ring. In Championships all tests must be in 20 x 60 ring
<i>OFFICIALS: Judges</i>	Non-Licensed, recorded	recorded, Basic, Medium, Senior, FEI	recorded, Basic, Medium, Senior, FEI	recorded, Basic, Medium, Senior, FEI
<i>Judges Restrictions</i>	No restrictions	No restrictions	recorded – up to and including Second Level. Third Level with guest card.  Basic – up to and including Third Level Fourth Level with guest card Not permitted to judge FEI classes  Medium & Senior – no restrictions	<b>recorded</b> – up to and including First Level. Second Level with guest card. <b>Basic</b> – up to and including Second Level. Third & Fourth Level with guest card. May co-judge Third & Fourth Level with Medium or higher without guest card. <b>Medium</b> – up to and including Fourth Level plus FEI Children, FEI Pony and FEI Junior. May judge all other FEI tests except Young Horse classes with guest card. May co-judge all other FEI tests except FEI Young Horse classes with Senior or FEI with no guest card. <b>Senior and FEI</b> – No restrictions
<i>Results Reporting</i>	NO	Optional to Provincial Organization	Compulsory to EC through ECRIT/SECRET	Compulsory to EC through ECRIT/SECRET

COMPETITION ORGANIZATION	DISCOVERY	BRONZE	SILVER	GOLD
<i>Dressage stewards</i>	Not Required	Not required but highly recommended	Basic, Medium, Senior	Basic, Medium, Senior, FEI
<i>Steward Restrictions</i>		See 16.11	See 16.11	See 16.11
<b>COMPETITORS/ HORSE OWNER REQUIREMENTS</b> <i>Provincial Sport Organization</i>	YES	NO	NO	NO
<i>EC Sport License</i>	NO	BRONZE Level	SILVER Level	GOLD Level
<i>Dressage Canada Affiliate Fee</i>	NO	NO	NO	Minimum: Junior or Senior
<i>Dressage Canada Levy</i>	NO	YES \$7 per entry	YES \$7 per entry	YES \$7 per entry
<i>Insurance</i>	YES Available through PSO	YES Available through PSO	YES Available through PSO	YES Available through PSO
<b>HORSE REQUIREMENTS</b> <i>Horse Identification Document, as outlined in EC General Regulations</i>	NO	NO	YES	YES
<i>Horse License</i>	NO	NO	YES	YES
<b>AWARD PROGRAMS</b> <i>Provincial Awards</i>	NO	NO	YES	YES
<i>Dressage Canada National Awards</i>	NO	NO	YES	YES
<i>Lauren Dilanni Award for Freestyles</i>	NO	NO	YES	YES
<i>Dressage Canada EIGHT</i>	NO	NO	YES	YES

### ARTICLE E 3.1 EC SPORT LICENSE AND DC AFFILIATE FEES

EC sport licenses are required for Bronze, Silver and Gold competitions but the fees vary. Riders should refer to the fee schedule on the Equine Canada website [www.equinecanada.ca](http://www.equinecanada.ca) and the Equine Canada General Regulations Chapter 2. Both the rider and owner of the competing horse must hold a current EC sport license for their competition level. Only the rider must pay the Dressage Canada affiliate fee.

### ARTICLE E 3.2 HORSE LICENSE

EC horse licenses are required for Silver and Gold competitions. Riders should refer to the fee schedule on the Equine Canada website [www.equinecanada.ca](http://www.equinecanada.ca) and the Equine Canada General Regulations Chapter 4 Passports.

### ARTICLE E 3.3 PASSPORTS/HORSE IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENTATION

Horse Identification documentation is required for Silver and Gold competitions see the Equine Canada General Regulations Chapter 4 Passports.

### ARTICLE E 3.4 CATEGORIES AND ELIGIBILITY TO COMPETE

Category and Class Division	Eligibility to Compete
Open	All competitors (regardless of age and/or amateur/professional status)
Amateur	All riders who are no longer Juniors under rule 3.4.3 (except as outlined in rule 3.4.2) individual Canadian competitors (see 3.4.2 – Amateur Status)
Junior	Open to all riders until the end of the calendar year in which they reach the age of 18.

**Note:** the following categories may be abbreviated in prize lists as follows: Open (O), Amateur (Am), Junior (Jr)

#### ARTICLE E 3.4.1 OPEN

The open category is open to all riders regardless of age or status.

#### ARTICLE E 3.4.2 AMATEUR

The Amateur category is designed for those riders who are no longer juniors and who are not earning remuneration from teaching or training in the horse industry.

All seniors (riders over the age of 18) Sport License holders competing in amateur classes at EC-sanctioned competitions must possess a current EC amateur card. Eligible riders competing on a Temporary Sport License may file an Amateur Affidavit with the competition Secretary.

- Competitors in FEI-sanctioned competitions must comply with the FEI definition of amateur.

- Amateur status is issued by EC on EC sport license cards. All persons wishing EC amateur status must pay the appropriate fees, complete and sign the amateur declaration, which is on the sport license application/renewal form, affirming their eligibility.

The amateur classes at all EC sanctioned dressage competitions are NOT open to:

1. Competitors who accept remuneration for training or schooling a horse, or for showing or schooling a horse at any EC-sanctioned competition. They are also NOT open to anyone who receives remuneration for teaching as an employee of a farm or business by which they are employed.
2. Competitors who accept remuneration for coaching or instructing a person to ride or drive a horse at any EC sanctioned competition. **Exception:** Individuals may show as an EC amateur if they meet and maintain the following criteria:
  - a) hold and maintain a current EC Instruction of beginners certificate or
  - b) coach the disabled
3. Competitors who act as an agent or accept commissions for the sale, purchase and/or lease of a horse.
4. Competitors who accept remuneration for giving clinics and seminars.
5. Competitors who train or show a horse, or instruct a rider or driver, when remuneration for this activity will be given to a corporation or farm which he or she, or his or her family, owns or controls.
6. Juniors
7. Current or former Canadian Equestrian Team (CET) Short or Long listed riders.
8. Current or former CET members
9. Anyone who has represented Canada internationally (World Cup Final, Can Am Challenge etc.)

**Note:** EC Amateurs may not use their name, photograph or any form of a personal association as a horse person in connection with any advertisement or article sold without the approval and signature of EC (i.e. product endorsement or advertisement of their activity as a coach).

**Note:** EC amateurs may not enter into any form of sponsorship agreement without the approval and signature of EC.

**Note:** Any coach or instructor who has not been teaching for two years or more may compete in the amateur category providing they apply to EC for reinstatement of their amateur status.

**Note:** Holding an amateur card for the purposes of competing internationally does not allow a rider to compete in the amateur category at EC competitions if they can be classified as any of the above.

#### ARTICLE E 3.4.3 JUNIOR

1. The Junior (Jr) category in EC classes at Bronze, Silver and Gold competitions is open to all riders until the end of the calendar year in which they reach the age of 18.
2. Juniors are not eligible to compete in the Amateur category but may compete in the Open classes.

3. At EC sanctioned competitions, Juniors competing below the Young Rider Level must wear correctly fitted ASTM/SEI or BSI approved protective headgear at all times when mounted even if they turn 18 during a competition season in which they continue to compete in Junior classes.
4. Juniors competing at the Young Rider Level must wear correctly fitted ASTM/SEI or BSI approved protective headgear at all times while mounted.

#### **ARTICLE E 3.4.4 FEI AGE LIMITATIONS**

The following age limits **only** apply to riders competing in FEI Children, FEI Pony, FEI Junior and FEI Young Rider classes:

**FEI Children:** A rider may compete in FEI Children's classes from the beginning of the calendar year in which he/she reaches the age of 12 until the end of the calendar year in which he/she reaches the age of 14.

**FEI Pony:** A rider may compete in FEI Pony classes from the beginning of the calendar year in which he/she reaches the age of 12 until the end of the year in which he/she reaches the age of 16.

**FEI Junior:** A rider may compete in FEI Junior classes from the beginning of the calendar year in which he/she reaches the age of 14 until the end of the year in which he/she reaches the age of 18.

#### **FEI Young Rider:**

- A rider may compete in FEI Young Rider classes from the beginning of the calendar year in which he/she reaches the age of 16 until the end of the calendar year in which he/she reaches the age of 21.
- No Young Rider up to the age of 18 may be classified as a professional.
- Young Riders may not compete both in an FEI Championship for Young Riders and in any other higher level FEI Championship for Seniors in the same year. (FEI Article YR-6)
- A Young Rider who has taken part in an international championship for Seniors or in regional or Olympic Games – in Grand Prix – is no longer eligible to take part in any international dressage events for Young Riders. The participation of a Young Rider in any other international dressage events for Seniors does not, however, affect his status as a Young Rider.

#### **ARTICLE E 3.5 YOUNG RIDER - EC PROTECTIVE HEADGEAR REQUIREMENTS**

At EC competitions, riders competing in FEI Young Rider classes, who have not yet reached their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday, must wear ASTM/SEI or BSI approved protective headgear at all times when mounted.

## **CHAPTER 4 DRESS, SADDLERY AND EQUIPMENT**

**Equine Canada strongly recommends that all riders wear approved ASTM/SEI or BSI approved protective headgear at all levels.**

**Note: JUNIORS** – Must wear ASTM/SEI or BSI approved protective headgear at EC-sanctioned competitions at all times when mounted. The harness must be securely attached. This rule applies even if the junior turns 18 during the competition season in which they continue to compete in junior classes. Failure to comply with these dress regulations will result in elimination. At the tack check a junior may be asked to dismount to allow an inspection of their headgear.

**Note: YOUNG RIDERS** – At EC competitions, riders competing in FEI Young Rider classes, who have not yet reached their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday, must wear ASTM/SEI or BSI approved protective headgear at all times when mounted.

**Note:** For FEI dress rules at FEI sanctioned competitions riders should refer to [www.fei.org](http://www.fei.org).

#### **ARTICLE E 4.1 DRESS – FOR EC GOLD, SILVER AND BRONZE LEVEL COMPETITIONS**

##### **ARTICLE E 4.1.1 FEI TESTS FROM YOUNG RIDER TO GRAND PRIX IN ALL EC SANCTIONED COMPETITIONS INCLUDING CHAMPIONSHIPS**

- Black or dark blue tailcoat with ASTM/SEI or BSI approved protective headgear or top hat
- Black or dark blue short coat with ASTM/SEI or BSI approved protective headgear, top hat or hunt cap
- White or off-white breeches
- Tie or hunting stock
- Gloves
- Black riding boots (plain, laced or with zippers)
- Spurs are optional.

##### **ARTICLE E 4.1.2 FEI CHILDREN, FEI PONY AND FEI JUNIOR TESTS IN ALL EC SANCTIONED COMPETITIONS**

- A dark short riding jacket or club uniform coat
- ASTM/SEI or BSI approved protective headgear
- White or light coloured breeches or jodhpurs with jodhpur boots
- White shirt with tie, hunting stock, or choker
- Gloves
- Black or brown boots (plain, laced or with zippers)

**Note:** Spurs are optional, but if used, FEI Child and FEI Pony riders must use blunt metal spurs no longer than 1.5 cm.

**Note:** FEI Child and FEI Pony riders may not use spurs with rowels.

**ARTICLE E 4.1.3 GOLD AND SILVER COMPETITIONS INCLUDING CHAMPIONSHIPS: WALK/TROT THROUGH FOURTH LEVEL**

- A black or dark blue jacket (tailcoats not permitted)
- ASTM/SEI or BSI approved protective head gear, hunt cap, bowler or top hat
- White or light coloured breeches
- Juniors are permitted to wear jodhpurs and jodhpur boots
- Tie, hunting stock or choker
- Gloves
- Black riding boots (plain, laced or with zippers)
- Spurs are optional

**Note:** See 4.1.1 and 4.1.2 for the dress rules for FEI tests.

**ARTICLE E 4.1.4 BRONZE COMPETITIONS: WALK/TROT THROUGH FOURTH LEVEL**

- A dark coloured jacket (tailcoats not permitted)
- ASTM/SEI or BSI approved protective headgear, bowler, hunt cap, top hat
- White or light coloured breeches
- Juniors are permitted to wear jodhpurs and jodhpur boots.
- Tie, hunting stock, or choker
- Gloves
- Black or brown boots (plain, laced or with zippers)
- Black or brown half chaps or half boots zipped over short boots may be worn. Half chaps/boots are forbidden at Silver and Gold competitions.
- Spurs are optional

**ARTICLE E 4.1.5 DISCOVERY COMPETITIONS: WALK/TROT THROUGH FIRST LEVEL**

Riders in Discovery competitions do not have to use EC dress regulations, but it is strongly recommended that all riders wear ASTM/SEI or BSI approved protective headgear, breeches and riding boots.

**ARTICLE E 4.1.6 MILITARY UNIFORMS**

Riders who are members of the police or other armed forces may wear civil or service dress at national and international events.

**ARTICLE E 4.1.7 EXTREME OR INCLEMENT WEATHER CONDITIONS**

In the case of inclement weather, competitors may wear a suitable protective hat cover and a warm or waterproof overcoat that is transparent or conservative in colour.

In extreme heat or humidity, the judge may permit competitors to ride without jackets. In such a case, competitors must wear:

- ASTM/SEI or BSI approved protective headgear bowler, hunt cap, top hat
- Solid white, off-white or pale pastel coloured, long or short sleeve shirt with a collar

- Sleeveless shirts are not permitted
- Shirt collar may be opened
- Stock ties must be removed unless pinned to the rider's shirt
- T-shirts are not permitted

**ARTICLE E 4.1.8 SPURS**

- Spurs are optional at all levels
- Spurs must be made of metal.
- The shank must be either curved downward or straight pointing directly back from the centre of the spur when on the rider's boot.
- Swan neck spurs are allowed.
- The arms of the spur must be smooth.
- If rowels are used, they must be blunt/smooth and free to rotate.
- Metal spurs with round hard plastic knobs are allowed ("Impuls" spurs).
- "Dummy" spurs with no shank are allowed.
- Spurs must be worn in matching pairs.
- No spurs other than those listed here are allowed anywhere on the show grounds.
- Protective bands that keep spurs in place are permitted.

**Exception:** Sidesaddle riders – See Chapter 5.

**Note:** The maximum length of a spur may be 4.5 cm. See 4.1.2 Note, for FEI Child and FEI Pony spur rule.

**Note:** Failure to comply with the above listed dress regulations will result in elimination from the class.

**ARTICLE E 4.1.9 RIDERS WITH LONG HAIR**

Long hair must be secured with a hair net or tied back in a braid or a bun.

**ARTICLE E 4.1.10 BRAIDING MANES**

It is expected that the horse's mane will be braided.

- White or black braiding tape is permitted.
- White, black or brown thread/wool/elastic bands are permitted.
- Any decoration of the horse with extravagant items, such as ribbons or flowers, etc. in the mane and tail, etc., is strictly forbidden.

**ARTICLE E 4.1.11 PROTECTIVE HEADGEAR**

Equine Canada strongly recommends that all competitors wear ASTM/SEI or BSI approved protective headgear. Any exhibitor in EC competitions may wear protective headgear at any level of competition from Walk/Trot to Grand Prix.

1. Juniors must wear ASTM/SEI or BSI approved protective headgear at all times while mounted. The harness must be securely attached. This rule applies even if the junior turns 18 during the competition season in which they continue to compete in junior classes. Failure to comply with this dress regulation will result in elimination. At the tack check a junior may be asked to dismount to allow an inspection of their headgear.

2. Riders competing in FEI Young Rider classes, who have not yet reached their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday, must wear ASTM/SEI or BSI approved protective headgear at all times when mounted.
3. All riders wearing protective headgear must have the harness securely attached and the helmet must fit correctly.

#### ARTICLE E 4.1.12 MEDICAL DISPENSATION FOR SHORT TERM INJURIES OF RIDER

If a rider has a temporary injury or medical condition that prevents them from complying with the EC dress rules, they may present a letter from their doctor indicating the nature of the injury to the competition organizer. The competition organizer must provide a copy of the letter to the steward.

#### ARTICLE E 4.1.13 RIBBON & AWARD PRESENTATIONS

During ribbon & award presentations all parties must dress neatly and in accordance with the dignity of the ceremony. (No shorts, tank tops, jeans, etc). Riders should refer to the prize list for information regarding prize giving ceremonies.

### SADDLERY AND EQUIPMENT

#### ARTICLE E 4.2 BRIDLES

- All bridles must be correctly fitted and be black or brown in colour.
- Reins must be black or brown in colour.
- Type of reins is optional but reins with hand loops, elastic or rubber inserts are prohibited. **Exception:** For Para-Equestrian rein rules see Chapter 14.
- Bitless bridles are not permitted.
- Padding is allowed on bridles.
- Chain browbands are not permitted unless the chain is a decoration stuck to a leather browband.
- The browband may not have anything hanging from it. **Exception:** A small name tag is permitted.

#### ARTICLE E 4.2.1 SNAFFLE BRIDLE

Required at Walk/Trot, Training, First and Second level but optional at Third and Fourth levels.

- Snaffle bridles are required in FEI Childrens and FEI Pony classes
- Snaffle bridles are required for FEI 4, 5 and 6 year old tests
- Snaffle bridle is optional in the FEI Junior Preliminary test
- For permitted bits, see 4.3 and 4.3.1 diagrams
- For permitted nosebands see 4.2.3 diagrams

#### ARTICLE E 4.2.2 DOUBLE BRIDLE

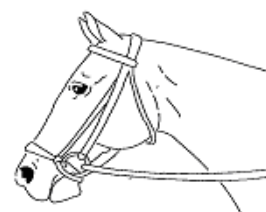
Required for FEI Junior Team, FEI Junior Individual, FEI Junior Freestyle and all FEI tests from Young Rider to Grand Prix.

- Double bridles are optional at Third and Fourth Levels as well as in the FEI Junior Preliminary test
- For permitted bits, see 4.3 and 4.3.2 diagrams

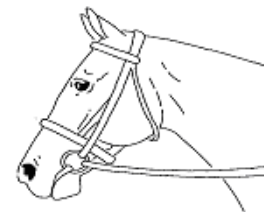
- For permitted nosebands see 4.2.3 Example of Double Bridle see 4.2.4

**Note:** Only plain cavesson nosebands are permitted with double bridles. All other vefort when presented at the tack check, the steward or his/her appointee will consult with the judge and the rider may be asked to loosen it before riding any further tests. Failure to comply with this request will result in elimination.

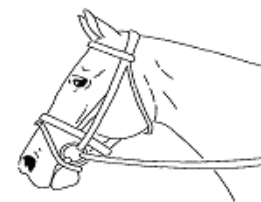
#### ARTICLE E 4.2.3 DIAGRAMS FOR PERMITTED NOSEBANDS



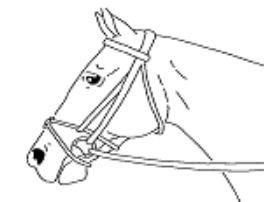
1. Dropped noseband



2. Cavesson noseband

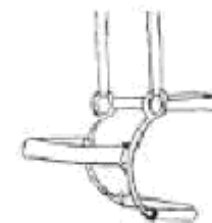


3. Flash noseband



4. Crossed noseband/  
Figure of 8 noseband/  
Mexican noseband

1, 3 and 4 are not permitted when a double bridle is used.



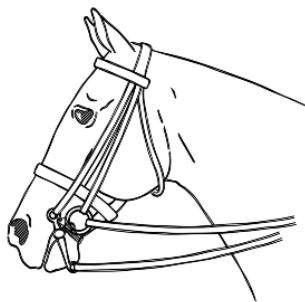
Crescent Cavesson

**Note:** Crescent cavessons are not permitted with double bridles.

**Note:** Crescent cavessons and Figure of 8 nosebands are not permitted in FEI Young Horse classes.

**ARTICLE E 4.2.4 EXAMPLE OF DOUBLE BRIDLE, FEI Article 428.1**

Example of double bridle with cavesson noseband, bridoon bit and curb with curb chain



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**ARTICLE E 4.3 BITS AND DIAGRAMS**

Only those bits pictured in this rulebook are approved for use in EC dressage competitions. Other bits may be added subsequently if approved by Dressage Canada.

**Note:** Riders should check their bits to be certain that the edges of the center links are not sharp. Stewards can call any bit with sharp edges on these links illegal.

**Note:** Riders with bit questions can approach the steward during the competition to get clarification on whether their bit is permitted.

**Note:** Dr. Bristol snaffles are not permitted.

- a) All metal bits must be smooth. Type of bits should not vary from those pictured in diagram.  
**Spacing:** The maximum inside diameter of the snaffle ring must be no larger than 10.16 cm (4") or smaller than 3.5cm (1.38"). Where the mouthpiece connects to the cheek or ring, the diameter of the snaffle mouthpiece must be a minimum of 14 mm.
- b) Bridoon and curb bits must be made of metal or rigid plastic and may be covered with rubber (flexible rubber bits are not permitted).
- c) The lever arm of the curb bit below the mouthpiece should not measure more than 10cm when the mouthpiece is at the uppermost position.
- d) The minimum diameter of the curb mouthpiece is to be 14 mm measured adjacent to the cheeks of the mouthpiece.
- e) The diameter of the mouthpiece of the bridoon must not exceed 10 mm measured adjacent to the rings or cheeks of the mouthpiece.
- f) Wrapping of bits is prohibited.

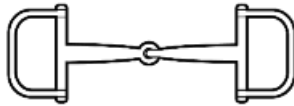
**ARTICLE E 4.3.1 APPROVED SNAFFLE BITS**



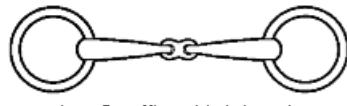
1. Loose ring snaffle



2. Egg-butt snaffle



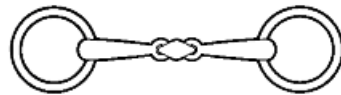
3. Racing snaffle D-ring



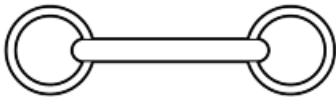
4a. Snaffle with jointed mouthpiece where middle piece should be rounded.



4b. Snaffle with jointed mouthpiece where middle piece should be rounded.



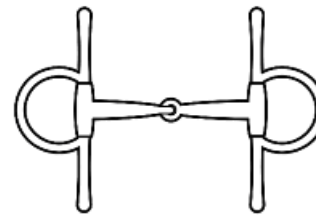
4c. Snaffle with jointed mouthpiece where middle piece should be rounded.



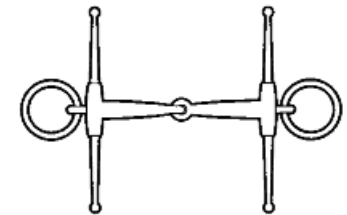
5. Straight bar snaffle permitted also with mullen mouth and with egg-butt rings.



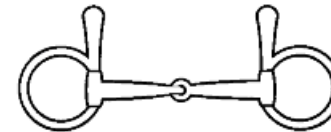
6. Double jointed snaffle with roller in the center



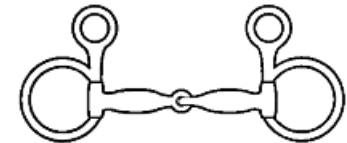
8. Egg-butt snaffle with cheeks



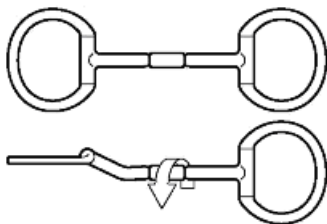
9. Loose ring snaffle with cheeks



10. Snaffle with upper cheeks only

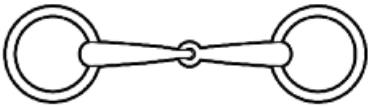
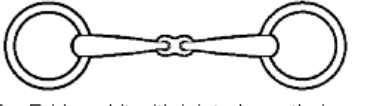
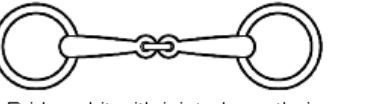
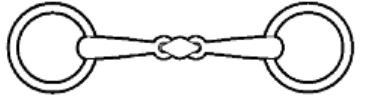
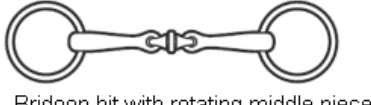
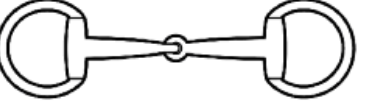





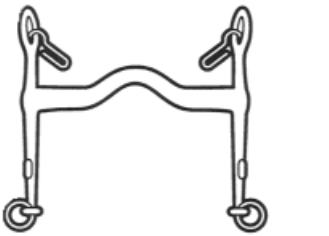
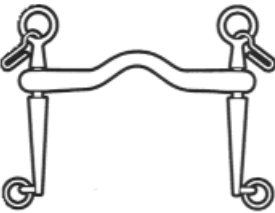
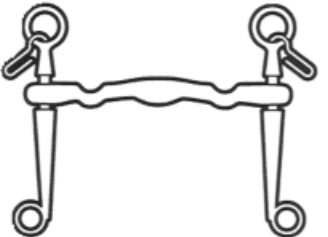
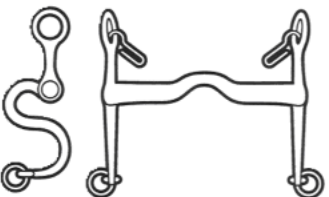




11. Hanging cheek snaffle



7. Snaffle with rotating mouth piece

**ARTICLE E 4.3.2 APPROVED DOUBLE BRIDLE BITS**

 <p>1. Loose ring bridoon bit</p>	 <p>2.a Bridoon bit with jointed mouthpiece where the middle piece should be rounded</p>
 <p>2b. Bridoon bit with jointed mouthpiece where the middle piece should be rounded.</p>	 <p>2c. Bridoon bit with jointed mouthpiece where the middle piece should be rounded</p>
 <p>2d. Bridoon bit with rotating middle piece.</p>	 <p>3. Egg-butt bridoon bit.</p>
 <p>4. Bridoon bit with hanging cheeks.</p>	 <p>5. Half-moon curb bit</p>
 <p>6. Curb bit with straight cheeks and port.</p>	

 <p>7. Curb bit with straight cheeks and port.</p>	 <p>8. Curb bit with port and slicing mouthpiece (Weymouth)</p>
 <p>9. Variation of bits 6, 7 and 8.</p>	 <p>10. Curb bit with S-curved cheeks. A curb bit with rotating lever arms is also allowed.</p>
 <p>11. Curb chain (metal or leather or a combination)</p>	 <p>12. Lip Strap</p>
 <p>13. Leather cover for curb chain.</p>	 <p>14. Rubber cover for curb chain.</p>

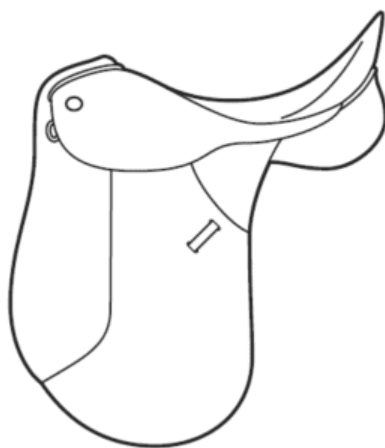
#### ARTICLE E 4.4 TONGUE TIE

A horse's tongue tied down will result in disqualification from the competition.

#### ARTICLE E 4.5 SADDLES

1. A plain English black or brown saddle with stirrups is compulsory at Walk/Trot through Fourth Level.
2. Dressage saddles are required in FEI classes. The saddle must be close to the horse and have long, near-vertical flaps.
3. An English type saddle may be assembled with or without a tree but cannot have a horn, swell, gallerie, or open gullet.
4. Australian, Baroque, Endurance, McClellan, Spanish, Stock or Western saddles are not permitted nor are modified versions of these saddles.
5. Leather or fabric/synthetic saddles are permitted.
6. Saddle covers are not allowed at any level.

Example of permitted Dressage saddle



#### ARTICLE E 4.6 STIRRUPS

1. Stirrups must be used.
2. Safety stirrups may be used at all levels of competition.
3. Stirrups may not be tied/tethered to the girth or each other.
4. Boots may not be tethered to the stirrups.  
**Exception:** For rules regarding riders with disabilities see: Chapter 14, Para-Equestrian

#### ARTICLE E 4.7 WHIPS

1. A whip may be carried in all levels at Bronze, Silver and Gold competitions.
2. Whips may not be carried in Young Horse classes, in championship competitions or national team selection trials. **Exception:** Ladies riding sidesaddle may always carry a whip. See Chapter 5, Sidesaddle.

3. The total length of the whip (including lash) must not exceed 110 cm.
4. Whips for ponies in all classes must not exceed 90 cm in length including lash.
5. Telescoping whips are not permitted.
6. The following whips are permitted in the schooling areas:
  - a) A standard lunging whip, when lunging an unmounted horse only
  - b) A whip for in-hand work no longer than 1.80 meters including lash (to be used only by one person on the ground).

#### ARTICLE E 4.8 SPURS

See 4.1.2, 4.1.8, and 5.4

#### ARTICLE E 4.9 MISCELLANEOUS EQUIPMENT

##### A Allowed in warm-up area only – forbidden in competition

1. Running martingales provided they are attached only to the snaffle reins.
2. Boots and bandages  
**Exception:** Boots and bandages are permitted Bronze competitions.
3. Seat covers
4. Single direct side-reins (the latter solely when lunging unmounted horses, with only one lunge line) are permitted. No other lunging devices may be used. A mounted horse may not be lunged.
5. Equine nasal strips
6. Double bridles may be used to warm up any horse regardless of the level at which it will compete. See 4.2.2 for rules regarding levels at which a horse can/must compete in a double bridle.
7. Snaffle bridles may be used to warm up any horse regardless of the level at which it will compete. See 4.2.1 for rules regarding levels at which a horse can/must compete in a snaffle bridle.
8. Two way communication devices.
9. Removable hoof boots.

##### B Approved for competition but requiring permission

1. Net relief for head shakers (See 4.12.2)

### **C Approved for competition – no permission required**

1. Breastplates, foregirths, bucking straps, girth covers, and cruppers
2. Ear nets (fly hoods) may be used in the competition arena providing that they do not cover the eyes.
3. Non-restrictive nose fly guards
4. False Tails

**Note:** Riders must dismount and remove or have their groom remove their horse's face or nose covering at the compulsory tack check to allow a thorough inspection of the net, fly guard, ear covers and ears.

**Note:** Tack which is designed to facilitate the comfort of the horse or the safety of the rider in the competition arena or warm-up area is permitted as long as it does not contravene Equine Canada tack rules. Not permitted are gadgets designed to affect the performance of the horse (i.e. bit burrs).

### **D Equipment forbidden from being used on the show grounds**

Martingales (other than running), bit guards, bit burrs, tongue tie, any kind of gadgets (such as bearing, running or balancing reins, etc) and any form of blinkers, ear plugs, illegal spurs are, under penalty of elimination, strictly forbidden from being used on the show grounds at any time during the competition.

**Exception:** Any equipment which is designated to facilitate the comfort of the horse is permitted in the stable. i.e. ear plugs would be allowed in the stable but never in the warm-up or competition arena.

### **ARTICLE E 4.10 BOOTS AND BANDAGES**

Boots or bandages may be worn anywhere on the competition grounds except in the competition arena.

**Exception:** Boots or bandages are permitted in EC Bronze competitions, non-EC classes and at prize giving ceremonies. They may also be permitted in extreme wet/muddy footing conditions at any competition at the discretion of the judge. In the event that boots and/or bandages have been allowed in the competition arena, the steward may also request that the rider remove them for inspection at the tack check. See 4.16

### **ARTICLE E 4.11 MUDDY FOOTING CONDITIONS**

1. In the event of extreme, wet, muddy and slick conditions, permission may be given for horses to wear boots or bandages in the competition arena. It is up to the judge in consultation with the Organizing Committee and senior steward to make this decision.
2. Permission to use boots/bandages must be announced frequently and may not be given after the start of a class.
3. Stewards may, but are not obligated to inform riders of this option prior to entering the competition arena.
4. The Organizing Committee must post signs indicating this option in the stabling area. It is entirely the rider's decision whether to use boots/bandages or not and it is the rider's responsibility to decide whether to compete or not in unstable footing.
5. It is to be understood that the OC, judges and stewards are not responsible for any injury that may occur while riding in footing deemed unstable regardless of the options given to protect the horses' legs.

6. Stewards must have any boots or bandages removed as part of the compulsory tack check that follows each test.

### **ARTICLE E 4.12 NOSE FLY GUARDS AND NET RELIEF FOR HEAD SHAKERS**

1. **Non-restrictive nose fly guards** are allowed.  
**Note:** Riders may be asked to dismount and remove or have their groom remove their horse's face / nose covering at the compulsory tack check to allow a thorough inspection of the net and fly guard.
2. **Net relief** for head shakers is permitted providing the rider, or the person responsible, submits a written request, along with a veterinary recommendation/certificate and the passport number to the Manager Dressage at the EC office prior to competing. If the request is granted upon review and consultation with the DC Officials and Rules Committees, the Manager Dressage will issue a Net Relief Authorization Certificate to the rider/person responsible. A copy of the certificate must accompany the rider's competition entry form. A copy must also be provided to the steward. The net relief must be properly adjusted at all times.

### **ARTICLE E 4.13 FALSE TAILS**

1. If a rider wishes to compete on a horse with a false tail, they may do so but must inform the steward at the tack check so that an inspection can be made.
2. No weights may be used in a false tail. It must be made from horse hair or the equivalent in synthetic fabric and must be the same as the horses natural tail colour.

**Note:** For false tail rules at FEI competitions see FEI Rules for Dressage Events Art 428.4 False Tails.

### **ARTICLE E 4.14 PULLED SHOE / BROKEN EQUIPMENT**

1. In the event of equipment breaking or a horse casting a shoe during judging of a class, no time out is permitted.
2. In the event of equipment breaking or a horse casting a shoe during the warm-up a judge may permit re-scheduling.

### **ARTICLE E 4.15 TWO WAY COMMUNICATION DEVICES**

The use of two way communication devices is only allowed in the warm-up area. If such a device is used in the competition arena, the rider will be eliminated.

### **ARTICLE E 4.16 TACK CHECK**

1. Riders must report, still mounted, to the steward or his/her representative for a tack check immediately upon leaving the competition arena. The rider may not remove any equipment or clothing before the steward has conducted their inspection.

**Exception:** A rider may, of course, dismount and remove their hat and jacket in the case of illness or feeling faint.

2. The steward or his/her representative is responsible for ensuring that saddlery and dress regulations are followed. The steward will ask for

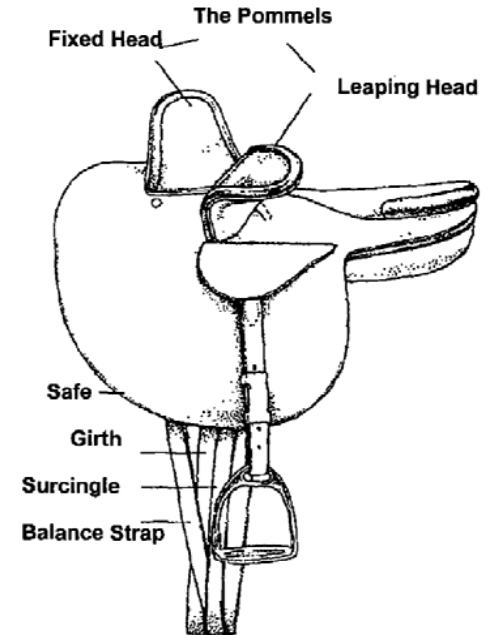
## CHAPTER 5 SIDESADDLE

- ear covers, nose nets and if used, boots or bandages to be removed to allow for inspection. No muffling of sound by any means is permitted.
3. Juniors must wear ASTM/SEI or BSI approved protective headgear at all times while mounted. At the tack check, a junior may be asked to dismount to allow inspection of their headgear.
  4. At EC competitions, riders competing in FEI Young Rider classes who have not yet reached their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday, must wear ASTM/SEI or BSI approved protective headgear at all times when mounted. Junior riders competing in FEI Young Rider classes must identify themselves as Juniors when they report for the tack check.
  5. Riders are welcome to approach the steward and ask for saddlery/dress rule clarifications prior to riding their test.
  6. A rider who is eliminated during a test must still report to the steward for a tack check.

### ARTICLE E 5.1 SIDESADDLE

For all dressage classes, a black or brown English type sidesaddle must be used.

#### ARTICLE E 5.1.1 PARTS OF THE SIDESADDLE



### ARTICLE E 5.2 STIRRUPS/STIRRUP BAR

Side saddles must be equipped with one or more of the following:

1. Break away safety stirrup bar
2. Traditional side saddle safety stirrup
3. Breakaway safety stirrup leather

### ARTICLE E 5.3 BRIDLES AND BITS

The bridle and bit(s) must be appropriate to the test levels ridden see 4.2 and 4.3.

### ARTICLE E 5.4 SPURS

A single spur may be worn. For a correct description of permitted spur(s) see 4.1.8

**ARTICLE E 5.5 WHIPS**

A whip may be carried at all test levels in Bronze, Silver and Gold competitions and all championships. The total length of the whip, including lash, must not exceed 110 cm. A telescoping whip is not permitted. A leather bound sidesaddle cane may be carried to assist the right leg astride. It must not exceed 92 cm in length and must be black or brown in colour.

**ARTICLE E 5.5.1 SIDESADDLE CANE**



**ARTICLE E 5.6 RIDER POSITION**

Sidesaddle riders should sit so that their spine is directly over the horse's backbone. The rider's body should be erect and supple; shoulders level and square with the horse and the hips square. The right thigh should lay comfortably along the saddle with the lower leg resting relaxed against the side of the saddle, perpendicular to the ground, the ankle against the horse's shoulder. The left leg should be positioned with a hand width between thigh and leaping pommel. Emergency grip is obtained when the left heel is raised and the thigh contacts the leaping pommel. The rider applying pressure against the shoulder with her right calf / ankle and right thigh against the top pommel will obtain "Purchase". The position of the hands should be the same as astride, however allowance must be made for the height of the two pommels.

**ARTICLE E 5.7 TROT**

All trot movements are to be executed sitting. The rider should keep the saddle steady with no sideways motion.

**ARTICLE E 5.8 DRESS**

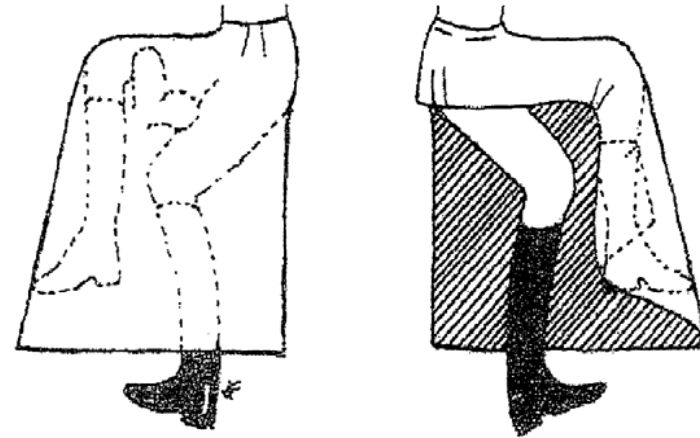
**Note:** Juniors must wear ASTM/SEI or BSI approved protective headgear at all times while mounted.

Dress - An ASTM/SEI or BSI approved protective headgear, bowler, or top hat must be worn. Bowler and top hats must be worn with matching veils of brown or black. The back of the veil is to be fastened centrally in the brim of the hat in a "V" shape.

The sidesaddle habit must consist of conservative colours, black, brown, navy, green or maroon with dark coloured breeches. An informal habit consisting of a dark coloured jacket and solid coloured apron of conservative dark colours will also be accepted. The outfit jacket should consist of a fitted jacket, falling just below the hips and a sidesaddle safety apron. The length of the apron should lie between 1-3" above the ankle seam of the left boot. The apron hem should be parallel to the ground and should completely cover the right foot.

Gloves of brown, black or white must be worn. A long or short-sleeved riding shirt must be worn with a stock tie or tie.

**Sidesaddle Safety Apron**



**ARTICLE E 5.9 RIBBONS AND AWARDS**

Separate ribbons may be awarded at the discretion of the competition management. Championship and Reserve Championship ribbons to be awarded for Dressage as per 7.23, 7.24 and 7.25.

## CHAPTER 6 ADVERTISING AND SPONSOR LOGOS

## CHAPTER 7 COMPETITIONS

### ARTICLE E 6.1 ARENA ADVERTISING

1. The short side of the arena at MCH must be completely free of advertising. There should be at least 1.2 meters free of advertising on either side of the arena letters with the exception of B and E where there should be 3 meters free of advertising.
2. The advertising must be firmly affixed to the fence line or wall which should be a minimum of 2 meters from the indoor competition arena enclosure or 10 meters away outdoors.
3. The advertising should be positioned in a regular manner and each long side should reflect the other.
4. The height of the sponsor brand/logo should not exceed 20 cm and the advertising must be fixed level with the top of the arena fence.
5. At all EC competitions, the placement of any publicity applied to the fence must be approved by the EC steward and presiding judge.
6. Arena fence conditions must be the same for all competitors in the class.
7. See FEI rules for FEI sanctioned competitions.

### ARTICLE E 6.2 SADDLE PAD AND CLOTHING

Riders may have sponsorship logos on their saddle pads and jackets.

The maximum area of the logo is as follows:

1. 200 square centimeters on each side of a saddle pad (maximum one sponsor's logo per side).
2. 80 square centimeters only once on jackets at the height of the breast pocket. No sponsorship logo may appear anywhere else on the rider's jacket.

**Note to competition organizers:** Completed application forms for Dressage competitions are to be submitted to your Provincial Office by September 30<sup>th</sup> of each year, along with your competition sanctioning fees. A copy of your completed application form should be sent to the Dressage Department at the Equine Canada office (Fax 613-248-3484). Application forms can be downloaded from the Dressage Canada website: [www.equinecanada.ca/dressage](http://www.equinecanada.ca/dressage). Application forms for Platinum /CDI (FEI Sanctioned Competitions) must be received by the Dressage Department at the Equine Canada, along with calendar fees, by September 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.

### ARTICLE E 7.1 COMPETITION CLASSIFICATION AND EC SPORT LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

1. For rules on EC Sport Licenses, horse identification documentation, age classification and competition classification, see Section A, General Rules Chapters 2, 3 and 4.
2. Riders in EC dressage are divided into the following categories:
  - a. Open – see rule 3.4.1
  - b. Amateur – see rule 3.4.2
  - c. Junior – see rule 3.4.3
3. At all EC competitions (Bronze, Silver, and Gold) the Open category must be offered. The other categories are optional.
4. For all EC competitions, riders wishing to compete in two categories of a division (e.g. Junior/Open or Amateur/Open) will pay two entry fees, but may ride one test; their score will count for both categories.

**Note:** Junior and Amateur categories may not be combined.

**Note:** For FEI competitions in Dressage (CDI CDI-W, CDIO etc.), see the FEI Rules which can be downloaded from the FEI website [www.fei.org](http://www.fei.org).

### ARTICLE E 7.2 DIVIDING CLASSES

1. When entries warrant, organizers may divide classes according to categories (Open, Junior and Amateur). Organizers **MUST** divide classes in which a given category exceeds 25 entries.
2. Classes may not be divided at Championship competitions.

### ARTICLE E 7.3 CONCURRENT COMPETITIONS

1. An organizer may run concurrent shows as long as they purchase a license for each one. See the Equine Canada fee schedule posted on the EC website [www.equinecanada.ca](http://www.equinecanada.ca) for competition license fees.  
**Exception:** Discovery competitions may not run concurrently with Bronze, Silver or Gold competitions.
2. For rules governing concurrent championships, see 7.23.2, 7.24.2

**ARTICLE E 7.4 TESTS**

1. Tests used by EC Gold, Silver and Bronze level competitions, regardless of the competition classification, must be EC and/or FEI tests (where applicable).
2. All EC and FEI tests are copyrighted.
3. The EC tests other than freestyles and walk/trot tests are "Copyright 2006 United States Equestrian Federation (USEF)" for use only in Canada and are reprinted through the courtesy and with permission of the USEF.
4. All rights under US and International Copyright laws are reserved. Reproduction without permission is prohibited by law.
5. The USEF is not responsible for any errors in publication or for the use of its copyrighted materials in any unauthorized manner.
6. Any non-EC-sanctioned competitions found to use the EC tests will face legal action from EC.
7. Any dressage judge knowingly accepting an invitation to judge a non EC-sanctioned competition that uses EC tests will face disciplinary action from the DC Officials Committee.

All EC tests may be downloaded from the Equine Canada website [www.equinecanada.ca/dressage](http://www.equinecanada.ca/dressage). When downloading, note that the tests will reproduce (copy) only on 8 ½ X 14 paper.

**Note:** It is the responsibility of the competition management to see that they use the current tests. Competition organizers must refer to DC test user fees. See 3.0, Equine Canada Progressive Competition and Sport License System Chart.

**ARTICLE E 7.5 DEFINITION OF TESTS FOR DRESSAGE COMPETITIONS**

1. EC approves and issues tests for use at Discovery, Bronze, Silver and Gold dressage competitions in Canada. The FEI is responsible for issuing tests for international competitions (CDI, CDI-W, CDIO etc.), and for use at EC competitions. Tests cannot be modified or simplified without the approval of EC.
2. Objectives and standards of EC levels of competition:
  - Training Level.** To confirm that the horse's muscles are supple and loose, and that it moves freely forward in clear and steady rhythm, accepting contact with the bit.
  - First Level.** To confirm that the horse, in addition to the requirements of Training Level, has developed thrust (pushing power) and achieved a degree of balance and thoroughness.
  - Second Level.** To confirm that the horse, having demonstrated that it has achieved the thrust (pushing power) required in the First Level, now shows that through additional training it accepts more weight on the hind quarters (collection), shows the uphill tendency required at the medium gaits and is reliably on the bit. A greater degree of straightness, bending, suppleness, thoroughness, balance and self carriage is required than at First Level.
  - Third Level.** To confirm that the horse, having demonstrated that it has begun to develop the uphill balance required in Second Level, now

demonstrates increased engagement in each movement – especially in medium and extended gaits and in transitions to/from collected movements – rhythm, suppleness, acceptance of the bit, thoroughness, balance, impulsion, straightness and collection. There must be a clear distinction between the paces.

**Fourth Level.** To confirm that the horse has achieved the requirements of the Third Level.

These are tests of medium difficulty designed to confirm that the horse has acquired a high degree of suppleness, impulsion, thoroughness, plus a clear uphill balance and lightness while always remaining reliably on the bit, and that its movements are straight, energetic and cadenced with the transitions precise and smooth.

**ARTICLE E 7.6 PONY CLUB CLASSES, EVENTING/HORSE TRIAL DRESSAGE TESTS AND PRIX CAPRILLI**

These classes may be offered by an EC Bronze Competition using A503-Miscellaneous Classes. The show may offer pony club classes using pony club rules which allow Kimberwick bits at Entry and Starter, half chaps and the description of trot as printed on their tests.

**ARTICLE E 7.7 ARENA SIZE FOR SPECIFIC TESTS**

With certain exceptions, all EC tests, including freestyles, are written for the 20 X 60 meter arena.

**Exception:** Walk/Trot tests A and B, Training level tests 1, 2, 3 & 4 and First Level test 1 may be ridden in a 20 X 40 meter arena or a 20 x 60 meter arena at Gold, Silver and Bronze competitions.

**Note:** All tests must be ridden in a 20 x 60 meter arena at any Championship competition.

TESTS	COMPETITION	ARENA SIZE
Walk/Trot Training 1,2,3,4 First 1	Bronze Silver Gold	20 x 40 meters or 20 x 60 meters
First 2, 3, 4	Bronze Silver Gold	20 x 60 meters
Second 1,2,3,4, Third 1,2,3, Fourth 1,2,3,	Bronze Silver Gold	20 X 60 meters
All FEI tests	Bronze Silver Gold	20 X 60 meters
All Freestyles	Bronze Silver Gold	20 X 60 meters

**ARTICLE E 7.8 EQUIVALENCIES – EC/FEI**

1. EC First Level is equivalent to the FEI Children’s class and the FEI 4 year old test
2. EC Second Level is equivalent to the FEI Pony class and the FEI 5 year old test
3. EC Third Level is equivalent to the FEI Junior class and the FEI 6 year old test

**ARTICLE E 7.9 FREESTYLES**

1. EC freestyles will be at First, Second, Third and Fourth Levels.
2. Organizers are reminded that EC or FEI freestyle sheets must be used at any EC competitions (Bronze, Silver, Gold) offering freestyles. Sheets may be obtained from Dressage Canada at [www.equinecanada.ca/dressage](http://www.equinecanada.ca/dressage) or the FEI at [www.fei.org](http://www.fei.org) websites.
3. Freestyle Timing

EC TESTS	EC LEVEL OF FREESTYLE	TIME ALLOWED	TEST TO BE FINISHED BETWEEN
First Level	First Level	5 minutes	4 ½ and 5 minutes
Second Level	Second Level	5 minutes	4 ½ and 5 minutes
Third Level	Third Level	5 minutes	4 ½ and 5 minutes
Fourth Level	Fourth Level	5 minutes	4 ½ and 5 minutes

4. Freestyle eligibility for riders in Gold and Silver competitions (all EC levels and FEI freestyle levels):  
A horse/rider combination must have obtained the following prior to competing in a freestyle: a minimum score of 55% in a dressage test at the same technical level, or higher, as the freestyle they wish to enter (e.g. 55% in First or Second Level to compete in the First and/or Second Level Freestyle). The dressage score may have been obtained at an EC Gold/Silver dressage competition prior to the competition, or may be obtained at the same competition in which they wish to enter the freestyle.  
**Note:** Bronze competitions require no minimum technical score.
5. Technical scores earned at Silver competitions count toward entering a Freestyle in a Gold competition and vice versa.
6. A horse/rider combination may compete in a maximum of two consecutive EC freestyle levels per day. These must correspond to the technical levels at which the horse/rider combination is competing on the same day; e.g: Second Level technical plus First and Second Level freestyles.
7. At the time of publication there is no FEI Children’s freestyle. The EC equivalent is the First Level freestyle.

**ARTICLE E 7.10 COMPETITION MANAGEMENT**

1. Background music, of a suitable composition so as not to disturb the horse, may be played during all classes, except when freestyle music is being played. It is strongly recommended that organizers avoid running freestyle classes at the same time as technical classes.

2. There is no time limit for the execution of Walk/Trot through Fourth Level and FEI technical tests. The time shown on the test is for information only.
3. There are time limits on all freestyle tests.
4. In all EC Gold, Silver and Bronze competitions as well as at all Championships, riders wishing to compete in two categories of a level or a division (e.g. Junior/Open or Amateur/Open) will pay two entry fees, but may ride one test; their score will count for both categories. The organizing committee has the option of holding individual classes for each category or holding one class and allowing entries in more than one category.

**ARTICLE E 7.11 CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION**

**ARTICLE E 7.11.1 PASSPORT/HORSE IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENTATION**

Horse Identification documentation is required for EC Silver and Gold competitions. For complete rules on horse identification requirements see the EC General Regulations, Section A, Chapter 4 Passports.

**ARTICLE E 7.11.2 COMPETITION NUMBER**

- It is compulsory for the horse’s competition number to be worn by the horse or rider/handler when the horse is outside the stall from the time that the number is issued until the end of the competition so that officials can identify the horse.  
**Exception:** Horses stabled permanently on the competition site are exempt unless competing.
- Failure to display this number will incur a warning for the first offence and, in the case of second or subsequent offences, possible elimination or disqualification at the discretion of the ground jury.
- Each horse/pony/rider combination must be assigned a different competition number.

**ARTICLE E 7.11.3 NON-COMPETING HORSES**

Any horse arriving on the competition grounds but not competing will be subject to all EC and competition rules and must be assigned a number that must be worn when the horse is outside the stall.  
**Exception:** Horses stabled permanently on the competition site are exempt unless competing.

**ARTICLE E 7.11.4 HORSES**

1. To be eligible to compete in under saddle dressage classes, horses must be a minimum of three years old.
2. The height at the withers must exceed 149cms, including shoes.

**ARTICLE E 7.11.5 PONIES**

1. A pony is a small horse whose height at the withers, having been measured on a smooth level surface, does not exceed 148 cm without shoes or 149cm with shoes. Nevertheless to allow for the fact that pony measurement may take place under competition conditions, ponies

- measured at a competition must not exceed 150cm without shoes or 151cm with shoes in order to be permitted to compete. See EC A General Regulations, Chapter 11.
- All pony riders whether junior or open must provide proof of measurement of the pony on which they compete.
  - To be eligible to compete, all ponies must be a minimum of four years old.
  - Ponies may be ridden by an adult in classes other than those designated for ponies or juniors.

#### **ARTICLE E 7.11.6 STALLIONS**

- Decisions as to the manageability of stallions are at the discretion of the judge or steward. Unmanageable stallions must be excused from the ring and/or warm-up ring.
- Juniors are allowed to ride stallions in all classes in which the junior is eligible to compete.
- A competent adult handler/person responsible must accompany any junior riding or handling a stallion at a competition.

#### **ARTICLE E 7.11.7 DANGEROUS/UNRULY HORSES**

- Judges are required to eliminate from the arena any unruly horse whose actions threaten exhibitors, officials or spectators.
- The senior steward is required to order from the warm-up area any rider, horse, or handler who exhibits inappropriate or dangerous behaviour or whose actions would in any way threaten the safety of any exhibitor, their entries or the safety of others in the immediate area.

#### **ARTICLE E 7.11.8 CROSS ENTERING AND NUMBER OF RIDERS ALLOWED**

- More than one rider may ride the same horse/pony at a competition providing the horse/pony is not entered by two riders in the same class.
- The riders can both be juniors or amateur/open or any mixture of these providing they are not in the same class unless the class is divided into separate categories for the purpose of ribbons.
- No horse/pony may be ridden in more than four tests (including the freestyle) in one day.
- The horse/pony must not compete against itself.

#### **ARTICLE E 7.11.9 MAXIMUM NUMBER OF LEVELS/TESTS/CLASSES PER HORSE PER DAY**

- A horse may compete in any two consecutive levels and a maximum of four tests per day including the freestyle.
- The horse may not compete against itself.
- Equitation, Materiale and non-EC classes are included in the maximum of four classes per day.
- In-hand classes are exempt from this rule.

#### **ARTICLE E 7.11.10 DOWNGRADING**

Downgrading of horses is permitted at EC-sanctioned competitions.

#### **ARTICLE E 7.11.11 SUBSTITUTIONS**

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- A horse/pony may compete with a substitute rider providing the rider is eligible to enter the class and pays any substitution fee required by the show organizer.
- A rider may compete with a substitute horse/pony providing the horse/pony is eligible to enter the class and the rider pays any substitution fee required by the show organizer.
- Organizers must assign a new number to a substitute horse/rider if the substitution takes place after the original entry has been assigned a number.

**Note:** Show organizers are not obliged to allow substitute entries.

**Note:** When qualifying criteria apply to a horse/rider combination entered in a class, no substitution of horse or rider may be made.

#### **ARTICLE E 7.11.12 HORS CONCOURS**

- With permission of the competition committee, horses may be entered hors concours (non-competitive). Hors concours entries are not eligible for prizes, placings or awards.
- Having competed hors concours, a horse is not eligible to enter a class other than as an hors concours entry in the same competition. Such entries must pay the full entry fee and are subject to all EC rules, including having EC horse identification where required.
- Hors concours entries are not permitted in championship competitions.

#### **ARTICLE E 7.11.13 SCHOOLING OF HORSES**

- Schooling of horses at non-championship competitions may only be done by the rider, owner, coach or Person Responsible.
- All competing horses being schooled must wear a competition number when outside the stall.
- At Silver and Gold Championships, schooling of horses may be done only by the competing rider from his/her arrival on the show grounds until his/her last class ridden, under penalty of elimination. A groom mounted in the saddle may walk the horse on a long rein.
- Lungeing (unmounted) and work in hand may only be done by the rider, owner, coach, groom or Person Responsible and must be under the supervision of a steward. For lungeing equipment rules see 4.9.4.
- It is not permitted to lunge riders at any competition.

#### **ARTICLE E 7.12 COMPETITION ARENA**

- The competition area includes the arena plus surrounding area which competitors use just prior to their test. On no account and under penalty of disqualification, may a competitor/horse use the competition arena or area immediately surrounding the arena other than during their performance in the competition unless it is a competition rule to allow such access and the areas are available to all competitors. Exceptions may be made by the EC steward, FEI technical delegate or president of the ground jury.
- Arena fence conditions must be the same for all competitors in a class.
- Judges and dressage stewards must check the correctness of the arenas.
- Dressage stewards must supervise the warm-up areas.

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5. In the event that there is more than one competition ring, signage should be posted at all rings as to what the judge's signal will be.
6. The inside measurements of the competition arena must be 20 meters wide and 60 meters long for all tests above First Level test 1.
7. At Walk/Trot and First Level test 1, competitions have the option of using the 20x40 meter arena.
8. At championship competitions all EC tests must be ridden in the 20 X 60 meter arena.
9. The arena must be flat and level and be predominantly sand.
10. Championship competitions must not be held in grass arenas.
11. The difference in elevation across the diagonal or along the length of the arena must not exceed 0.50 meters. The difference in elevation along the short side must not exceed .20 meters.
12. The enclosure should consist of a low fence, about 0.30 meters high.
13. The section of fence at A can remain open except at Gold national, regional and provincial Championships and Silver Championships.
14. The construction of the fence should be such that a horse's hooves cannot get caught.
15. Whenever possible, at outdoor competitions, the arena must be separated from the public by a distance of 15 meters. If the competition arena is within a fenced area such as a paddock, follow 7.15.
16. Indoor competitions should separate the arena from the public by a distance of 3 meters and whenever possible 2 meters from the wall.
17. If adjacent arenas (warm-up and/or competition) are in close proximity, it is recommended that there be ten meters between outdoor rings and three meters between indoor rings.

#### ARTICLE E 7.13 CLASS BREAKS/FOOTING MAINTENANCE

At EC competitions it is desirable to provide for a break of about 10 minutes per hour or two as the schedule permits to reconstitute the surface of the ground.

#### ARTICLE E 7.14 ARENA LETTERS AND GATE

1. The letters outside the competition arena should be placed about 0.50 meters from the fence and clearly marked. It is desirable to place a special mark on the inside of the fence itself, level with and in addition to the letter concerned.
2. The letter A must be placed at least 5 meters away from the arena and may be placed up to 15 meters away.
3. The gate at A must be easy to remove and replace. If left open, it must be left open for every competitor in the class.
4. At championship competitions the gate must be closed while the competitor is in the arena.

#### ARTICLE E 7.15 INDOOR/OUTDOOR ARENAS - LIMITED SPACE

1. At an indoor/outdoor competition where space and/or footing conditions do not permit riding around the outside of the arena, the competitor will be allowed to ride inside the arena for 45 seconds before the bell is rung. The competitor is not restricted to riding only on the outside track.
2. After the bell is rung and if practical, the competitor will leave the ring before commencing the test.

#### ARTICLE E 7.16 PRACTICE ARENA

1. At least one practice arena the same size as the competition arena must be available for the competitors at least 60 minutes before the first ride of the competition. If possible, the footing in this arena should be of the same consistency as that of the competition arena.
2. Where it is not feasible to provide a practice arena of 20 X 60 meters, the competitors must be permitted to exercise their horses in the competition arena. A schedule of practice times must be clearly posted.
3. Lungeing is permitted in designated areas if space permits.
4. Show organizers are not obliged to provide lungeing space.  
**Note:** Stewards must supervise the warm-up area(s)

#### ARTICLE E 7.17 OFFICIALS REQUIRED

1. The invited judges compose the ground jury and must be selected from a current roster of licensed dressage judges of a national federation (NF).
2. The steward must be selected from the current EC roster of licensed EC dressage stewards.
3. Ground Jury Specifications:
  - a) Gold National Championships – require a minimum of three FEI judges, one of which must be Canadian. If additional judges are used, they must be either FEI or EC/USEF Senior Judges.
  - b) Gold Regional/Provincial Championships – one Senior judge or one FEI Judge per ring is permitted but if at all possible, show organizers are encouraged to use two judges per ring, one of which must be Canadian.
  - c) Silver Provincial Championships – One judge per ring is permitted. At least one judge must be Canadian. The judge must be a Medium (Guest Card required), Senior or FEI. Basic judges may be guest carded for appropriate levels.
  - d) Officials required for FEI Young Horse classes, see Chapter 13 and the FEI Rules.
  - e) Officials required for Dressage Sport Horse Breeding Classes See Chapter 11.
  - f) Guest Cards for officials: see 15.13 and 16.12
  - g) For complete rules on officials see Chapter 15 (Judges) and Chapter 16 (Dressage Stewards).

**Note:** It is mandatory that a Canadian judge be on a panel at all Canadian Championships.

**Note:** The names and qualifications of the judges for all EC Gold and Silver competitions must be submitted to the EC Competitions Department for approval.

**ARTICLE E 7.18 OFFICIALS REQUIRED AT NON-CHAMPIONSHIP COMPETITIONS**

	<b>BRONZE</b>	<b>SILVER</b>	<b>GOLD</b>
<b>Judge</b>	recorded, Basic, Medium, Senior, FEI	recorded, Basic, Medium, Senior, FEI	recorded, Basic, Medium, Senior, FEI
<b>Judge Restrictions</b>	No Restrictions	<p>recorded- up to and including Second level. Third level with quest card.</p> <p>Basic- up to and including Third level Fourth level with guest card. Not permitted to judge FEI classes</p> <p>Medium and Senior – No restrictions</p>	<p>recorded – up to an including First level. Second level with guest card.</p> <p>Basic - up to and including second level. Third and Fourth level with guest card. May co-judge Third &amp; Fourth Level with Medium or higher without a guest card.</p> <p>Medium - up to &amp; including Fourth level plus FEI Children, FEI Pony and FEI Junior. May judge all other FEI tests except Young Horse classes with a guest card. May co-judge all other FEI tests except FEI Young Horse classes with Senior or FEI with no guest card. Senior and FEI – no restrictions</p>
<b>Steward</b>	Not required but highly recommended.	Basic, Medium, Senior	Basic, Medium, Senior, FEI
<b>Steward Restrictions</b>	See 16.11	See 16.11	See 16.11

**ARTICLE E 7.19 JUDGES' POSITIONS**

**A Technical Classes**

1. If there is only one judge, he/she must be positioned at C.
2. If there are two judges, one must be at C and the second judge can be at E, B, H, or M, whichever is most convenient for the competition.
3. When three judges are officiating on the same ring, one must be positioned at C and the other two should be at M and E or H and B.
4. When there are five judges, the president of the jury is at C, one judge must be at M and H and the remaining two are to be positioned at E and B. The judges at M and H are to be positioned 2.5 meters closer to the centerline than the long wall of the arena.
5. All judges must be on the outside of the arena. They should be a minimum of 3 meters and maximum of 5 meters from the arena at outdoor competitions and preferably a minimum of 3 meters from the arena at indoor competitions.

**B Freestyles**

When two or three judges officiate in a freestyle class, one must be located at B or E unless there is insufficient space available.

**ARTICLE E 7.20 JUDGES' BOOTHS**

1. A separate hut or platform must be provided for each judge. It must be raised at least .50 meters or possibly a little higher (especially in the case of freestyle tests) in order to give the judges a good view of the arena.
2. When computer scoring is used, the booth must be large enough to accommodate three persons.
3. Judges booths placed at E and B must be equipped with side windows.

**ARTICLE E 7.21 JUDGES' SCRIBES AND THE MARKING OF TEST SHEETS**

1. All test sheets must be filled in using pen and not pencil.
2. The judge must initial any changes in the marks given.
3. Before the judge's scores are handed over for totaling, all movements must be marked and the sheets must be signed by the judge, otherwise the sheet must be returned to the judge for further verification.
4. Judges' marked sheets must be treated as confidential until given to the competitor, when they become his or her private property.
5. Each judge must be assisted by a scribe fluent in English or French as required by the judge.
6. Scribes must have knowledge of the tests being ridden.
7. A scribe must not be an owner, coach/trainer or family member of a competitor/horse in the class(es) in which they are scribing.
8. Every effort should be made to assign one scribe only to each judge for the duration of the competition.
9. In special circumstances, a maximum of one change of scribe per judge per day may be made.
10. First time scribes are not permitted to scribe above second level.

11. First time scribes are not to be used at a championship.
12. EC dressage judges may act as scribes.
13. Judges' scribes for championship competitions must have in-depth experience and proven competence as a scribe.

#### **ARTICLE E 7.22 PROTOCOL**

1. All officials, judges, dressage stewards and scribes must be appropriately dressed (jeans, shorts, tank tops, etc are not acceptable).
2. Judges must be on the grounds 20 minutes (minimum) before their first class.
3. Dressage stewards must be on the grounds 1 hour before the first ride of each day.
4. Scribes must be on the grounds 30 minutes before their first class.
5. It is the responsibility of a competition committee using a foreign judge to forward to that judge, well in advance of the competition, a copy of the EC dressage rules and tests to enable the judge to study them before officiating.
6. All judges must receive, well in advance of the competition, copies of the tests they will judge and a prize list of the show.
7. Ribbon & Award Presentations: Those persons in the ribbon and award presentation party should dress neatly and in accordance with the dignity of the ceremony (no shorts, tank tops, jeans, etc). Riders should refer to the prize list for information regarding prize giving ceremonies.

#### **ARTICLE E 7.23 GOLD CHAMPIONSHIP COMPETITIONS**

1. When a competition is designated by EC to be the Gold National Championship, it must be held as one competition in one location.
2. A Gold and Silver Championship may not be held on the same weekend in a given province without the approval of the Dressage Canada Competitions Committee.
3. Competitors at a Gold National Championship will be decided by taking a specified number of the highest ranked Canadian owned horses ridden by Canadian citizens or landed immigrants, from each regional championship in each of the levels/divisions offered at the Gold Championships in the current year.
4. Regardless of the amount of prize money offered, Gold competitions are to be awarded the applicable points for provincial awards.
5. For a Gold championship or any championship extending beyond the provincial boundaries, the approval of DC is required.
6. Only one Gold championship per province, one Gold championship per region, and one Gold national championship may be held in one year.
7. When a competition is designated by EC to be a "regional championship", the regions will be as follows:  
Pacific: British Columbia and Yukon  
West: Alberta, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, North West Territories and Nunavut  
East: Ontario and Quebec  
Atlantic: New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland & Labrador
8. Regional and National Championships must always be classified as Gold competitions.

9. Organizers of Gold Championships must include all levels/divisions and categories from Walk/Trot to Grand Prix and relevant freestyles.
10. Scores earned at Silver competitions do not count as qualifying scores for Gold championships.
11. If there are fewer than six entries per category the organizing committee has the option to hold an open category at that level or division. Organizing committees must state this condition in the prize list.
12. Without the approval of EC, the term "championship" may be used only in the context of a competition or division championship within one specific competition.

#### **ARTICLE E 7.24 SILVER PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP COMPETITIONS**

1. Silver championships are designated as Provincial (not Regional or National).
2. A Gold and Silver Championship may not be held on the same weekend in a given province without the approval of the Dressage Canada Competitions Committee.
3. Silver championships shall be approved through the relevant province, and through DC.
4. Only scores earned at Silver competitions count as qualifying scores for Silver Championships.
5. Silver championships may be split into two competitions in order to allow competitors easier access to the championships. The same judges must be used in each location. Each division of the championships may establish champions on the day. To establish overall Provincial champions the scores are combined. The two divisions should be held not more than one week apart. Riders must choose which division of the championship they wish to compete in.
6. All Silver championships must include all levels/divisions and categories from Walk/Trot through Intermediate II and relevant freestyles.
7. If there are fewer than six entries per category the organizing committee has the option to hold an open category at that level or division. Organizing committees must state this condition in the prize list.
8. Without the approval of EC, the term "championship" may be used only in the context of a competition or division championship within one specific competition.

#### **ARTICLE E 7.25 SILVER AND GOLD CHAMPIONSHIP COMPETITIONS – CONDITIONS OF ENTRY AND ESTABLISHING CHAMPIONS**

1. Some form of qualification for entering a championship show is recommended (e.g. classes can be filled by descending order of submitted scores).
2. If qualifying criteria are met, the horse/rider combination (not one or the other) qualifies to enter the Championship (Silver or Gold) competition. If a new rider wishes to compete with the horse at the championship, he/she must re-qualify with that horse as a combination.

3. Prize lists for all championships must be sent out at least two months prior to the competition.
4. The arena size for all tests at championships is 20X60 meters.
5. One entry fee shall cover both technical classes per level/division/category. (e.g. one entry fee for Amateur, one entry fee for Open). Freestyle class entry fees are separate.
6. Each competitor shall enter and compete in two tests of his/her specific level/division and category (e.g. Junior or Amateur, etc.), The percentages obtained by each competitor in both classes shall be totaled. The competitor with the highest total will be named champion. The competitor with the second highest total shall be declared the reserve champion (providing he/she is in accordance with 7.25.11).
7. In the event of a tie, the rider with the highest single percentage score is declared the winner.
8. Competitors are not permitted to enter only a freestyle class at a championship competition.
9. Freestyle champions will be determined by totaling the higher percentage from the two technical classes (of the levels/divisions) plus the percentage from the freestyle. Only one freestyle championship will be awarded at each level/division (e.g. The freestyle score will be added to the rider's best technical score from the same level/division.) Freestyle championships will not be awarded by category. In the event that a competitor has only one technical score, due to elimination or other reasons, then the mark from the completed technical test plus the freestyle mark will be used to determine the competitor's placing when competing for a freestyle championship.
10. Only a Canadian Citizen or landed immigrant may be awarded a Gold (National, Regional, Provincial) or Silver (Provincial) Championship.  
**Note:** Split-level or division championships are not permitted (e.g. Training/First, First/Second etc.)
11. At all EC championship competitions, any horse receiving less than 50% on a technical test will not be eligible for any class awards, championships or reserve championships.

**ARTICLE E 7.26 REFERENCE CHART FOR TESTS OFFERED AT GOLD CHAMPIONSHIPS**

1. No horse/rider combination may compete in more than two consecutive levels or more than one division.  
**Exception:** Riders competing in FEI Young Horse division may also enter any one other level or division. No horse is to be ridden in more than 4 classes (including freestyles) in one day.
2. Scores earned in "Test of Choice" classes cannot be used to qualify for Gold Provincial/Regional/National Championships at any level. These scores may not be used toward any qualifying criteria.
3. In all championship competitions, riders wishing to compete in two categories of a level or division (e.g. Junior/Open or Amateur/Open) will pay two entry fees but may ride one test; their score will count for both categories. The organizing committee has the option of holding individual classes for each category or holding one class and allowing entries in more than one category.

LEVELS	CATEGORIES	TESTS
Walk/trot	Jr/Am/O	
Training	Jr/Am/O	3 and 4
First Level	Jr/Am/O	3 and 4
Second Level	Jr/Am/O	3 and 4
Third Level	Jr/Am/O	2 and 3
Fourth Level	Jr/Am/O	2 and 3
DIVISIONS	CATEGORIES	TESTS
FEI Young Horse 4 yr old	Open	See Chapter 13
FEI Young Horse 5 yr old	Open	See Chapter 13
FEI Young Horse 6 yr old	Open	See Chapter 13
FEI Children		FEI Children Team and Individual
FEI Pony		FEI Pony Team and Individual
FEI Junior		FEI Junior Team and Individual
FEI Young Rider		FEI Young Rider Team and Individual
FEI Advanced		FEI Prix St. Georges, Intermediaire 1
FEI Grand Prix		FEI Grand Prix and Grand Prix Special

**ARTICLE E 7.27 REFERENCE CHART FOR FREESTYLES OFFERED AT GOLD CHAMPIONSHIPS**

FREESTYLE LEVEL	TECHNICAL TESTS
First Level	First 3 & 4
Second Level	Second 3 & 4
Third Level	Third 2 & 3
Fourth Level	Fourth 2 & 3
FEI Pony	FEI Pony Team and Individual
FEI Junior	FEI Junior Team and Individual
FEI Young Rider	FEI Young Rider Team and Individual
FEI Intermediaire 1	FEI Prix St. Georges and FEI Intermediaire 1
FEI Grand Prix	FEI Grand Prix and Grand Prix Special

- Horse/rider combinations competing in more than one level must choose which level of freestyle they ride.  
**Exception:** Riders competing in two consecutive levels at a championship competition held on one day may not ride a freestyle as this would require exceeding the four test per day limit (See 7.11.9).
- At the time of publication there is no FEI Children's Freestyle. The First Level Freestyle is to be used.

**ARTICLE E 7.28 REFERENCE CHART FOR TESTS OFFERED AT SILVER CHAMPIONSHIPS**

LEVELS	CATEGORIES	TESTS
Walk/trot	Jr/Am/O	
Training	Jr/Am/O	3 and 4
First Level	Jr/Am/O	3 and 4
Second Level	Jr/Am/O	3 and 4
Third Level	Jr/Am/O	2 and 3
Fourth Level	Jr/Am/O	2 and 3
DIVISIONS	CATEGORIES	TESTS
FEI Children		FEI Children Team and Individual
FEI Pony		FEI Pony Team and Individual
FEI Junior		FEI Junior Team and Individual
FEI Young Rider		FEI Young Rider Team and Individual
FEI Advanced		FEI Prix St. Georges, Intermediaire 1 or Intermediaire 1, 2

- No horse/rider combination may compete in more than two consecutive levels or more than one division.  
**Exception:** Riders competing in the FEI Children, FEI Pony or FEI Junior division may also enter any one other equivalent level. No horse is to be ridden in more than 4 classes (including freestyles) in one day.
- Scores earned in "Test of Choice" classes cannot be used to qualify for Provincial/Silver Championships at any level. These scores may not be used toward any qualifying criteria.
- In all championship competitions, riders wishing to compete in two categories of a level or division (e.g. Junior/Open or Amateur/Open) will pay two entry fees but may ride one test; their score will count for both categories. The organizing committee has the option of holding individual classes for each category or holding one class and allowing entries in more than one category.

**ARTICLE E 7.29 REFERENCE CHART FOR FREESTYLES OFFERED AT SILVER CHAMPIONSHIPS**

- Horse/rider combinations competing in more than one level must choose which level of freestyle they ride.

- Exception:** Riders competing in two consecutive levels at a championship competition held on one day may not ride a freestyle as this would require exceeding the four test per day limit (See 7.11.9).
- At the time of publication there is no FEI Children's Freestyle. The First Level Freestyle is to be used.

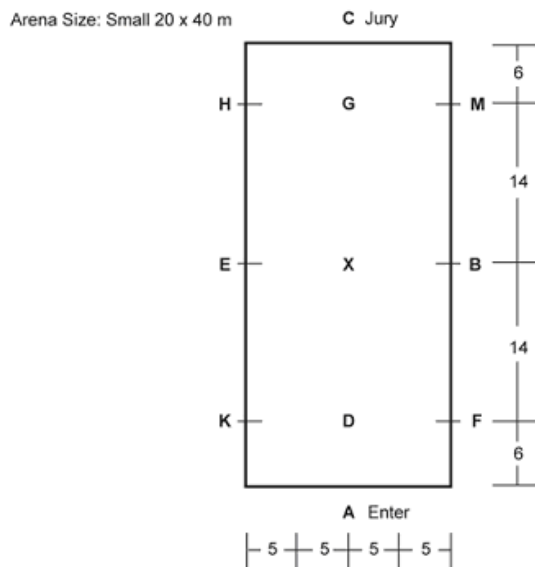
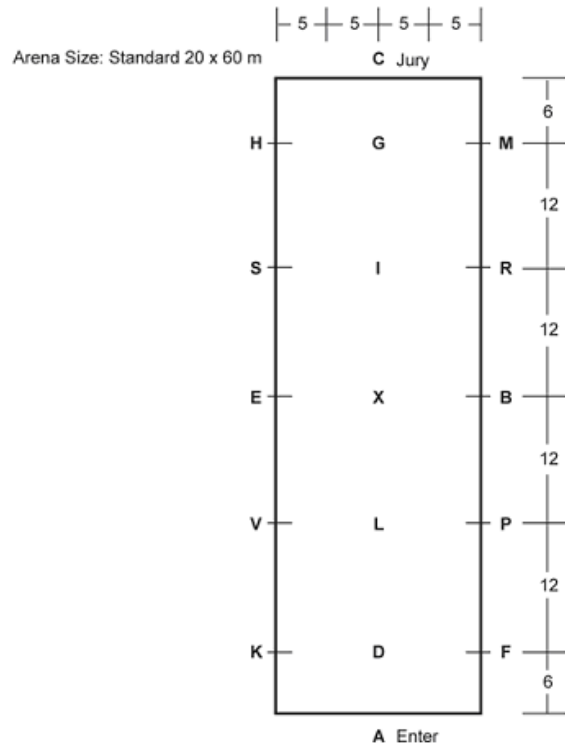
FREESTYLE LEVEL	TECHNICAL TESTS
First Level	First 3 & 4
Second Level	Second 3 & 4
Third Level	Third 2 & 3
Fourth Level	Fourth 2 & 3
FEI Pony	FEI Pony Team and Individual
FEI Junior	FEI Junior Team and Individual
FEI Young Rider	FEI Young Rider Team and Individual
FEI Intermediaire 1	FEI Prix St. Georges and FEI Intermediaire 1 or Intermediaire 1, 2

**ARTICLE E 7.30 OFFICIALS REQUIRED AT CHAMPIONSHIP COMPETITIONS**

	SILVER PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS	GOLD NATIONAL/REGIONAL/PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS
<b>Judge</b>	1 per ring is permitted (At least one judge at Silver Championships must be Canadian)	<u>Gold National Championships</u> Three FEI required (one of which must be CDN). If more than three judges are to be used they must be FEI or EC / USEF Senior Judges. <u>Gold Regional/Provincial Championships – One Senior judge or one FEI judge per ring is allowed but if at all possible, show organizers are encouraged to use two judges per ring, one of which must be Canadian.</u>
<b>Judge Restrictions</b>	Senior or FEI Basic & Medium with Guest Card	<del>None</del> <u>Gold National Championships FEI Gold Regional and Provincial Championships – Senior or FEI</u>
<b>Steward</b>	Basic, Medium or Senior	Medium, Senior or FEI
<b>Steward Restrictions</b>	See 16.11	See 16.11

**ARTICLE E 7.31 ARENA DIAGRAMS**

All measurements in metres. 1 metre equals 3.3 feet



**CHAPTER 8  
EQUITATION/MEDAL CLASSES**

**ARTICLE E 8.1 PURPOSE**

The purpose of the EC Dressage Medal program is to promote and reward correct seat, position, and use of aids in dressage for Child, Junior, and Amateur riders.

**ARTICLE E 8.2 CATEGORIES**

Three categories will be offered: Child Dressage Seat Medal Class for 13 years and under, Junior Dressage Seat Medal Class for 14 to 18 years of age, and Amateur. These classes may only be offered at EC shows classified as Silver and Gold.

**ARTICLE E 8.3 LEVELS**

LEVEL OF COMPETITION	DESCRIPTION
Non-Championship Show	Three categories offered; no qualification required
Silver <u>Provincial</u> Championship Show	Three categories offered; must have competed in Medal Classes at two EC Silver or Gold shows in the current year
<u>Gold</u> Regional/ <u>Provincial</u> Championship Show	Three categories offered; top two riders in Medal Classes from a Silver <u>Provincial</u> Championship Show are eligible
Gold <u>National</u> Championship Show	Three categories offered; top two riders in Medal Classes from a <u>Gold</u> Regional Championship Show are eligible

In the event that one of the top two riders who qualify for a championship show cannot attend, then the third top rider may be allowed to compete.

**ARTICLE E 8.4 HORSE/PONY/RIDER**

1. Rider: Must be a current member of EC and DC. A rider is eligible for the 13 and under Child Category until the end of the calendar year in which he/she reaches the age of 13. A rider is eligible for the 14 through 18 Junior Category from the beginning of the calendar year in which he/she reaches 14 until the end of the calendar year in which he/she reaches the age of 18. Amateur riders include anyone who is the age of 18 years at the beginning of the calendar year, and who is classified as an Amateur see 3.4.2.
2. Horse: There are no qualification, ownership, or registration requirements for horses or ponies that compete in EC Dressage Seat Medal classes. An eligible rider may compete on any horse or pony of any level in Non-Championship or Championship Shows. The same horse or pony is not required for the Championship Shows. Substitution of horse or pony is permitted at any time before the start of a class, as long as the appropriate change is made through the competition secretary to the entry records.

3. A Child and Junior rider may only ride a stallion in the Championship EC Dressage Seat Medal Shows if the stallion has been shown by that Child or Junior rider in the two Non-Championship shows used for qualifying.
4. Horses and ponies may be ridden by only one rider in each category, but may compete in both categories.

#### **ARTICLE E 8.5 DRESS AND EQUIPMENT**

Saddlery, equipment, and dress as required for First Level Tests at Silver and Gold Classification Shows including ASTM/SEI or BSI approved protective headgear for Child and Junior riders. See Chapter 4.

#### **ARTICLE E 8.6 MISCELLANEOUS RULES**

- Unauthorized Assistance is prohibited. See 9.3.16
- Use of voice will be penalized. See 9.4
- Horses will be disqualified for lameness. See 9.3.6
- Pertinent Elimination as outlined in 9.6
- Disqualification as outlined in 9.7

#### **ARTICLE E 8.7 CLASS SPECIFICATIONS**

1. The rider's position, seat, and use and effect of aids will be judged as described in section 1.20 (FEI 418).
2. Movements shall be performed by the riders simultaneously; however, the judges may ask for independent execution of certain tests. All instructions must be publicly announced.
3. Riders must be judged at the medium walk, working trot (sitting and rising), and working canter in both directions.
4. In judging the position, seat, and use of aids, judges may include the following movements and exercises as required at Training and First Level:

May be ridden as a group:

- Free walk
  - Transitions from one gait to the next in both directions
  - Transitions from walk to halt and vice versa
  - Change of direction across the diagonal, down the center line, across the arena, and/or by making a half-circle at the walk or trot
5. Additional movements from which judges may choose exercises, as required at Training and First Level, to be ridden in small groups or independently:
    - Transitions
    - Leg yield
    - Changes of lead through trot
    - Serpentine at the trot
    - Shallow loop serpentine with counter canter
    - Trot lengthening and/or canter lengthening
    - Riding without stirrups
  6. In Gold National/Regional/Provincial Championship shows, it is not required that all riders in a class perform independent exercises. The judges may, at their discretion, choose to require independent exercises, and they may select any number of riders in the class to

perform one or more independent exercises. However, independent exercises must be required of each rider in Silver and Gold Championships.

7. No change of horses will be required in a Medal Class at any show.
8. The number of horses required to work at the same time shall be limited to no more than 20. Groups may be divided into smaller sections, at the discretion of the judges, for safety and convenience. Judges may also limit the number of horses required to canter at the same time, at their discretion.

#### **ARTICLE E 8.8 CHAMPIONSHIP RULES**

1. Championship classes may only be held at an EC Gold classified show.
2. A rider may compete in only one Gold Provincial and one Gold Regional championship competition.
3. Borrowed horses or ponies are permitted in all three categories.
4. Two EC or FEI judges will officiate independently in Gold Provincial and Gold Regional Championship Shows. Three EC or FEI judges will officiate independently in the Gold Championship Show.
5. The EC Dressage Seat Medal class score sheets available from the DC website [www.equinecanada.ca/dressage](http://www.equinecanada.ca/dressage) must be used. The final score for each rider must be posted at the conclusion of the class.
6. Rider scores and placing will be determined by averaging the total scores from each judge.
7. Whips are permitted in all Championship Shows.

#### **ARTICLE E 8.9 COMPETITION RING**

EC Dressage Seat Medal classes may be held in an enclosed ring that is larger than a standard dressage arena, if available. If such a space is not available, an open schooling area is permitted. If classes must be held in a dressage arena, it must be at least 20m x 60m, and no more than 6 horses shall be asked to canter at the same time.

#### **ARTICLE E 8.10 MEDAL PRESENTATIONS**

1. A special ribbon should be used in Non-Championship Medal Classes.
2. Gold, Silver and Bronze medals should be awarded to the top three riders in Silver and Gold championship equitation finals.
3. An EC-sanctioned competition holding an EC medal class must contact their Provincial Office to purchase a medal(s) well in advance of the competition.

#### **ARTICLE E 8.11 JUDGES**

1. Medal/ribbon classes may only be offered at EC shows classified as Silver and Gold.
2. At Non-Championship Shows one or more judges may officiate for an EC Dressage Seat Medal class. The EC Dressage Seat Medal class score sheets available from the DC website [www.equinecanada.ca/dressage](http://www.equinecanada.ca/dressage).
3. At a Silver show the judge(s) may be r, B, M, S, or FEI. At a Gold show the judge(s) may be B, M, S, or FEI see Equine Canada Progressive Competition and Sport License System Chart 3.0.

4. Two EC or FEI judges will officiate independently in Silver Championship Shows. Three EC or FEI judges will officiate independently in the Gold Championship Show.
5. At a Championship Show the judges must be M, S, or FEI.

#### **ARTICLE E 8.12 DRESSAGE SEAT MEDAL CLASS DC CHARGE**

The fee for EC Dressage Seat Medal classes will include a \$5 DC charge to cover ribbons/awards.

## **CHAPTER 9 EXECUTION OF TESTS, PENALTIES, JUDGING, SCORES AND PLACINGS**

#### **ARTICLE E 9.1 CALLING TESTS**

All EC tests may be called during the competition except at Gold and Silver Championships when all tests must be ridden from memory.

1. If tests are called, it is the responsibility of the competitor to arrange for a person to call the test, or organizers may provide callers of the test and use a PA system. Lateness and errors in announcing the test will not relieve the rider from "error penalties".
2. Calling the tests is limited to reading the movement a maximum of twice without adding anything else which might assist the rider. Failure to comply with this ruling will involve elimination of the competitor. It is the responsibility of the judge to monitor this.
3. Caller's dress code: callers must be neatly attired; tank tops and short shorts are prohibited.
4. Callers must position themselves in such a manner so as to not obstruct the judge's view.
5. Tests may be commanded in the competitor's own language.
6. All FEI tests and all freestyle tests must be ridden from memory.

#### **ARTICLE E 9.2 SALUTE**

Riders must take the reins in one hand (either left or right) at the salute. A lady rider shall let one arm drop loosely along her body and incline her head in a slight bow. A gentleman rider not wearing a safety helmet with harness shall remove his hat and let his arm drop loosely along his body. Riders with safety harness are not required to remove their hats and may render the salute, as does the lady rider. The military salute is only permissible when riding in uniform. In freestyle classes, the initial and final salutes must be made inside the arena and with the horse and rider facing the judge at C. Failure to salute is an error of test and the rider will incur a penalty of two points.

#### **ARTICLE E 9.3 EXECUTION OF THE TESTS - ERRORS AND PENALTIES**

1. **Error of course.** When a competitor makes an "error of the course" (takes a wrong turn, omits a movement, etc.) the judge at C rings the bell. The judge at C shows the rider, if necessary, the point at which he/she must take up the test again and the next movement to be executed and then leaves the rider to continue by him/herself. If ringing the bell would unnecessarily impede the fluency of the performance, it is up to the judge at C to decide whether to do so or not. One example of this would be if a rider made a transition from medium trot to collected walk at V instead of K. Another example would be a canter pirouette on centre line ridden at D instead of L.
  - a) If the bell is not rung and the same error occurs again because the same movement is required to be repeated in the test, only one error is recorded.

- b) If a rider performs a rising trot when sitting trot is required, or vice versa, the judge must ring the bell and warn the rider that this is an error that accumulates if repeated, leading to elimination at the third occurrence.

The decision as to whether or not an error of course/test has been made will be that of the judge at C. The other judges' scores will be adapted accordingly.

2. **Penalization.** Every "error of the course/test", whether the bell is sounded or not, must be penalized, except as noted in 9.3.1a above:
  - the first time by 2 points,
  - the second time by 4 points,
  - the third time the competitor is eliminated.
3. **Error of test.** When a competitor makes an "error of the test" (trotts rising instead of sitting, at the salute does not take the reins in one hand, etc.) he/she must be penalized as for an "error of course". In principle a competitor is not allowed to repeat a movement of the test unless the Judge at C decides on an error of course (rings the bell). If, however, the rider has started the execution of a movement and attempts to do the same movement again, the judges must consider the first movement shown only and at the same time, penalize for an error of course.
4. **Unnoticed error.** If the judge(s) has not noted an error, the competitor has the benefit of the doubt.
5. **Penalty Points.** The penalty points are deducted on each judge's sheet from the total points obtained by the competitor.
6. **Lameness.** In a case of marked lameness, the judge at C informs the competitor that he/she is eliminated. The judge must indicate on the test sheet that lameness is the cause for elimination. There is no appeal against this decision.
  - a) In the case of two eliminations for lameness on the same day, a horse may not compete until the next day of competition and must not be ridden in the warm up area until the next day of competition. The show organizer or scorer is responsible for communicating to the steward when a horse has been eliminated for lameness.
7. **Execution of movement at a certain point.** In a movement which must be carried out at a certain point of the arena, it should be done at the moment when the competitor's body is above this point, except in transitions where the horse approaches the letter from a diagonal or perpendicular to the point where the letters are positioned. In this case, the transitions must be done when the horse's nose reaches the track at the letter so that the horse is straight in the transition.
8. **Sound of bell/ Late entry.** After the sound of the bell, the competitor should enter the arena at A as soon as possible. Exceeding 45 seconds before entering the arena after the bell has sounded will result in a penalty of 2 points per judge. The judge at C is responsible for the bell and clock/time. This rule applies to all levels including FEI.
9. **Entering before the signal.** A rider at Walk/Trot through Fourth Level who enters the arena before the starting signal is sounded may be advised by the judge to exit and commence the test again. The mark for the entrance will be given and crossed out with one line and then

another mark applied to indicate a deduction of 2 points with the remark "rider entering before start signal." The deduction must appear on each judge's sheet. At FEI level, a competitor who enters the arena before the starting signal has been given will be eliminated. **Note:** This is not to be considered an error of course.

10. **Salute.** Competitors must take the reins in one hand at the salute. See Art. E 9.2
11. **Fall.** In the case of a fall of horse and/or competitor, the competitor will be eliminated.
12. **Leaving arena during competition.** A horse leaving the arena completely, with all four feet, during a dressage competition between the time of entry and the time of exit at A, will be eliminated.
13. **Resistance.** Any resistance which prevents the continuation of the test for longer than 20 seconds will result in elimination. However, resistance that may endanger rider, horse, judges or the public will be cause for elimination for safety reasons earlier than 20 seconds.
14. **Re-riding a test.** The judge may stop a test and/or allow a competitor to restart a test from the beginning or from any appropriate point in the test if, in his/her opinion, some unusual circumstance has occurred to interrupt a test. No test shall be re-ridden except as noted here or in the freestyle when the music fails. See 10.3.9 for protocol to be followed in the case of music failure.
15. **Beginning/End of test.** A test begins with the entry at A and ends after the salute at the end of the test. Any incidents before the beginning or after the end of the test have no effect on the marks. The competitor should leave the arena in the way that is prescribed in the text of the test.
16. **Outside assistance.** Any outside help by voice, signs, etc. is considered illegal or unauthorized assistance to a rider or to his horse and will result in elimination. Any assistance around the competition arena prior to entering at A is not considered unauthorized assistance. **Exception:** In-hand work is not permitted.
17. **Details as to the Freestyle Test.** A rider must enter the arena within 20 seconds of the music starting. Exceeding 20 seconds will entail elimination. The music must cease at the final salute. If the music does not cease, a penalty of 0.5 of a mark is applied to the mark for the music. At the beginning and end of a Freestyle Test a halt for the salute is compulsory. The timing of the test will start as the rider moves forward from the halt.

#### ARTICLE E 9.4 VOICE

The use of the voice in any way whatsoever or clicking the tongue once or repeatedly is a serious fault and must be penalized by the deduction of at least two marks from the movement in which it occurs. The use of the voice will incur a deduction of marks each time it is used but does not constitute elimination, nor should it be scored as an error of test or error of course. For example, a judge awarding eight to a movement must deduct two points or more from the given mark (e.g. 8 becomes 6, comment: voice).

## ARTICLE E 9.5 DISMOUNTING

A rider dismounting after entering the arena will be eliminated from the test.

## ARTICLE E 9.6 ELIMINATION FROM A CLASS

An entry shall be eliminated under the following circumstances:

- evidence of blood on the horse (environmental causes such as insect bites shall not normally be cause for elimination)
- use of illegal equipment (see 4.9)
- failure to submit to a tack check as required (see 4.16)
- contravention of dress rules (Chapter 4)
- unauthorized assistance (see 9.3.16, 9.1.2, 4.15)
- three errors of course (see 9.3.2)
- resistance of more than 20 seconds in a test (see 9.3.13)
- fall of horse or rider during the test. (see 9.3.11)
- dangerous/unruly behaviour of horse (see 7.11.7, 9.3.13)
- all four feet of the horse leave the arena (see 9.3.12)
- exceeding 20 seconds to enter the arena after the start of the music in the freestyle test (see 9.3.17)
- performing movements above the level of freestyle shown (see 10.2.8)
- any rider removing their hat during a freestyle test (other than at the initial and final halts/salute) (see 10.2.5)
- dismounting during a dressage test (see 9.5)
- scoring less than 40% of the total marks obtainable in the test (see 9.10.9)
- lameness (see 9.3.6)
- carrying a whip into the competition arena at any Championships or Young Horse classes. For FEI sanctioned competitions, i.e. CDI's, Team Trials or World Cup Qualifier, Refer to FEI Rules and/or the team criteria as published. (see 4.7.2)
- failure to wear correct horse number in competition or while out of the stall. (see 9.7)

## ARTICLE E 9.7 DISQUALIFICATION (FROM A COMPETITION)

A competitor shall be disqualified under the following circumstances:

- Misrepresentation of entry or inappropriate entry
- Abuse/cruelty
- The horse's tongue has been tied down
- Competition number not worn by horse/handler when horse is out of the stall.

## ARTICLE E 9.8 JUDGING A TEST

Judges are personally responsible for their decisions and classifications. They may not take into account any advice or observations from persons who are not members of the ground jury or anything that they know beforehand about the competitors or their horses.

1. The mark for each movement should establish whether the movement is performed sufficiently (5 or above) or insufficiently (4 or below).

2. In a movement which must be carried out at a certain point in the arena, it should be done at the moment when the competitor's body is above this point, except in transitions where the horse approaches the letter from a diagonal or perpendicular to the point where the letters are positioned. In this case, the transitions must be done when the horse's nose reaches the track at the letter so that the horse is straight in the transition.
3. If a problem appears once, it may be treated lightly by the judge; if it appears successively, it will be scored more harshly each time, i.e. nodding, stumbling, shying, etc.
4. Grinding teeth: If a horse is content and happy to work, then it is not a resistance and does not need to be penalized. If the grinding is caused by tension (stiff back, swishing tail, etc.), one must go down 1 point on the quality of the movements and in the mark for submission.
5. Horses that get their tongues over the bit or perform with an open mouth shall be marked down.
6. A horse leaving the arena completely with all four feet during a dressage test between the time of entry and the time of exit at "A" will be eliminated.
7. In the event a judge eliminates a horse for lameness, it must be written on the test sheet that lameness was the cause of said elimination.
8. A test begins with the entry at "A" and ends after the final salute.
9. Anything before the beginning or after the end of a test has no effect on the marks. The competitor should leave the arena in the way prescribed in the test.
10. In the freestyle, the timing of the test begins in the first stride after the salute – which must be made inside the dressage arena and facing the judge – and ends after the final salute. The judging of EC freestyles begins at the move-off after the halt. The judging of FEI freestyles begins with the halt.
11. After the sound of the bell (or whistle) the competitor should enter the arena as soon as possible. Exceeding 45 seconds before entering the arena after the designated signal will result in a penalty of two points per judge.
12. A rider at Walk/Trot through Fourth Level who enters the arena before the starting signal may be advised by the judge to exit and commence the test again. The mark for the entrance will be given and crossed out with one line and then another mark applied to indicate a deduction of 2 points with the remark "rider entering ring prior to the start signal." The deduction must appear on each judge's sheet. At FEI level, a competitor who enters the arena before the starting signal has been given will be eliminated.  
**Note:** This is not to be considered an error of course.
13. No competitor can be required to ride prior to his/her scheduled time, however, as a matter of courtesy and to aid in the efficient running of the competition, competitors should be aware that they may be asked, with due notice, to advance their showing times.
14. All movements and certain transitions which have to be marked by the judge(s) are numbered on the judge's sheets.

The scale of marks is as follows:

10 Excellent	5 Sufficient
9 Very Good	4 Insufficient
8 Good	3 Fairly bad
7 Fairly Good	2 Bad
6 Satisfactory	1 Very bad
	0 Not executed (practically nothing of the required movement has been performed)

15. Collective marks are awarded after the competitor has finished his/her performance for:
- Paces
  - Impulsion
  - Submission
  - The rider's position, seat, use and effect of the aids

#### **ARTICLE E 9.9 RETURNING TESTS TO COMPETITORS**

Competitors can ask for their judging sheets on the completion of the class, after the class has been placed.

#### **ARTICLE E 9.10 SCORES AND PLACINGS**

1. After each performance and after each judge has given his/her collective marks, the judge's sheets are given to the scorers. The marks are multiplied by the corresponding coefficient where applicable then totaled. Penalty points incurred for errors in the execution of the test are then deducted on each judge's sheet. (See 9.3.2).  
**Note:** All scores in both technical and freestyle dressage tests MUST be calculated to the third decimal point.
2. The score is the total of the points awarded on the test sheet. With more than one judge, the sum total determines the placing. If there are two or more judges, the total points awarded by each judge will be published separately in addition to the total score.
3. As there are no duplicate score sheets, scorers must record the total points for movements and the collective marks, as well as penalty points for each test on a master sheet prior to posting scores, as a record for protests, ties and championships.
4. Individual placings and ties: in all competitions the winner is the competitor having the highest total points, the second is the one with the next highest total points and so on. In the case of equality of points the competitor with the highest total of collective marks shall be declared the winner. When collective marks are tied, the horses shall remain tied.
5. Ties in classes which involve prize money shall remain tied for the purpose of dividing prize money and then broken for awarding ribbons according to rule 9.10.4 above.
6. Ties, In the case of an unbreakable tie each horse will remain tied (See 9.10.4). For example, if three horses were tied for second place, each would receive second place. The next placed horse would receive fifth place.

7. Judges shall give only whole marks in technical tests. For freestyle tests see 10.4
8. Any horse receiving less than 50% of the total points obtainable in a test shall not be eligible for awards, ribbons or prizes.
9. Any horse receiving less than 40% of the total points obtainable in a test will be eliminated from that class.
10. Championship Competitions see 7.23, 7.24 and 7.25.
11. When there is only one horse in a class, ribbons and prizes shall be awarded in accordance with the following chart of percentages:
  1. 1st 60% or higher
  2. 2nd 57% to 59.9%
  3. 3rd 54% to 56.9%
  4. 4th 51% to 53.9%No ribbons or prizes shall be awarded below 4<sup>th</sup> position.
12. Competition organizers should post scores as soon as possible after each test.
13. The organizers of a competition are not obliged to make public any figures other than the total scores of each judge and the final placings.

#### **ARTICLE E 9.11 CHAMPIONS AT NON-CHAMPIONSHIP COMPETITIONS**

1. Competition organizers may award championships or high point awards at each level (Walk/Trot through Grand Prix).
2. On no account may a competition division or level championship be determined by the results of one class.
3. For a level championship (i.e. First Level Champion) to be offered there must be two or more classes in the level held (i.e. First Level tests 1 & 2, or 1, 2, 3 & 4 etc).
4. Champion and reserve champion must be established by totaling the horse/rider combination percentages achieved in the designated classes which must have been identified in the prize list (e.g. First Level 1, 2 & 3, top two scores to count OR all scores to count). The competitor with the highest total will be named champion. The competitor with the second highest total will be named reserve champion.
5. In the event of a tie, the rider with the highest single percentage score is declared the winner.
6. In the event that category (Jr/Am/Open) classes are not offered, a category championship may be offered, based on results obtained in the open classes. Eligible riders will qualify for the category championship through their results in the open classes.
7. At all EC competitions, any horse receiving less than 50% on a technical test will not be eligible for any class awards, championships or reserve championships.

## CHAPTER 10 FREESTYLE TESTS

### ARTICLE E 10.1 FREESTYLE MOVEMENTS

1. EC freestyles will be at First, Second, Third and Fourth Levels.
2. Organizers are reminded that EC or FEI freestyle sheets must be used at EC competitions (Bronze, Silver, Gold) offering freestyles. Sheets may be obtained from Dressage Canada at [www.equinecanada.ca/dressage](http://www.equinecanada.ca/dressage) or the FEI at [www.fei.org](http://www.fei.org) websites.
3. It is the responsibility of the rider to put his/her ride together and to incorporate all the required movements in the time allowed.
4. Compulsory technical movements for each level of freestyle can be found on the freestyle score sheets which may be obtained from the DC website [www.equinecanada.ca/dressage](http://www.equinecanada.ca/dressage).
5. The test time will start as the rider moves forward from the halt.
6. Comments as to FEI Freestyles can be found in the FEI Rules for Dressage which can be found on the FEI website - [www.fei.org](http://www.fei.org)

### ARTICLE E 10.2 FREESTYLE PENALTIES

1. Riders are not required to submit a written copy of their freestyle and since the ride is judged as a whole, no errors can occur.
2. A rider must enter the arena within 20 seconds of the music starting. Exceeding 20 seconds will entail elimination.
3. The music must cease at the final salute. If the music does not cease, a penalty of 0.5 of a mark is applied to the mark for the music.
4. At the beginning and end of a freestyle test a halt for the salute is compulsory. The initial and final salutes must be made inside the arena and with the horse and rider facing the judge at C.
5. A gentleman rider who removes his hat other than at the initial and final salutes will be eliminated.
6. Movements performed before the initial halt and salute are not scored.
7. Movements performed after the maximum time allowed in a freestyle will not be considered by the judges. Furthermore, the ride will be penalized after the multiplication of the coefficient for the Artistic Impression by the deduction of 2 points.
8. A rider performing higher movements than the level called for in a particular freestyle will be eliminated. Judges must be fair by taking into consideration whether the movement was accidental or intentional. Riders should read their level tests carefully to be certain that they are not including higher-level movements.

### ARTICLE E 10.3 MUSIC

1. Recorded music is mandatory.
2. Live music is not permitted.
3. It is the responsibility of the competitor to select appropriate music for their freestyle.
4. The rider must provide the show organizer, at least two hours prior to the start of the class, with two functioning copies of their freestyle music, which can be played on a CD player or tape deck and not just on a computer.

5. The rider is responsible for making sure they do a sound check at a time convenient to the show organizer.
6. Each rider may have a representative in the sound system booth to supervise the handling of the music.
7. If music is on a CD, the rider should have a back up CD and also have a copy on cassette tape in case the competition management does not have CD equipment. It is recommended that the rider check with the competition secretary prior to arriving at the competition as to what system will be available.
8. Organizers are encouraged to list their sound system requirements and acceptable media formats in their prize lists.
9. In the case of a rider's music failing during the freestyle test and in cases where there is no back up system, the rider should leave the arena immediately. There should be a minimum of interference with the starting times of the other riders and the affected rider should return to complete or restart his/her test during a scheduled break in the competition. The judge at C will confer with the rider and determine when the rider should return to the arena. The rider may decide whether to restart the test from the beginning or from the point where the music failed. The marks will continue from the point where the music failed.

### ARTICLE E 10.4 FREESTYLE SCORING

1. All technical marks must be in whole numbers. Artistic marks may be given in whole numbers or 0.5 fractions.
2. Scoring of FEI freestyle tests is out of a total of 200. Scoring of EC freestyle tests is out of 20. There is a technical component/section (compulsory movements on the left side of test sheet) and an artistic impression, (right side of test sheet).
3. Scorers must apply the relevant coefficients to each movement as marked by the judge, in both the technical and artistic sections. These coefficients are clearly marked in the column titled Coefficient (Co-eff) in both the technical and artistic sections. Once the coefficients have been calculated, scorers must total the technical section and the artistic sections separately.  
**Note:** Competition secretaries are encouraged to instruct the judges' scribes, prior to the judging of the freestyle tests, whether or not to calculate the technical coefficients.
4. Once the technical and artistic totals are prepared, scorers must then divide each section by the number, which is, clearly indicated on the freestyle test in the final score boxes on the lower right hand side of each test: e.g. for an EC freestyle Total for technical execution divide by 17; Total for artistic presentation divide by 18. For an FEI freestyle both technical and artistic is out of 100. The results of such division should be for example: Total technical 118 points divided by 17 = 6.941, total artistic 125.5 points divided by 18 = 6.972. Once the division is completed scorers must add the two totals e.g. Technical 6.941 + Artistic 6.972 = 13.913. Scorers then multiply the final total of 13.913 by 5 to translate to a percentage of 69.565%. A similar calculation using 100 and 200 for FEI freestyle tests will result in a final percentage

- score for each judge's technical and artistic plus overall percentage score up to three decimals.
5. When there is more than one judge, each judge's final total shall be added together and divided by the number of judges. This number will then be calculated as a percentage.  
e.g. Judge 1 – Total 12.435, Judge 2 – Total 12.945, Judge 3 – Total 13.053  
Sum of three Judges = 38.433  
Divide by 3 = 12.811 (is the final total)  
To calculate as a percentage:  $12.811 \times 5 = 64.055\%$
  6. The key to correct calculation is to ensure the decimal point is placed correctly.
  7. All scores in both technical and freestyle dressage tests must be calculated to the third decimal point.
  8. In the case of a tie, the higher score for artistic presentation will determine the winner.

#### ARTICLE E 10.5 LOCATION OF JUDGES IN FREESTYLE TESTS

In EC competitions, when two or three judges officiate in a freestyle class, they may be located at the short end of the arena (e.g. M/C, C/H or M/C/H) but it is strongly recommended that one of these judges be placed on the long side at either B or E. In FEI sanctioned competitions two judges must be on the short side and one must be on the long side (e.g. C/M/E or C/H/B)

#### ARTICLE E 10.6 FREESTYLE ELIGIBILITY

1. Freestyle eligibility for riders in Gold and Silver competitions (all EC levels and FEI freestyle levels): A horse/rider combination must have obtained the following prior to competing in a freestyle: a minimum score of 55% in a dressage test at the same technical level, or higher, as the freestyle they wish to enter (e.g. 55% in First or Second Level to compete in the First and/or Second Level Freestyle). The dressage score may have been obtained at an EC Gold/Silver dressage competition prior to the competition, or may be obtained at the same competition in which they wish to enter the freestyle. **Note:** Discovery and Bronze competitions require no minimum technical score.
2. Technical scores earned at Silver competitions count toward being allowed to enter a freestyle in a Gold competition and vice versa.
3. A horse/rider combination may compete in a maximum of two consecutive EC freestyle levels per day. These must correspond to the technical levels at which the horse/rider combination are competing on the same day; e.g. Second Level technical plus First and Second Level freestyles.
4. At the time of publication there is no FEI Children's freestyle. Child riders may compete in the First Level Freestyle.

## CHAPTER 11 DRESSAGE SPORT HORSE BREEDING CLASSES

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Purpose: To encourage the breeding of horses suitable for dressage and to provide an opportunity to demonstrate the effectiveness of breeding programs.

#### ARTICLE E 11.1 GENERAL REGULATIONS

1. A competition with an EC approved Dressage Sport Horse Breeding division, which could include Materiale classes, must have either an EC licensed dressage judge and/or an approved USEF Dressage Sport Horse Breeding judge plus an EC licensed steward experienced in dressage.
2. A breeding division for dressage may be held separately or in conjunction with any EC-sanctioned competition.
3. Classes shall be open to any horse without regard to size, breed or origin. Separate classes for ponies or specific breeds may also be included and must be clearly specified in the prize list.
4. Horses' quality shall be evaluated as to potential for dressage/sport horses or breeding stock.
5. Current EC Dressage Sport Horse Breeding Score sheets are required. For the classes listed, see 11.3. Score sheets may be found on the DC website [www.equinecanada.ca/dressage](http://www.equinecanada.ca/dressage).

#### ARTICLE E 11.2 DEFINITIONS

1. **Stallion:** For the purposes of this division only, an ungelded male horse, four years old or older.
2. **Broodmare:** A female horse, four years old or older which is in foal, or is currently nursing.
3. **Yeld:** A female horse, four years old or older, which has never been bred (maiden), or which is not currently bred or nursing.
4. **Breeder:** The owner or lessee of the mare at the time of conception.
5. **Maiden:** A female horse, four years old or older, which has never been bred.
6. **Age:** For competition purposes, any horse is considered to be one year old on the first day of January following the actual date of foaling. A mature horse is one that is four years of age or older.  
**Exception:** In order to compete in any under saddle class, a horse must be at least 36 months of age at the time of competition.
7. **Handler:** Any person who holds, walks or trots a horse while it is being judged in the competition area or ring for any in-hand or group championship class, except as noted below.
8. **Assistant handler:** Any person, other than the handler, who holds or walks a horse in the competition area or ring during a class, whether or

not it is being judged. An assistant handler is permitted only for callbacks after in-hand or group classes, for championships and for handling non-competing mares or foals, which accompany another entry in the competition ring. Assistant handlers may not show a horse at the trot, and if not EC Sport License holder, are exempt from the EC non-sport license holder fee, but are otherwise subject to all rules regarding handlers. See Section A, General Regulations, Chapter 2.

### **ARTICLE E 11.3 CLASSES**

1. Dressage Sport Horse In Hand classes may be held for mares and stallions in any age group and for geldings in any age groups 3 years old and under. Dressage Breeding In Hand classes may be held for mares and stallions, age groups 2 years old and older. Any of the following classes may be included or combined at the discretion of competition management with the exception that in sport horse or breeding classes (in-hand), horses of one sex shall not be judged against those of the opposite sex except in specified group classes, championship classes or special classes for single breeds or amateur handlers. Colts and geldings may be shown together.
2. The following in-hand classes may be offered and may vary at the discretion of competition management: in-hand Classes (Prize List must specify Sport Horse or Breeding): Fillies of current calendar year with or without dam (fillies only to be judged); Colts of current calendar year with or without dam (Colts only to be judged); Yearling fillies; Yearling colts; Yearling geldings; Two-year-old fillies; Two-year-old colts; Two-year-old geldings; Three-year-old fillies; Three-year-old colts; Three-year-old geldings. The following may be divided by age, except suitable to become a broodmare: Four-year-old and older maiden mares; Four-year-old and older broodmares (yeld) without foals; Four year old and older broodmares with foals at foot (Mare only to be judged); Suitable to become a broodmare; Four-year-old and older stallions.
  - a) Group Classes (where multiple ownership is permitted, owners must be listed): Broodmare and foal (Entered under dam's name. To be judged 50% mare and 50% offspring); Dam and produce (dam and two or three of her offspring; prize list will specify two or three. Entered under dam's name, multiple ownership permitted. To be judged 50% dam and 50% offspring); Produce of Dam (with or without dam, two or three offspring. Entered under dam's name; multiple ownership permitted. Offspring only to be judged); Sire and Get (sire and two or three of his get. Entered under sire's name, multiple ownership permitted. To be judged 50% stallion and 50% get); Get of sire (without sire, two or three of his get. Entered under sire's name, multiple ownership permitted. Get only to be judged); Breeder's group (group of no more than three horses of any age or sex, all bred by the exhibitor and entered under the exhibitor's name. All horses must have been judged in their individual in-hand classes). Colts and geldings may be shown together; Family Class (Three mares related in one of three ways: mother and two daughters; mother, daughter and granddaughters; three daughters mother deceased. To be judged 50% overall

- b) family quality and 50% improvement in successive breedings).
- b) Championship classes may be offered at the discretion of management. Details must be included in prize list.
- c) Dressage/Sport Horse Under Saddle Classes. Horses entered in the following classes must also have been entered and judged in at least one of the in-hand or group classes.

**Exception:** Classes for the same sex may be combined at the discretion of the management: Three-year-old fillies; Three-year-old colts and geldings; Four-year-old and older mares; Four-year-old and older stallions.

### **ARTICLE E 11.4 ENTRIES**

1. Entries in produce of dam and get of sire classes must be made by the owner of the dam or sire, or with written permission from the owner, in the name of that dam or sire.
2. All offspring entered in produce of dam and get of sire classes must be named on the entry form. Multiple ownership is permitted and owners must be listed.
3. If both Dressage Sport Horse and Dressage Breeding classes are offered in each age/sex group, eligible horses may enter both classes.
4. Any and all handlers (including assistant handlers) of horses in the competition ring are required to sign an entry blank, see Section A, General Regulations, Chapter 9, Exhibitors. Handlers must be EC members or pay a non-member fee. Assistant Handlers need not be EC members and are exempt from the non-member fee.

### **ARTICLE E 11.5 EQUIPMENT AND TURNOUT**

1. Braiding is optional.
2. Bridles are mandatory on two-year-olds and older. A bridle shall consist of a snaffle bit (as pictured and listed in 4.2 and 4.3) with two reins and headstall with throatlatch. Noseband is optional. A split or single chain may be used instead of reins. Horses under the age of two may be shown in halters.
3. Bandages of any kind are forbidden during a class.
4. The handler and/or his assistant may each carry only one whip, or one standard lunging whip (without attachments, i.e. plastic bags, etc.).
5. Conservative sports attire is recommended for the handler, see Section A, General Regulations, Chapter 9 Exhibitors.
6. In under saddle classes, Dress and Saddlery and Equipment must conform to Chapter 4, except that all horses are required to compete in a snaffle. See 4.2.1.

### **ARTICLE E 11.6 GENERAL**

1. A judge must order from the ring any horse, rider or handler who exhibits inappropriate or dangerous behaviour or whose actions would in any way threaten the safety of any exhibitor, their entries or the safety of class officials.
2. A scribe shall be provided for each judge whose sole duty shall be to record the judge's scores and comments on the horse's individual score card.
3. When possible, the announcement of awards will include the breeding

of the horses pinned: sire, dam, dam's sire; as well as the name of the owner and the breeder.

4. Refer to USDF Dressage Sport Horse Breeding Guidelines for additional information relating to Dressage/Sport Horse Breeding.
5. If the schedule permits, management may allow time for questions from competitors to judges at the end of the show.
6. Each horse must have a separate handler or assistant handler at all times.

#### ARTICLE E 11.7 COMPETITION VETERINARIAN

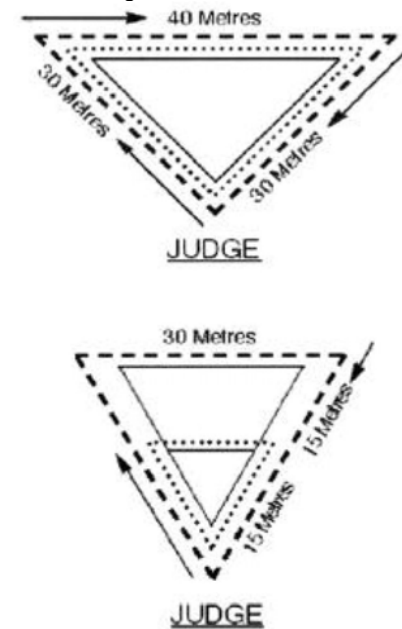
If the competition veterinarian is on the premises, he/she must be available to the judge. The handler must give permission to the judge and/or veterinarian before either touches the horse. If the veterinarian is not immediately available, or not called upon, the judge's decision as to the serviceable soundness of a horse must be final. For further regulations governing Competition Veterinarian, refer to the Section A, General Regulations, Article A508, Emergencies.

#### ARTICLE E 11.8 CONDUCT OF CLASSES

1. In-Hand Classes: Horses being shown individually on the triangle.
  - a) Following a posted or announced order, or on request from the judge, entries in each class will approach the judging area one at a time, walk to the apex of the triangle, and await the judge's request to proceed on the triangle. The handler will lead the horse on the perimeter of the triangle at walk and trot, returning to the apex to stand the horse for conformation judging or to repeat any movement at the judge's request. Handlers are permitted to have one assistant if necessary. Repetition of all or any part of the movement on the triangle may be allowed at the judge's request only. At the completion of the judging, the handler will lead the horse away from the judging area. The next horse will enter the judging area promptly. The judge may elect to judge conformation either before and/or after judging the horse's movement on the triangle.
  - b) The horse is to be shown in an "open position," i.e. with all four legs of the horse visible to the judge when standing on either side of the horse. After all horses have been shown on the triangle, some or all may be recalled (depending on size, format and schedule of the competition) to be shown in groups at a walk and trot. If horses are to be recalled, the prize list or program must state that this procedure will be used.
2. Horses being shown in-hand in groups:
  - a) Groups will be examined one group at a time, but not necessarily on the triangle. At the discretion of the judge, they may be asked to move at the trot and then at the walk, either in line or moving around the arena. Horses shall stand for conformation judging before and/or after completion of the horse's movement.
  - b) The Judging Triangle: Two basic triangle designs are acceptable for presenting horses to the judge. Competition management may choose the triangle best suited for local conditions. Triangle

corners should be well defined. Footing must be firm. Decorative fencing, plants or flowers are allowed. Horses must travel to the right. The following diagram shows the suggested use of the triangle. The size of either triangle may be adjusted to meet local conditions.

3. Under Saddle Classes: Depending on local conditions, these classes may be divided at the judge's discretion.
4. Foals may not be shown loose, unless specifically allowed by management in the prize list, in which case, provisions must be made to separate each entry, while being shown, from others in the class. These entries must be shown in a completely enclosed area. This enclosed area must be substantial enough in height and in construction to prevent injury to horses and/or handlers and/or spectators, and to prevent foals from leaving the area.



#### ARTICLE E 11.9 JUDGING SPECIFICATIONS

1. In Hand Classes (Dressage Sport Horse and Dressage Breeding Stock): Horses shall be judged at the walk and trot on the triangle and standing for conformation.
2. Dressage Under Saddle Classes: Horses shall be judged at the walk, trot and canter in both directions.
3. Group Classes: Transmissible weakness or predisposition to unsoundness shall be penalized, commensurate with severity.
4. Scoring Categories: Score sheets for the following classes can be obtained from EC or printed from the Dressage Canada website.
  - a) Dressage Breeding and Group Classes: 50% Movement, 40% Conformation, 10% General Impression (including masculinity (stallion) and femininity (mare); development and harmony)

## CHAPTER 12 MATERIALE CLASSES

- b) Dressage Sport Horse Classes: 60% Movement, 30% Conformation, 10% General Impression (including impulsion, balance and temperament).
  - c) Dressage Under Saddle Classes: 60% Movement, 30% Conformation, 10% General Impression (including impulsion, balance and rideability), or horses may be placed with no actual scores awarded.
5. Championship Classes: More than one judge may officiate. The judge(s) will re-evaluate the entries, with or without awarding scores. All horses must be re-evaluated in the same manner, and all horses must be shown at the walk and trot.
  6. Conformation is to be evaluated in terms of potential trainability, potential performance and predisposition to unsoundness. Function, not fashion, is to be emphasized. Weakness or conformation faults with a predisposition to unsoundness or to difficulties in training shall be penalized. Blemishes are not to count unless resulting from conformation faults.
  7. Gaits are to be evaluated in terms of purity, quality and correctness. Purity and correctness are more important than brilliance at this level. Correct gaits, contributing to ease of training and the horse remaining sound and usable, are more important than gaits which are merely superficially flashy. Purity and quality are judged mainly in profile. Correctness is judged mainly while the horse is coming to and going away from the judge's position.
  8. Unsoundness. A horse shall be disqualified for unsoundness at the judge's discretion in Dressage Breeding and Group classes.
    - a) In Dressage Sport Horse In Hand and Under Saddle classes, unsoundness is defined as showing evidence of lameness
    - b) In Dressage Breeding In Hand and Group classes, unsoundness is defined as showing evidence of lameness or broken wind.

### ARTICLE E 11.10 JUDGING PROCEDURE

1. A judge shall have the option of using individual score cards or class sheets, or in the case of a large under saddle class, placing horses in order of ranking in line up.
2. When two or more judges are officiating, they may agree to use only individual score cards or class cards and agree on each score before informing the scribe.
3. Decimals may be used in scoring.
4. Tied scores shall be broken first by referring to the totals of the movement scores. If still tied, the tie may be broken at the judge's discretion, by the use of decimals, or the horses may be examined again (movement only). If a class is judged by more than one judge, the judges may consult and arrive at one agreed upon placement.
5. Scores must be reported as a total based on the above percentages against a possible total of 100%, and all scores (if given) and placings must be published. Unofficial scores may be published during the class and/or final scores may be published at the end of each class.

### MATERIALE CLASSES

Materiale classes may be held in both EC dressage or EC open competitions and Sport/Breeding competitions.

### ARTICLE E 12.1 CLASSES

1. Limited to three year old horses
2. Limited to four year old horses and ponies

### ARTICLE E 12.2 CLASS ROUTINE

Horses/ponies enter the ring at a walk in clockwise direction at the discretion of the ringmaster and officiating judge(s). Entries are to be shown in both directions in the ring at a walk, trot and canter. Horses/ponies will not be asked to gallop but may be asked to lengthen the stride at trot.

### ARTICLE E 12.3 JUDGING

60% paces; 30% conformation; 10% General Impression (including impulsion, balance, rideability, presence and suitability to dressage). Horses/ponies may be stripped for conformation. Available ribbons and prizes may not necessarily be awarded if the entries do not warrant them in the opinion of the judge(s).

### ARTICLE E 12.4 COMPETITION MANAGEMENT AND CLASS ORGANIZATION

1. Competitions which include Materiale classes must have either an EC licensed dressage judge or an approved USEF Dressage Sport Horse Breed judge plus an EC licensed steward experienced in dressage.
2. Complete details of the Materiale classes and competition organization can be found on the DC website at [www.equinecanada.ca/dressage](http://www.equinecanada.ca/dressage).
3. Class score sheets will be available for printing from the DC website.

### ARTICLE E 12.5 WHIPS

Whips are allowed in Materiale Classes. The maximum total length must not exceed 110 cm for horses or 90 cm for ponies.

## CHAPTER 13 YOUNG HORSE CLASSES (EC & FEI)

### GENERAL PRINCIPLES

In 1996, the FEI introduced dressage tests for five and six year old horses at International Level. These dressage tests were tested for the first time at the European Championships at Verden, Germany in 1997. The first World Breeding Championship for Young Horses was held in 1999 at Arnhem Netherlands. There are separate tests for four, five and six year old horses. The primary concerns are the correct training of young horses, enhancing the reputation of national breeds and encouraging interest in international competition involving young horses.

### DIRECTIVES FOR INTERNATIONAL DRESSAGE COMPETITIONS FOR 4, 5 AND 6 YEAR OLD HORSES (FEI ANNEX IX)

The FEI Rules for Dressage events apply to all international young horse events, except where stated differently below.

#### ARTICLE E 13.1 AGE AND HEIGHT

Age and height are the only requirements for horses participating in the FEI Young Horse classes for four, five and six year olds. The age will be counted from January 1<sup>st</sup> of the year of their birth. The height at the withers must exceed 149 cm including shoes.

Participation will not affect the status for technical eligibility.

**Note:** Only EC Gold and FEI sanctioned competitions may hold classes for FEI Young Horses in the four, five and the six year old categories. These classes will be run in accordance with FEI rules regardless of competition sanctioning.

**Note:** Horses entered in the FEI Young Horse classes must hold:

1. If in Canada – EC Horse Identification Documentation
2. If outside Canada - FEI passports (See Annex 1)

#### ARTICLE E 13.2 DRESSAGE TESTS

4-year-olds:	FEI Dressage tests for 4-year-old horses
5-year-olds:	FEI Preliminary Test for 5-year old horses FEI Dressage Test for 5-year old horses, Final
6-year-olds:	FEI Preliminary Test for 6-year old horses FEI Dressage Test for 6-year old horses, Final

The preliminary test for young horses must be used as the qualifier for the final or championship test.

All tests are to be held in the 20 x 60 meter arena

Horses entered in the FEI Young Horse classes must hold either current EC Horse Identification documentation or an FEI passport. When competing in a FEI sanctioned competition horses must have a current FEI passport.

**Note:** The FEI tests for 4, 5 and 6 year old horses may not be offered at Discovery, Bronze or Silver competitions.

#### ARTICLE E 13.3 DRESS AND SADDLERY

As per article 427 and 428 of the FEI Dressage Rules (see FEI website www.fei.org). Four, five and six year old tests are to be ridden in a snaffle bridle only.

**Note:** In accordance with the FEI Annex IX, under Dress and Saddlery, and EC rules in Chapter 4, nose bands see 4.2.3 diagrams 1, 2 and 3 are permitted.

No whips are permitted. However, the use of one whip with at total maximum length of 110 cm, in the practice area is allowed. The whip must be dropped before entering the space around the competition arena or the rider will entail a deduction of 2 points per judge in Young Horse classes.

#### ARTICLE E 13.4 ASSESSMENT

##### Basic ideas:

The handiness, basic paces and general impression of the horse as a dressage horse will be judged. Judges should ask whether or not the performance of the horse corresponds to the general idea of a dressage horse; whether the horse is on the correct training path; and whether the horse has the ability to perform dressage at a high level.

Special emphasis has to be made on soft and constant contact, the satisfactory activity of the mouth, an elastic poll in the three basic paces and in the transitions. The steps and strides must be in rhythm and without tension. Flexion and bending, the harmonious development on both hands and suppleness are important. There must be impulsion, which has to be developed through the hindquarters, leading into a swinging back and soft steady contact.

Fundamental training errors will generally lead to lower marks being awarded. Examples of such errors are: obviously unlevel rhythm, tension, lasting contact failure, insufficiently swinging back, serious crookedness and insufficient engagement of the hind legs.

Minor mistakes (e.g. halt not straight, concentration lapses, moments of shortness in the neck, or being momentarily above the bit) should be judged with some lenience, if, in principle, the horse is demonstrating good movement and is shown to be presented correctly in accordance with its level of training.

Horses which, at the beginning of the test, show tension and some concentration lapses, or which may even be a bit spooky, should be judged more benevolently than in other international dressage competitions.

Examples of minor mistakes in the 5-year old class:

1. Transitions not exactly at the marker
2. Medium canter slightly crooked
3. Slight crookedness when collecting after extensions.

The exercises required of a 5-year old horse are generally of a low level and full collection is not required.

Examples of minor mistakes in the 6-year old class:

1. Starting the lateral movements not exactly at the marker
2. Not holding the longitudinal axis bend during the last two or three steps after correct introduction and implementation of the travers

Lateral movements and flying changes are an important part of the assessment of 6-year old horses and a much more clearly defined collection is required.

#### **ARTICLE E 13.5 BASIC PACES**

##### **WALK:**

The walk is a marching pace in which the foot falls of the horse's hooves follow one another in a "four time" beat, well marked and maintained in all work at the walk. When the foreleg and the hind leg on the same side move almost on the same beat, the walk tends to be a lateral movement. This irregularity, which might become an ambling movement, is a serious fault of the pace. It is at the walk that the imperfections of dressage are most evident. A young horse should not be asked to walk "on the bit" at the early stages of his training as to require collection at this stage will negatively influence the horse's development. The horse should cover ground well and must step forward into the bit with confidence.

##### **TROT:**

The trot is a pace of "two time" on alternate diagonal legs (the left fore and right hind leg alternating with the right fore and left hind) separated by a moment of suspension. The trot should consist of free, active and regular steps, and must be moved into without hesitation. The quality of the trot is judged by assessing the overall impression, the regularity and the elasticity of the steps – originating from a supple back and well maintained impulsion – and by the ability to maintain the same rhythm and natural balance, even after a transition from one pace to another.

##### **CANTER:**

The canter is a pace of "three time", where at canter to the right, for instance, the footfalls follow one another as follows: left hind, left diagonal (simultaneously left fore and right hind), right fore, followed by a moment of suspension with all four feet in the air before the next stride begins. The canter should be light and regular and the horse should remain straight. The strike off should be without hesitation. The quality of the canter is judged by assessing the overall impression, the regularity and the lightness of the three paces (working, medium, and extended) – originating from the acceptance of the bridle with a supple poll, and in the engagement of the hind quarters with an active hock action – and by the ability to maintain the same rhythm and a natural balance, even after a transitions from one canter pace to another.

#### **ARTICLE E 13.6 GENERAL IMPRESSION**

The emphasis here is on the three basic paces, the type and quality of the horse's conformation, the charisma and presence of the horse, suppleness and the degree of effortlessness with which the horse is able to perform the movements. A horse, which has the potential for high-level sport, has to be preferred to a horse that completes the tests in an obedient manner but has no real ability to proceed to higher levels of dressage.

1. The rider - The judging of the seat, aids, and influence of the rider plays a secondary role.

2. Judging of the Young Horse Tests for International competitions (CDI): The tests are to be judged by a Ground Jury of at least three FEI judges (two of whom must be foreign). The three judges will sit together in the same judge's booth (positioned at C) and will judge as a team and will not give separate marks. In addition to these three judges, it is recommended that a fourth judge be appointed to provide a commentary after the completion of each horse's test. This commentary is mainly for the benefit of the spectators and the main purpose thereof is to explain the rideability and strengths of the individual horse in relation to the demands at each level of competition as well as the quality of the three basic paces and the horse's ability to perform as a high-level dressage horse. The commentator should give his commentary in a national language of the country in which each event is taking place as well as English. The FEI Secretariat will maintain a list of judges who are qualified to act as commenting judges.

At championship events, commentary will be compulsory for the second qualifying test and for the final competition. At other events, commentary is not compulsory but is recommended in order to encourage spectator interest and to illustrate the difference between young horse events and other international dressage competitions.

In addition to and as part of this test sheet, the judges will complete an assessment of each horse. This will apply for the first competition at each event only. The judges will write a detailed report underlying the strengths and weaknesses of each horse. Special attention must be given to the "General Impression" section of the assessment, where all the positive and negative aspects of the horse should be set out.

Organizers should make provisions for a short break (maximum five minutes) between horses so as to allow for sufficient time for the commentary and the marking and completion of the test sheet and assessment form.

3. Young Horse Judges Approved for EC Competitions  
Only EC senior or other NF's senior and FEI dressage judges may officiate in the FEI Young Horse classes. For scores to count for selection to compete in the World Breeding Championships for Young Horses, there must be a panel of three FEI dressage judges or two FEI judges and one senior judge.

## CHAPTER 14 PARA-EQUESTRIAN

For more information refer to the FEI website at [www.fei.org](http://www.fei.org) and the Para-Equestrian section on the Equine Canada website at [www.equinecanada.ca](http://www.equinecanada.ca).

### ARTICLE E 14.1 SPECIAL DISPENSATION

Any rider with a physical disability, which prevents him/her from riding the test in accordance with the Rules, should apply to the EC Manager of Para-Equestrian for a "Special Dispensation Certificate". The Special Dispensation Certificate will be provided by EC only after consultation with and approval from CanTRA. **Classification cards** - The athlete(s) will be issued with an EC/CanTRA certificate noting the classification, grade and approved equipment once the classifier has assigned the grade. Before entering the competition arena, the rider or his/her representative must show the certificate to the presiding judge and must have submitted a copy of the certificate with the entry to the competition secretary. The competition's senior steward must also be informed to ensure all warm-up areas and equipment are correct and supervised.

### ARTICLE E 14.2 RIDERS WITH DISABILITIES

1. Individuals holding a classification certificate may not be able to present the usual 'Dressage Seat'. They may require compensating aids or adaptive equipment in order to manage reins or maintain their seat. Consideration of the information on their classification certificate should be used in assessing their effectiveness as a rider.
2. Individuals with disabilities that require use of compensatory aids or adaptive equipment and holding a classification certificate are eligible to participate in all EC tests. A copy of the rider's certificate which lists all of his or her allowed compensating aids and adaptive equipment must be included with the rider's entry and a copy then attached to each of their dressage sheets for the judge's reference.
3. Individuals with disabilities must wear an approved ASTM/SEI or BSI approved protective headgear in all tests.
4. Individuals holding a classification certificate may use any or all of the compensating aids or adaptive equipment listed on their classification certificate. They may use adaptive reins for use of one (or no) hand(s) if their physical limitations require such and the equipment is listed on their classification certificate.

### ARTICLE E 14.3 ARENA

FEI PE tests must be ridden in the arena size indicated on the test paper.

1. All tests for all Grades up to and including Grade 3 are required to use the 20x40 arena.
2. Grade 4 tests numbered in the 40's and the Short Test must use the 20x40 arena.
3. All Grade 4 tests numbered 50 or higher plus the Team and Individual Championship tests must use the 20x60 arena.

4. The Grade 4 Freestyle test may use either arena size.

### ARTICLE E 14.4 GRADES

The recognized Grades are: 1a, 1b, 2, 3 and 4.

In order to provide consistency for riders, the Competitions Committee of Para-Equestrian Canada recommends that the following division and tests be included in Bronze and Silver competitions:

#### Intermediate Division

The definition of "intermediate" is a rider who is classified but has not competed at Gold competitions in Para-Equestrian tests. All tests are to be ridden in the 20x40 arena.

- Grade 1a FEI Gr. 1a #3
- Grade 1b FEI Gr. 1b #13
- Grade 2 FEI Gr. 2 #24
- Grade 3 FEI Gr. 3 #34
- Grade 4 FEI Gr. 4 #43

Intermediate riders may ride a freestyle at their classified grade.

At Gold shows classified riders may ride any test at their assigned grade and/or may ride any EC test. They must follow the requirements regarding their entries outlined in 14.1

### ARTICLE E 14.5 SPECIAL EQUIPMENT:

Para-Equestrians may only use such special equipment as is specified on their classification card or in their dispensation letter. All other equipment must meet Section E Dressage rules, see Chapter 4. For classification procedures – see 14.9.

### ARTICLE E 14.6 OFFICIALS

1. The minimum judge qualification requirement for Bronze Competitions is EC Basic.
2. The minimum judge qualification requirement at all Silver and Gold competitions is EC Medium.
3. All Canadian Para-Equestrian approved officials must maintain their status with Para-Equestrian Canada as well as Dressage Canada if they wish to remain listed on the Para-Equestrian officials list.

### ARTICLE E 14.7 COMPETITION LICENSES AND CHAMPIONSHIPS

1. All specified Para-Equestrian competitions (and Games) must obtain EC competition licenses and use the pertinent rules. Judges for such competitions must be from the PEC or FEI list of Para-Equestrian judges.
2. All National, Regional or Provincial Championships must hold a Gold license.
3. Minimum scores of 60% or better at the assigned Grade must be achieved for entry into a National Championship competition.
4. Only scores from the Team, Individual and Freestyle tests may be used to determine a Champion at Provincial, Regional or National Championships.

5. At Regional or National Championships FEI PE tests may only be judged by S or FEI judges who are listed as current on the Para-Equestrian Canada or FEI Para-Equestrian lists.

#### **ARTICLE E 14.8 HORSE IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENTATION**

Horse identification documentation is not required for competition at EC dressage competitions in Para- Equestrian tests. However, if Para-Equestrian riders enter Amateur, Open, or Junior classes, they must comply with all EC section E Dressage rules except for allowances described on their classification documents.

#### **ARTICLE E 14.9 PARA-EQUESTRIAN CLASSIFICATION AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL**

1. Riders wishing to be classified for purposes of competition can obtain wallet cards from the CanTRA Office. Cards will be issued using the following process.:
2. The rider will complete the classification process as per the Rider Classification System.
3. A Rider wishing to have a wallet card for purposes of competition will provide a cheque, made payable to CanTRA in the amount of the required processing fee.
4. The Classifier will forward the completed classification assessment information, along with collected rider cheques to the CanTRA Office for processing.
5. CanTRA staff will:
  - a) Verify that the Classification Information is complete and signed by a qualified Classifier.
  - b) Add the rider to the Classified Rider Database
  - c) Issue a wallet card to the rider, authorized by CanTRA's Executive Director.

#### **Processing Fees:**

1. Initial Card: \$10.00
2. Replacement Cards\*: \$5.00

**\*Replacement Cards will be issued if the original card is lost or if the rider's disability changes such that a new classification is required.**

#### **ARTICLE E 14.10 PARA-EQUESTRIAN CLASSIFICATION AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL**

Riders wishing to be classified for International competition must be re-classified by a qualified classifier from a country other than Canada. Cards for this level of competition will be issued by the International Equestrian Federation.

#### **ARTICLE E 14.11 RIDERS WITH DISABILITIES – EXCEPTIONS**

Classified riders with disabilities are allowed the following exceptions in all dressage tests provided they are listed on the rider's classification certificate:

1. Visually impaired and blind riders may use callers as 'living letters.' These callers (a maximum of 9) may be stationed around the exterior of the arena and will call out letters at the appropriate time. No more than one caller may be stationed within the arena. Callers may not give any other direction to the rider other than identifying the letters, centre line and quarter lines of the dressage arena. Callers must position themselves as to not obscure the judge's line of vision. Riders may enter the arena prior to the start of their test and make one pass of the arena, once in each direction in order to familiarize themselves with the callers and the arena. After completion of the familiarization, the rider may leave the arena and await the judge's signal to re-enter and begin his or her test OR may halt and stand quietly just within the arena at A to be given the signal to begin their test from inside the arena. Blind and visually impaired riders are required to wear a red armband at all times while mounted and in areas where other riders are present. They may remove this armband for the duration of their dressage test.
2. Riders may salute with a nod of the head only. Physical contact must remain on the reins at all times.
3. As necessitated by the rider's individual physical limitations, trot work may be performed either entirely sitting or posting.
4. Riders with intellectual impairment or head injury may have a reader/commander to call/read their tests, including freestyles. If the freestyle is being read, it is required that the caller/commander use radio communication.
5. If radio communication is used for a freestyle performance, a copy of the written choreography must be given to the Steward or their designate who will monitor the reader/commander and report to the judge if unauthorized assistance is given to the rider.
6. Riders with hearing impairment may have a reader/commander using sign language or use radio communication.

#### **ARTICLE E 14.12 JUDGING RESTRICTIONS FOR RIDERS WITH A DISABILITY**

Riders with disabilities may only be judged in FEI PE tests by:

1. Gold & Silver Levels - EC Medium or higher, or other NF equivalent.
2. Bronze Levels - EC Basic or higher, or other NF equivalent .
3. Regional, Silver or Gold Championships - Senior or FEI judges who are listed by EC or FEI on their Para-Equestrian Officials lists.
4. Judges who have attended and been evaluated successfully at a minimum of one clinic specifically for judging riders with disabilities and/or attended an International clinic approved by the Para-Equestrian officials committee will be listed in the Para-Equestrian Canada officials list.
5. Judges are required to attend and be evaluated at an updating clinic every three years.
6. Clinics will be held annually, alternating Central/East and West.
7. All Canadian Para-Equestrian approved officials must maintain their status with Para-Equestrian Canada as well as Dressage Canada if they wish to remain listed on the Para-Equestrian officials list.

## CHAPTER 15 DRESSAGE JUDGES PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS

The purpose of conflict of interest provisions in this rulebook is to ensure a level playing field for all competitors and to maintain integrity and impartiality of licensed officials. Designation as an EC licensed official is a privilege, not a right, bestowed by the DC Officials Committee according to the procedures set forth in this chapter, to individuals whose equine expertise and personal character merit the honour. The individual's conduct, as an EC member and official, must be exemplary and is subject to continual committee review. Officials shall exhibit the highest standard of integrity at all times and decisions are not to be made upon improper influence. Officials are responsible for ensuring that horses are treated with kindness, respect and compassion and that they are never subjected to mistreatment or caused undue stress. The standard by which conduct or treatment will be measured is that which a person informed and experienced in generally accepted equine training and exhibition procedures, would determine not to be cruel, abusive or inhumane. Where an official has to exercise their discretion in an Equine Canada show allowing a competitor to compete, such discretion shall be exercised for the benefit of the competitor if and when possible provided the organizers are in agreement.

### ARTICLE E 15.1 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

1. No child or adult may compete in a class in which horsemanship is a factor before a judge by whom said child or adult has been instructed, coached, or tutored with or without pay within 30 days of the date of competition.
2. It is the responsibility of the rider not to enter a class or ride in front of a judge from whom he/she has received instruction or a riding clinic in the previous 30 days.
3. Any coach/trainer may not be judged by his/her student or owner of a horse they are training within 30 days of the coaching/training taking place.
4. A judge may not, during a competition at which he/she is judging, be the houseguest of a person who is exhibiting at such competition or whose family is exhibiting at such competition.
5. A judge may not discuss the purchase, sale, or lease of any horse during a competition at which he or she is officiating.
6. Judges shall not officiate in any level/division in which a member of their family or a horse owned by the immediate family is competing.

**Note:** Section A, General Regulations, Article A 1402.3, does not apply for Dressage.

### ARTICLE E 15.2 CATEGORIES OF EC DRESSAGE JUDGES' CARDS

There are four categories of dressage judges:

1. Recorded (r)
2. Basic (B)
3. Medium (M)

4. Senior (S)

### ARTICLE E 15.3 DEFINITION OF "A YEAR"

Definition of "a year" in the dressage judges' section refers to a calendar year.

### ARTICLE E 15.4 REQUIREMENTS PER LEVEL OF JUDGE'S CARD - UPGRADING

#### A. RECORDED (r)

Must have:

1. Completed successfully a DC learner clinic prior to or during the year application is made for recorded status.
2. Competed as a rider in three EC Bronze, Silver or Gold dressage competitions or NF recognized dressage competitions at Second Level and achieved 60% at three different competitions under three different judges.  
**Note:** Complete Documentation must be provided.
3. Judged a minimum of four non-sanctioned dressage competitions up to and including the equivalent of first level within two years of making their application for recorded status. Documentation must be provided.
4. Attended and been issued a Certificate of Attendance and Completion at an EC/DC judges' Updating/Upgrading clinic for "r" judges in the year application is made for carding.
5. Completed and passed the DC judges' examination in the year application is made for carding.
6. In addition to 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, an applicant must have submitted his/her completed application form giving the names and addresses of three sponsors all of whom must be EC members and sport license holders in good standing. Two of the sponsors must be EC Basic, Medium or Senior judges listed on the current EC judges' roster see 15.9.
7. Completed a minimum of twelve hours of scribing at EC Gold dressage competitions. The judge scribed for must sign the DC scribing form. The applicant must submit the form with their final documentation by **October 1st** of the year in which their application is made for carding. Scribing forms may be printed from the DC website [www.equinecanada.ca/dressage](http://www.equinecanada.ca/dressage).

**Note:** Recorded judges are not required to upgrade, however, to retain their recorded status they must follow the rules outlined in 15.17 Updating - Upgrading Clinic and Exam Requirements. Failure to do so will result in being removed from the list of licensed officials.

#### B. BASIC (B):

Must have:

1. Been licensed as a recorded judge.
2. Competed as a rider, in three EC Silver or Gold dressage competitions or NF recognized dressage competitions at Third Level and achieved 60% at three different competitions under three different judges. Complete documentation must be provided.
3. Judged a minimum of five EC Bronze, Silver or Gold competitions up to and including Second Level within three years prior to making application for Basic status.

**Note:** Complete Documentation must be provided.

4. Completed a minimum of twelve hours of scribing in Third Level classes at EC Gold dressage competitions. The judge scribed for must sign the DC scribing form. The applicant must submit the form with their final documentation by **October 1st** of the year in which their application is made for promotion.
5. Attended and been issued a Certificate of Attendance and Completion at an EC/DC-sanctioned dressage judges Updating/Upgrading clinic in the year application is made for promotion.
6. Completed and passed the DC judges' examination in the year application is made for promotion.
7. Basic applicants must have three sponsors, all of whom must be EC sport license holders in good standing. Sponsors must be EC Medium, Senior or FEI judges listed on the current EC judges' roster see 15.9.

### C. MEDIUM (M)

Must have:

1. Held a Basic card for a minimum of three years.
2. Competed in three EC Silver or Gold or NF recognized dressage competitions at Prix St. Georges and achieved 60% at each competition under three different judges. Documentation must be provided.  
**Note:** If competition riding cannot be fulfilled, please refer to the Dressage Canada website [www.equinecanada.ca/dressage](http://www.equinecanada.ca/dressage) for details on the Apprenticeship Program.
3. Judged at EC Silver or Gold competitions in the following capacities:
  - a) Co-judged at Training through Third Levels at two EC Gold competitions.
  - b) Senior judge at five Silver competitions at Third and Fourth Levels with documentation to be provided.
  - c) With a Medium or higher level judge as co-judge up to Fourth Level at four EC/NF Silver or higher competitions. Scores for the applicant and all judges must be submitted.
  - d) Shadow judged at Third and Fourth Levels or higher under two different judges at EC Silver or Gold competitions with a complete report to be submitted from both judges to the EC office.
4. Applicants for Medium status must also complete a minimum of 12 hours of scribing in FEI Levels at EC Silver or Gold competitions. The judge for whom the applicant scribes must sign the DC scribing form. The applicant must submit the form with their final documentation by October 1<sup>st</sup> of the year in which they apply to upgrade. Scribing forms may be obtained from the EC office or printed from the DC website.
5. Must have attended and been assessed in writing at a DC/EC dressage judges' clinic for M and S judges within three years prior to making application for Medium status. In addition must have attended and been assessed in writing at one DC/EC-sanctioned Dressage Judges' Clinic in the year application is made for promotion.
6. Completed and passed the DC judges' examination in the year application is made for promotion.

7. Medium applicants must have two sponsors, both of whom must be EC sport license holders in good standing. Sponsors must be EC Senior or FEI judges listed on the current EC judges' roster see 15.9.

### D. SENIOR (S)

Must have:

1. Held a Medium card for a minimum of two years.
2. Competed at Intermediaire 2 in three EC Silver or Gold dressage competitions or NF recognized dressage competitions achieving 58% or higher at three different competitions under three different senior or FEI judges. Documentation must be submitted to substantiate scores.  
**Note:** If competition riding cannot be fulfilled, please refer to the Dressage Canada website [www.equinecanada.ca/dressage](http://www.equinecanada.ca/dressage) for details on the Apprenticeship Program.
3. Judged ten EC Gold competitions or NF recognized dressage competitions at a minimum of Third and Fourth Levels, with complete documentation to be provided.
4.
  - a) Co-judged a minimum of four EC Gold or NF recognized competitions in the Prix St. Georges and Intermediaire I with a minimum of four horses per class, and two EC Gold or NF recognized competitions at Grand Prix with a minimum of three horses per class.
  - b) Shadow judged the Grand Prix level at least three times with three different judges and a minimum of three horses per class.  
**Note:** The applicant must submit a copy of the official class result sheet for all judging completed in 4 a & b. Failure to submit the class result sheet will make the application invalid.  
**Note:** co-judging may be conducted either as a recognized judge of a sanctioned show or as an audit function at the same shows where the co-judge's scores do not count in class placings. In the case of an audit co-judge, full class sheets with all judges' scores/placings and the audit judge's scores, need to be forwarded to the EC Manager Dressage by **October 1<sup>st</sup>** of the year in which the application is made for promotion.
5. Judged Third and Fourth Levels and/or above at two Silver Championships.
6. Attended and been issued a Certificate of Attendance and Completion at one EC/DC-sanctioned dressage judges' Updating / Upgrading clinic in the year application is made for promotion.
7. Completed and passed the DC Judges Examination in the year application is made for promotion.
8. Senior applicants must have two or more sponsors, either one EC Senior and one Canadian FEI judge, or two FEI judges, one of which must be Canadian (CDN). All sponsors must have been active in their capacity for a minimum of two years see 15.9.

## ARTICLE E 15.5 FEI INTERNATIONAL CANDIDATE AND INTERNATIONAL STATUS

To be eligible for invitation by EC, after consultation with the DC Official's Committee, for submission of their name for consideration by the FEI, applicants must fulfill the following requirements:

1. CRITERIA TO APPLY FOR INTERNATIONAL CANDIDATE "C": Must have completed and submitted the following criteria to the EC Manager of Dressage by **September 30<sup>th</sup>** of the year of application (see 15.7 for application process):
  - a) Held their senior card for a minimum of three years.
  - b) Judged a minimum of 50 Grand Prix rides at sanctioned national competitions.
  - c) Co-judged Grand Prix classes with at least two Canadian FEI judges.
  - d) Been on a jury (more than 2 judges) with FEI judges on at least five occasions.
  - e) Attended at least two clinics and been assessed by a foreign FEI judge within two years prior to the application being forwarded to the FEI Committee in accordance with FEI rules.
  - f) Sponsorship letters must have been written within two years of submitting application for FEI "C".
  - g) Senior judges having fulfilled the above criteria and wishing to be considered for FEI International Candidate Dressage Judges' status are to apply on the Official EC/DC Dressage Judges' application form for FEI status with all documentation to the DC Officials Committee c/o Manager Dressage at the EC office. FEI Status application forms may be obtained from the EC Manager Dressage or can be found on the Dressage Canada website [www.equinecanada.ca/dressage](http://www.equinecanada.ca/dressage).
2. CRITERIA FOR INTERNATIONAL STATUS "I": International Candidate judges wishing to be considered for International status must first complete the FEI requirements (see FEI Dressage Rules [www.fei.org](http://www.fei.org)) and then apply in writing to the DC Officials Committee c/o Manager Dressage.  
**Note:** If proposed by EC, it should be noted that the FEI does not necessarily accept all nominations.
3. It is to be understood that the FEI requires attendance at specifically identified FEI clinics for dressage judges before a nominated National Federation (NF) judge may be considered to receive an FEI International Candidate or FEI International Judge's card.
4. National Federations are limited by the FEI to sending a maximum of two judges to attend each clinic.
5. There are three categories of FEI Judge:
  - a) International Candidate Judge (C)
  - b) International Judge (I)
  - c) Official International Judge (O). To be selected by the Bureau of the FEI on the advice of the FEI Dressage Committee, from the FEI list of International Judges and put on the list of Official International Judges (current FEI rules for Dressage events).
6. The qualifications for each category may be found in the FEI General

Regulations, and The FEI Rules for Dressage Events [www.fei.org](http://www.fei.org): International Dressage Judges.

## ARTICLE E 15.6 FEES

The application fee for upgrading of any official can be obtained by contacting the Manager, Dressage.

## ARTICLE E 15.7 LICENSING AND PROMOTION OF DRESSAGE JUDGES

All applicants for recorded status, or promotion up to and including FEI Level, are to be made in accordance with these rules.

1. All licensed officials must pay their DC affiliate fee and hold an EC Gold Sport License. See EC General Regulations A1302.2.
2. It is the responsibility of the applicant or licensed judge to accomplish all necessary requirements for obtaining/maintaining a judge's license.
3. Application must be made by **April 30<sup>th</sup>** using the official EC/DC Dressage Judges application form for consideration for licensing/upgrading in the following calendar year. The form and relevant fee must be sent to the DC Officials Committee through the Manager Dressage at the EC office. Application forms can be downloaded from the Dressage Canada website [www.dressagecanada.org](http://www.dressagecanada.org).  
**Note:** No late applications will be accepted.
4. Completed documentation as required and outlined in these rules must be submitted by **October 1<sup>st</sup>** of the same year in which the initial application is made.  
**Note:** No reminders will be sent by the EC office to applicants.
5. The DC Officials Committee will review all completed applications by the end of November of each year. The decisions of the Committee will be sent to applicants in writing in December. The Committee will outline reasons for their decision and offer remedial suggestions for future upgrading.
6. Judges may apply to upgrade during the year in which they meet the minimum number of years required at a given card level. Approval to upgrade, if given, does not take effect until the following January.
7. All initial recognition and promotions are at the discretion of the DC Officials Committee and are probationary for one year.

## ARTICLE E 15.8 DISCOVERY, PONY CLUB AND EVENTING DRESSAGE

These competitions qualify for promotion only up to Basic.

## ARTICLE E 15.9 SPONSORS OF JUDGES

**Note:** Only Basic and higher level judges may sponsor applicants for carding or upgrading.

1. recorded applicants must have three sponsors, all of whom must be EC sport license holders (in good standing) and two of whom must be EC Basic, Medium or Senior judges listed on the current EC judges' roster.
2. Basic applicants must have three sponsors, all of whom must be EC sport license holders (in good standing). Sponsors must be EC

Medium, Senior or FEI judges listed on the current EC judges' roster.

3. Medium applicants must have two sponsors, both of whom must be EC sport license holders (in good standing). Sponsors must be EC Senior or FEI judges listed on the current EC judges' roster.
4. Senior applicants must have two or more sponsors, all of whom must be EC sport license holders (in good standing). Sponsors must be either one EC Senior and one Canadian FEI judge, or two FEI judges, one of which must be Canadian (CDN). All sponsors must have been active in their capacity for a minimum of two years.
5. All letters of sponsorship must be received by the EC Manager Dressage by **October 1st** of the same year in which the application is made.
6. Sponsorship letters are to be sent by the sponsor directly to the EC Manager Dressage.
7. No judge in his/her probationary year may sponsor an applicant.
8. A judge may sponsor a maximum of two candidates per level in any one year.
9. For every application for carding/promotion/upgrading new sponsor letters must be provided. Sponsor letters cannot be held over.
10. No applicant will be considered for promotion unless he/she has adjudicated in the previous two years, in at least four EC competitions or NF recognized dressage competitions with a guest card or co-judged at the level for which he/she is applying for promotion.

#### **ARTICLE E 15.10 SHADOW JUDGING FOR APPLICANT JUDGES**

1. Shadow judging can be done with an EC Medium, Senior, USEF Senior or FEI dressage judge in one or both of the following ways:
  - a) An applicant can sit with the clinician judge while judging and discuss movements and marks when queried.
  - b) An applicant can judge the class(es) and discuss the marks and comments with the clinician judge afterward. To download the listing of EC Medium, Senior and FEI dressage judges see the EC online official's directory at [www.equinecanada.ca](http://www.equinecanada.ca)
2. A shadow judge must judge all the competitors in the required class(es).
3. In order to shadow judge, an applicant must obtain the consent of the competition involved and the competition's senior and/or clinician judge PRIOR to the competition. The clinician judge must complete and submit the official evaluation forms on the applicant to the EC Manager Dressage. Applicants are responsible for obtaining directives and evaluation forms from the EC Manager Dressage to be given to the clinician judge for completion. These forms may also be found on the DC website.
4. Applicants must supply their own score sheets and scribes when judging a class(es). Applicants are responsible for retaining copies of their final scores and must send a list of their total scores with the official total scores of the judge they shadowed to the EC Manager Dressage.

**Note:** No copies of tests from shadow judges are to be sent to EC.
5. Shadow judging evaluations used for upgrading purposes must include both practical (judging tests) and observation (in the booth) at the same competition under the same judge.

#### **ARTICLE E 15.11 NOTWITHSTANDING CLAUSE**

1. Notwithstanding the above, applicants who live in areas where it is not possible to fulfill all the above requirements, or where there are other extenuating circumstances, (including applicants from another national federation) may apply to the DC Officials Committee for special consideration.
2. FEI judges from any country will be automatically accepted as an EC senior judge providing they are EC Sport License holders, have paid, EC officials fees and applied to be listed in the EC Officials Directory. (see Equine Canada General Regulations, Chapter 13, EC Officials)

#### **ARTICLE E 15.12 JUDGING RESTRICTIONS WITHOUT GUEST CARDS**

1. Recorded judges may officiate at non-EC licensed shows; including Discovery, pony club and 4H.
2. Only non-licensed and recorded judges may officiate at Discovery competitions.
3. All judges may judge all levels at Bronze competitions.
4. Recorded judges may judge up to and including Second Level at Silver competitions
5. Recorded judges may judge up to and including First Level at Gold Competitions
6. Basic judges may judge up to and including Third level at Silver competitions.
7. Basic judges may judge up to and including Second Level at Gold competitions and may co-judge at Third and Fourth Levels with a Medium or higher judge(s).
8. Medium judges may judge up to and including Fourth Level plus FEI Children, FEI Pony and FEI Junior at Gold competitions, they may also co-judge, with a Senior or FEI judge, all other FEI levels except FEI Young Horse classes at Gold competitions.
9. Only EC senior or other NF's senior and FEI dressage judges may officiate in the FEI Young Horse classes. For scores to count for selection to compete in the World Breeding Championships for Young Horses, there must be a panel of three FEI dressage judges or two FEI judges and one senior judge.
10. For judging restrictions in para-equestrian tests, see 14.12.

#### **ARTICLE E 15.13 GUEST CARDS**

1. Guest cards are to be applied for by the competition, not the individual judge.
2. All applications for guest cards must be made to the Competitions Department at the EC office.
3. Guest cards are not permitted at Gold Championships but may be permitted at Silver Championships for Basic and Medium judges.
4. Guest cards are not required for foreign FEI licensed dressage judges.
5. United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) and Equine Canada (EC) Reciprocal Agreement
  - a) In accordance with the reciprocal agreement between USEF and EC, guest cards will not be authorized for USEF Recorded (r) Judges in Canada or EC recorded judges in the U.S.

- b) Only USEF Registered (R) and USEF (S) Judges may be invited to judge and may judge only those divisions in which they hold a USEF (R) or (S) card. (R = Canadian M, S = Canadian S)
  - c) For EC/USEF Reciprocal Agreement (see General Regulations, A1311)
6. Other than 15.13.4 above, only recognized senior dressage judges of another national federation may be granted guest cards and only in the divisions in which the applicants are so qualified in their own federation.
  7. Guest cards are not required when co-judging with a more senior judge.

#### **Recorded Judges**

Recorded judges may be guest carded as follows:

1. After their probationary year;
2. To judge Third Level at Silver competitions;
3. To judge Second Level at Gold competitions;
4. A maximum of four times per year;

#### **Basic Judges**

Basic judges may be guest carded as follows:

1. After their probationary year;
2. To judge Fourth Level at Silver competitions;
3. To judge Third and Fourth Level at Gold competitions;
4. A maximum of four times per year;

#### **Medium Judges**

Medium judges may be guest carded as follows:

1. After their probationary year;
2. To judge Prix St Georges to Grand Prix including Young Rider tests at Gold competitions;
3. May not be guest carded to judge FEI Young Horse classes;
4. A maximum of four times per year

#### **ARTICLE E 15.14 DOCUMENTATION AND EC OFFICIALS ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT FORM**

1. It is the responsibility of each EC dressage judge to document their own yearly judging engagements and promotion requirements.
2. EC sends every judge an annual Officials Activity Report Form. It is mandatory for each EC judge to remit this completed form on an annual basis by the indicated deadline, whether or not, the judge has been active in that year.
3. If the EC Competitions Department does not receive the form by the indicated deadline, the official will not be listed in the next EC Officials Directory.

#### **ARTICLE E 15.15 MAINTAINING ACTIVE STATUS**

Active Officials – Minimum requirements:

##### **Basic Judges**

To be considered active and to retain their status, Basic, judges must officiate at two of any of the following every two years:

1. EC dressage Competitions. One must be Gold and the other can be Bronze or Silver
2. Eventing competitions in which they have judged the dressage.
3. Other National Federation (NF) dressage competitions. If foreign NF competitions are used, they must be national.

##### **Medium and Senior Judges**

To be considered active and retain their status, Medium and Senior judges must officiate at any two of the following every two years:

1. EC Gold dressage competitions
2. EC Silver dressage competitions
3. Foreign NF national dressage competitions

**Note:** Under extenuating circumstances, if an official is unable to meet the requirements of this rule, they may apply in writing to the DC Officials Committee for consideration to receive a waiver. If granted, a waiver will not exceed one year.

**Note:** Any official who fails to pay their annual EC Sport License and DC affiliate fee by **April 1<sup>st</sup>** will not be permitted to officiate in that year.

**Note:** Judges that are inactive for two consecutive years will be required to re-apply to the DC Officials Committee for confirmation of their status.

**Note:** Any judge who fails to fulfill their clinic requirements will not have his/her status automatically renewed and will have to re-apply for his/her status.

#### **ARTICLE E 15.16 DOWNGRADING OF OFFICIALS**

Any licensed dressage judge may request “downgrading” by submitting their request to the DC Officials Committee through the EC Manager Dressage, along with their reasons for such a request.

#### **ARTICLE E 15.17 UPDATING - UPGRADING CLINIC AND EXAM REQUIREMENTS**

##### **CLINICS**

1. All EC licensed dressage judges (recorded, Basic, Medium and Senior) must attend and be issued a Certificate of Attendance and Completion at a minimum of one EC/DC sanctioned dressage judges’ updating/upgrading clinic every three years.
2. EC judges may use specific USEF judges’ clinics for updating, but must request approval, in writing, from the DC Officials Committee PRIOR to attending, and must complete and return the EC/DC judges’ written test within the timelines set.
3. FEI clinics are also acceptable.
4. Applicants for carding and promotion must attend and be issued a Certificate of Attendance and Completion from the EC/DC sanctioned updating/upgrading clinic for their level during the year in which their application is made for carding or promotion.

##### **EXAMINATIONS**

5. All EC licensed dressage judges (recorded, Basic, Medium and Senior) must pass the appropriate judges’ examination once every three years to maintain their status.
6. Applicants for carding or promotion must pass the judges’ exam in the

- year for which their application is made for carding or promotion.
7. Written requests for deferral of any of the requirements list in these rules must be made PRIOR to November 1<sup>st</sup>. A deferral is for one year ONLY.
  8. Failure to comply with these rules will result in the following:
    - a) the judge will have to reapply to the DC Officials Committee for confirmation of their status
    - b) the judge may be removed from the list of licensed officials.

#### **ARTICLE E 15.18 EC/DC CLINICS**

1. DC will organize a minimum of one annual official EC/DC dressage judges updating/upgrading clinic, primarily for carding and promotion of applicants. Additional clinics will be organized in areas where applications/requests are sufficient to support such an endeavour.
2. DC Officials Committee will receive an assessment on each participant from the clinician. The committee, when reviewing a candidate's application for promotion, will take the clinic evaluations into account.
3. Written applications may be submitted to the DC Officials' Committee, through the Manager Dressage at the EC office, for permission to hold an EC/DC-sanctioned dressage judges' clinic.  
To receive permission, the following conditions must be met:
  1. Clinics are to be a minimum of one-day duration and divided as follows:
    - a) Recorded and Basic
    - b) Medium
    - c) Senior/FEI

**Note:** Medium and Senior may be combined if insufficient registrations are received to hold separate clinics.
  2. A maximum of fifteen applicants may be accepted into a clinic.
  3. The course conductor (clinician) must be approved by the DC Officials Committee.
  4. EC/DC-sanctioned clinics when held by DC may use the same clinician to ensure continuity for evaluation of applicants for carding or promotion annually.
  5. A list of course conductors will be sent to the applicant clinic organizer.

#### **ARTICLE E 15.19 LOCATION OF OFFICIALS - JUDGES POSITION**

1. **Technical Classes**
  - a) If there is only one judge, he/she must be positioned at C.
  - b) If there are two judges, one must be at C and the second judge can be at E, B, H, or M, whichever is most convenient for the competition. Whenever possible, the judges should be at C and E or C and B.
  - c) When three judges are officiating on the same ring, the president of the jury is positioned at C and the other two should be at M and E or H and B.
  - d) When there are 5 judges, the president of the jury is at C, one judge must be at M and H and the remaining two are to be positioned at E and B. The judges at M and H are to be positioned 2.5 meters closer to the centerline than the long wall of the arena.

- e) All judges must be on the outside of the arena. They should be a minimum of 3 meters and maximum of 5 meters from the arena at outdoor competitions and preferably a minimum of 3 meters from the arena at indoor competitions.

#### **2. Freestyles**

In EC competitions, when two or three judges officiate in a freestyle class, they may be located at the short end of the arena i.e. M/C, C/H, or M/C/H; it is strongly recommended that one of these judges be placed on the long side at either B or E.

#### **ARTICLE E 15.20 CHECKING THE COMPETITION ARENA**

Judges and dressage stewards must check the correctness of the arenas.

#### **ARTICLE E 15.21 JUDGING HOURS - BREAKS**

When scheduling dressage tests, it is the competition organizer's responsibility to ensure that breaks are provided for judges according to the following rules:

1. No judge shall be required to officiate longer than eight hours in one day and cannot be required to be on the competition grounds longer than ten hours.
2. Judges must be given 45 minutes (minimum) for a lunch break. A 10-minute break should be given to judges once every hour. If this is not possible, a 15-minute break should be given every two hours.

#### **ARTICLE E 15.22 ARRIVAL TIME**

Judges must be on the grounds 20 minutes (minimum) before their first class.

#### **ARTICLE E 15.23 DRESS CODE**

All officials, judges, dressage stewards, and scribes must be appropriately dressed (jeans, shorts, tank tops, etc. are not acceptable).

## **CHAPTER 16 DRESSAGE STEWARDS PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS**

The purpose of conflict of interest provisions in this rulebook is to ensure a level playing field for all competitors and to maintain integrity and impartiality of licensed officials. Designation as an EC licensed official is a privilege, not a right, bestowed by the DC Officials Committee according to the procedures set forth in this chapter, to individuals whose equine expertise and personal character merit the honour. The individual's conduct, as an EC member and official, must be exemplary and is subject to continual committee review. Officials shall exhibit the highest standard of integrity at all times and decisions are not to be made upon improper influence. Officials are responsible for ensuring that horses are treated with kindness, respect and compassion and that they are never subjected to mistreatment or caused undue stress. The standard by which conduct or treatment will be measured is that which a person informed and experienced in generally accepted equine training and exhibition procedures, would determine not to be cruel, abusive nor inhumane. Where an official has to exercise their discretion in an Equine Canada show allowing a competitor to compete, such discretion shall be exercised for the benefit of the competitor if and when possible provided the organizers are in agreement.

### **ARTICLE E 16.1 CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

1. No child or adult may compete in a class if the steward responsible for checking their tack is a member of their immediate family.
2. A steward should not, the day preceding and during a competition at which he/she is officiating, be the houseguest of a person who is exhibiting at such competition or whose family is exhibiting at such competition.
3. A steward may not discuss the purchase, sale, or lease of any horse/pony during a competition at which he or she is officiating.
4. Stewards shall not officiate in any level/division in which a member of their family or a horse owned by the immediate family is competing.
5. In addition, the following persons are ineligible to serve as stewards at a competition: the president, chairman, manager, secretary, other officers or committee members of said competition.

### **ARTICLE E 16.2 MANDATORY USE OF STEWARDS**

1. All Silver and Gold dressage competitions must use EC licensed dressage stewards.
2. While it is not compulsory it is highly recommended that Bronze shows use EC licensed dressage stewards.
3. The current list of licensed dressage stewards can be found in the Officials Directory on the EC website: [www.equinecanada.ca](http://www.equinecanada.ca) or in the Dressage Canada competitions handbook.

### **ARTICLE E 16.3 GOALS OF STEWARDING**

The goals of stewarding are to HELP, to PREVENT, and to INTERVENE. Dressage stewards should at all times keep in mind that while they are in effect representing EC, they also work for the competition, the competitors, the coaches and the horses, as well as the officials (judges, veterinarians, drug testers) and also spectators.

### **ARTICLE E 16.4 PURPOSE OF STEWARDING**

The aim of stewarding is to provide fair sport for all by ensuring that:

1. all EC rules are adhered to;
2. the sport is equally fair for all competitors;
3. principles of good sportsmanship are respected;
4. the best possible conditions for holding a competition are available; and
5. the welfare of the horse is upheld.

### **ARTICLE E 16.5 PROCESS OF STEWARDING**

1. Dressage stewards **HELP** prior to the competition by checking prize lists, thus:
  - a) protecting the interests of exhibitors, horses, officials and competition management;
  - b) ensuring a veterinarian and a farrier will either be on the grounds or on call throughout the competition;
  - c) ensuring that emergency medical plans are in place, such as EMT on grounds whenever MOUNTED exercises are taking place;
  - d) ensuring that an ambulance will be present or on call;
  - e) checking the prize list and entry form prior to the competition to ensure they conform to EC rules, and completing the prize list approval form. Should there be an error, this **MUST** be reported to the competition organizer immediately for correction.
2. Dressage stewards **HELP** at the competition by:
  - f) submitting suggestions to the organizing committee during the competition if there are situations that are not in accordance with EC rules; as well as following the competition for improvements in the future. These comments should be mentioned during the show and, if necessary, dealt with but must be written up in the steward's report after the competition;
  - g) ensuring that results and championships are correctly tabulated by the scorers as well as posted in a timely fashion after each ride;
  - h) supervising, with the assistance of learner dressage stewards, the schooling and warm-up areas and reporting any infractions to the organizing committee, or, if applicable, to the ground jury;
  - i) checking, with the assistance of learner dressage stewards, after each ride that legal and proper tack and dress have been used in the competition arena.
3. Dressage stewards **PREVENT** problems by:
  - j) ensuring that all officials are recognized in the divisions to which they are assigned and that guest cards have been obtained if required;
  - k) ensuring that all entry forms are properly completed and signed; that entries are eligible, checking height where required, checking

horse identification documentation (if necessary, with the help of a learner steward), and reporting any ineligibility to the organizing committee immediately (see General Regulations Article A407 for handling of invalid horse identification documentation), thus assuring the legality of the entry;

- l) ensuring that the rules for measurement of ponies are followed as set out in EC General Regulations, Section A, Chapter 11 and division rules;
  - m) ensuring that all schooling areas meet EC requirements.
4. Dressage stewards **INTERVENE in response to problems** by:
- n) arranging a meeting between a judge or official veterinarian and a competitor, at the request of the competitor, if the official agrees. The steward will attend said meeting or can send an appointee at their discretion;
  - o) reporting any offence or rule infraction to the organizing committee. These infractions must also be detailed on the Steward's Report Form;
  - p) acting on all reports of equine abuse as per EC rules;
  - q) being proactive enough to help/prevent/intervene independently (to investigate and act upon any alleged rule violations without waiting for an official protest) and to do so with the fairness of the sport to all and the levelness of the playing field foremost in mind;
  - r) ensuring that all warm-up, schooling and tackcheck dressage stewards are in constant communication with the officiating steward via walkie-talkies, etc.;
  - s) ensuring that all dressage stewards be on the grounds at least 30 minutes before the competition begins.

#### **ARTICLE E 16.6 CATEGORIES OF DRESSAGE STEWARDS**

- 1. Learner (l)
- 2. Basic (B)
- 3. Medium (M)
- 4. Senior (S)

**Note:** Definition of "a year" in the dressage judges' and stewards' section refers to a calendar year.

#### **ARTICLE E 16.6.1 LEARNER**

##### **A. APPLICATION**

- 1. ELIGIBILITY. Applicants must pay their DC affiliate fee and hold an EC Gold Sport License see A1302.2.
  - 1. AGE. Applicants must be eighteen years of age or older.
  - 2. APPLICATIONS. Must be made to the Manager Dressage, EC, see 16.9
  - 3. APPLICATION FORMS. Are available from the DC website at [www.equinecanada.ca/dressage](http://www.equinecanada.ca/dressage).
  - 4. CLINICS. These are highly recommended before applying but are not required.
  - 5. EXAM. Applicants must complete an open book exam with 75% accuracy. The exam will be sent to the applicant and must be

completed and returned within the time specified in the letter received with the exam.

- 6. EXPERIENCE. Applicants must outline their background of horse-related activities. (Activities such as show manager, show secretary, scribe, scorer, riding experience, horse-handling experience are highly recommended.)

##### **B. PRIVILEGES**

- 1. A learner steward has the opportunity and privilege to gain experience by working with a medium or higher steward as a shadow at EC dressage competitions. Such arrangements must be made with competition management and with the show steward, as this is strictly a shadow-role. A learner steward has learner status only and has no official capacity. The learner steward can assist the medium or higher steward in duties as requested. The learner steward will not make any decisions on his/her own nor interpret any rules on his/her own.
- 2. The learner steward category provides an opportunity for potential dressage stewards to find out if this is an area they wish to pursue. There is no restriction on the number (or levels) of competitions, the number of medium, or higher, dressage stewards, worked with, nor the length of time a person can stay at the learner steward level. It is advisable to work at a variety of competitions and with as many different dressage stewards as possible.
- 3. A Learner steward who works with a Medium or higher dressage steward at a competition must have the permission of the show organizing committee and provide their PSO and EC membership numbers to the show organizing committee.

**Note:** The EC officials' liability insurance does not cover Learner dressage stewards as these are not yet EC officials.

#### **ARTICLE E 16.6.2 BASIC**

##### **A. APPLICATION**

- 1. ELIGIBILITY.
  - a) Applicants must pay their DC affiliate fee and hold an EC Gold Sport License see A1302.2.
  - b) They must also have been learner dressage stewards on five occasions over a period of not more than three years.
- 2. AGE. Applicants must be twenty-one years of age or older.
- 3. APPLICATIONS. Must be made to EC, see 16.9
- 4. APPLICATION FORMS. Are available from the DC website at [www.equinecanada.ca/dressage](http://www.equinecanada.ca/dressage).
- 5. CLINICS. Basic steward candidates must attend and be issued a Certificate of Attendance and Completion at a DC dressage stewards' clinic.
- 6. EXAM. Applicants must complete an open-book exam with 80% accuracy. The exam will be sent to the applicant and must be completed and returned within the time specified in the letter received with the exam.

7. REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS. The DC Officials Committee will consider all applications for basic steward status in November of each year. In order to be considered, all applications must be submitted to EC per 16.9. The decisions of the committee will be sent in writing to the applicants in December of the year the application is made.

#### **B. BASIC STATUS**

1. CLINICS & EXAMS - Basic dressage stewards must attend a clinic and pass the exam once every three years to maintain their status.
2. INACTIVITY - Basic dressage stewards who are inactive for a period of three consecutive years will be required to reapply for basic status

**C. PRIVILEGES** A Basic dressage steward is eligible to officiate alone at Silver and Bronze dressage competitions.

1. A Basic dressage steward may not officiate alone at a Gold dressage competition.
2. A Basic dressage steward may officiate alone at a Bronze dressage competition
3. A Basic dressage steward may officiate alone at a Silver dressage competition ONLY AFTER they have completed the initial probationary period of one (1) year and at least two (2) competitions working with a medium or higher level steward during their probationary year.
4. A Basic dressage steward may officiate with a Medium or higher steward at Gold dressage competitions where there is more than one ring in use.
5. A Basic dressage steward is eligible to assist the FEI Chief Steward at FEI sanctioned dressage competitions.

#### **ARTICLE E 16.6.3 MEDIUM**

##### **A. APPLICATION**

1. ELIGIBILITY. Applicants must pay their DC affiliate fee hold an EC Gold Sport License see A1302.2 and:
  - a) have officiated as a basic steward at a minimum of four EC Gold/Silver dressage competitions
  - b) have officiated or shadowed as a basic steward with a medium or higher steward at a minimum of one EC dressage competition. In the case of shadowing, a full report must be submitted.
2. APPLICATIONS. Must be made to EC, see 16.9
3. APPLICATION FORMS. Are available from the DC website at [www.equinecanada.ca/dressage](http://www.equinecanada.ca/dressage)
4. CLINICS. Medium steward candidates must attend and be issued a Certificate of Attendance and Completion at a DC dressage stewards' clinic.
5. EXAM. All applicants must complete an open book exam with a passing mark of 85%. The exam will be sent to the applicant and must be completed and returned within the time specified in the letter received with the exam.
6. EXPERIENCE: Every applicant for Medium dressage steward status must have at least two years experience as a Basic dressage steward and must have worked as an EC steward at a minimum of four EC sanctioned dressage competitions.

7. REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS. The DC Officials Committee will consider all applications for medium steward status in November of each year. In order to be considered, all applications must be completed and received by EC per 16.9. The decisions of the committee will be sent in writing to the applicants in December of the year the application is made.

#### **B. MEDIUM STATUS**

1. CLINICS & EXAMS - All Medium dressage stewards must attend a dressage stewards' clinic and pass the exam the 85% accuracy once every three years to maintain their status.
2. INACTIVITY - Any medium steward who has not officiated at an EC Gold/Silver competition within the last three calendar years will be listed as a non-active official and will be required to reapply for medium status.

#### **C. PRIVILEGES/OBLIGATIONS**

1. A medium steward is eligible to officiate alone at any EC competition.
2. A medium steward must be available to share knowledge with learner and Basic dressage stewards.
3. A Medium dressage steward is eligible to assist the FEI Chief Steward at FEI sanctioned competitions.

#### **ARTICLE E 16.6.4 SENIOR**

##### **A. APPLICATION**

1. ELIGIBILITY. Applicants must pay their DC affiliate fee hold an EC Gold Sport License A1302.2 and:
  - a) Have officiated as a Medium dressage steward at a minimum of ten Silver and Gold dressage competitions, four of which must be Gold.
  - b) Have officiated or shadowed as a medium steward with a senior steward at a Silver or Gold dressage championship in Canada **OR** shadowed with an FEI steward at an FEI competition. In the case of shadowing, a full report must be submitted.
2. APPLICATIONS. Must be submitted to EC, see 16.9
3. APPLICATION FORMS. Are available from the DC website at [www.equinecanada.ca/dressage](http://www.equinecanada.ca/dressage).
4. CLINICS. Senior steward candidates must attend and be issued a Certificate of Attendance and Completion at a DC Senior dressage stewards' clinic.
5. EXAM. Senior dressage steward applicants must complete an open book exam with a passing mark of 85%. The exam will be sent to the applicant and must be completed and returned within the time specified in the letter received with the exam.
6. EXPERIENCE: Applicants should have held a Medium dressage steward's license for at least 2 years. As well, they must have officiated as a Medium dressage steward at a minimum of 10 Silver and/or Gold competitions, 4 of which must be Gold. Every senior dressage steward applicant must have worked as a Medium dressage steward either, assisting the FEI Chief Steward at FEI sanctioned events, or as a Medium dressage steward at one Gold Championships in Canada.

## **B. SENIOR STATUS**

1. CLINICS & EXAMS - Senior dressage stewards must attend a dressage steward clinic once every three years and pass an exam with 85% accuracy once every three years to maintain their status.
2. INACTIVITY - Any senior dressage steward who has not officiated at an EC Gold/Silver competition within the last three calendar years will be listed as a non-active official and will be required to reapply for senior status.

## **C. SENIOR PRIVILEGES/OBLIGATIONS**

1. A senior dressage steward is entitled to officiate at all EC competitions.
2. A senior dressage steward is eligible to officiate alone at any EC competition
3. A senior dressage steward must be available to share knowledge with all levels of stewards.
4. A senior dressage steward is eligible to assist the FEI Chief Steward at FEI sanctioned competitions.

## **ARTICLE E 16.7 FEI DRESSAGE STEWARDS**

1. The DC Officials Committee is solely responsible for nominating EC dressage stewards to the FEI for FEI dressage stewards' status. ~~The committee will review applications from EC senior dressage stewards to be considered for nomination to the FEI to become an FEI dressage steward. For application process see 16.9.~~
2. All ~~applicants candidates for consideration~~ must have officiated as a senior Dressage steward at a minimum of ten Gold competitions within the five years preceding ~~application nomination.~~ Applicants Candidates must also have assisted FEI dressage stewards in at least one FEI dressage competition (CDI etc) within the two years preceding their application nomination. A written report from the FEI steward must be sent to the DC Officials Committee through EC.
3. It must be understood that the FEI limits the number of FEI dressage stewards appointed to each NF and that the DC Officials Committee cannot guarantee that the FEI will accept all nominations.
4. All FEI Steward ~~applications candidates~~ must also fulfill the FEI requirements. Refer to ART 2.2 Formation of Steward in the FEI Manual for Dressage Stewards.

## **ARTICLE E 16.8 NOTWITHSTANDING CLAUSE**

1. Notwithstanding the above, applicants who live in areas where it is not possible to fulfill all the upgrading requirements or who experience other extenuating circumstances, (including applicants from another national federation) may apply to the DC Officials Committee for special consideration.
2. EC stewards accredited in the EC stewards program (see EC General Regulations A1321-A1332) can receive dressage steward status as follows:

## **A EC Recorded – Equivalent to Basic Dressage Steward**

1. APPLICATIONS. Must be submitted to EC, see 16.9

2. APPLICATION FORMS. Are available from the DC website at [www.equinecanada.ca/dressage](http://www.equinecanada.ca/dressage).
3. CLINICS. EC recorded stewards must attend and be issued a Certificate of Attendance and Completion at a dressage stewards' clinic before being granted basic dressage steward status.
4. EXAM. EC recorded stewards must complete an open book exam with a passing mark of 80% before being granted basic dressage steward status.

## **B EC Senior – Equivalent to Medium Dressage Steward**

1. APPLICATIONS. Must be submitted to EC, see 16.9
2. APPLICATION FORMS. Are available from the DC website at [www.equinecanada.ca/dressage](http://www.equinecanada.ca/dressage).
3. CLINICS. EC Senior stewards must attend and be issued a Certificate of Attendance and Completion at a dressage stewards' clinic before being granted medium dressage steward status.
4. EXAM. EC Senior dressage stewards must complete an open book exam with a passing mark of 85% before being granted medium dressage steward status.

## **C EC Senior National – Equivalent to Senior Dressage Steward**

1. APPLICATIONS. Must be submitted to EC, see 16.9
2. APPLICATION FORMS. Are available from the DC website at [www.equinecanada.ca/dressage](http://www.equinecanada.ca/dressage).
3. CLINICS. EC senior national stewards must attend and be issued a Certificate of Attendance and Completion at a dressage stewards' clinic before being granted Senior dressage steward status.
4. EXAM. EC senior national stewards must complete an open book exam with a passing mark of 85% before being granted senior dressage steward status.

## **ARTICLE E 16.9 APPLICATIONS AND FEES**

All applications, up to an including FEI level, must be sent on the official EC/DC dressage stewards' application form, with the appropriate application fee to the EC Manager Dressage no later than **April 30<sup>th</sup>** of each year. **Note:** No late applications will be accepted.

Final criteria must be submitted by **October 1<sup>st</sup>** of the same year. The application form can be found on the DC website [www.equinecanada.ca/dressage](http://www.equinecanada.ca/dressage). The DC Officials' Committee will review all completed applications in **November** of the same year.

The application fee for upgrading for any official can be obtained by contacting the Manager Dressage.

**Note:** Any official who fails to pay their annual EC Sport License and DC affiliate fee by April 1<sup>st</sup> will not be permitted to officiate in that year.

## **ARTICLE E 16.10 RECOGNITION AND PROMOTION (EC and FEI)**

1. All EC recognition and promotions are probationary for one year from the date of approval.
2. All recognition and promotions of EC dressage stewards will be made by the DC Officials Committee.

- All nominations/recommendations for FEI steward status will be made to the FEI by DC Officials Committee.

**ARTICLE E 16.11 RESTRICTIONS**

- An EC dressage steward may not officiate at an unsanctioned competition or at a competition not in good standing.
- An EC dressage steward may not act in any other capacity at a competition.
- There is no reciprocal agreement with the USEF covering stewards.
- It is the responsibility of the applicant official and/or the licensed official (steward) to accomplish all necessary requirements for obtaining/maintaining a steward's license. No notice of time periods within which requirements must be fulfilled is provided by the federation.

**DRESSAGE STEWARDS REQUIRED/ALLOWED AT EC COMPETITIONS**

Competition	Steward (level)	Guest Cards
Gold Championships National, Regional and Provincial	M, S, FEI	No
Silver Provincial Championships	B, M, S	No
Gold	B, M, S, FEI (see Equine Canada Progressive Competition and Sport License System Chart 3.0)	Yes
Silver	B, M, S (See Equine Canada Progressive Competition and Sport License System Chart 3.0)	Yes
Bronze	Not required but highly recommended Following level of Dressage stewards can be used: B,M,S	

**ARTICLE E 16.12 GUEST CARDS**

Guest cards are not available for any EC Championship. A guest card for a non-dressage steward to work at a Silver or Gold non-championship show MAY be granted by the DC Officials committee in exceptional circumstances. These might include for example: unavailability of dressage stewards, illness, or family emergency arising with a hired dressage steward. In such circumstances the following rules must be followed:

- Proof of unavailability of a dressage steward must be provided to the DC Officials Committee.

- The person for whom the guest card is requested must hold a valid EC Gold sport license and be in good standing with both EC and DC and must be approved by the DC Officials Committee.
- The guest dressage steward must be an EC steward in good standing with knowledge of dressage and who has the equivalent or higher EC steward status than that required by the competition. They must also be willing to attend a DC steward clinic and become a dressage specific steward at their earliest convenience.
- Regardless of the exceptional circumstance for granting a guest card, the prize list must be approved by an active dressage steward before being printed.
- The guest steward must complete all the regular paperwork and reports.
- A show will only be granted permission to use a guest steward ONCE.
- A steward may only hold a steward's guest card twice in a calendar year.

**Note:** An non-active dressage steward who has for genuine reasons been unable to attend a dressage specific steward clinic may apply for a guest card.

Application must be made by the competition secretary on the "Request for Guest Card" form and sent for approval to the DC Officials Committee for approval along with the required guest card fee. Guest cards will not be issued for dressage stewards under any other circumstances.

**ARTICLE E 16.13 STEWARD'S REPORT**

The steward must submit the official dressage steward's report to the Equine Canada Competitions Department within ten days of each competition at which they officiate. Failure to do so constitutes grounds for removal of dressage steward status upon review by the Dressage Canada (DC) Officials Committee. Should the report contain any matters requiring EC action, a cover letter stating this must accompany the report, thus ensuring timely EC action Official Dressage Steward Report Forms may be obtained from EC, PSO offices, and PSO, DC and EC websites. It is the responsibility of the steward to obtain the necessary report form for each competition at which they officiate.

**ARTICLE E 16.14 TIME OF ARRIVAL**

It is recommended that Dressage stewards be on the competition grounds 1 hour before the first ride of each day. However, Dressage stewards must be on the grounds 30 minutes (minimum) before the first ride of each day.

**ARTICLE E 16.15 DRESS CODE**

All officials, judges, dressage stewards, and scribes must be appropriately dressed (jeans, shorts, tank tops, etc are not acceptable).

**ARTICLE E 16.16 TACK CHECK AND GLOVES**

- Riders must report, still mounted, to the steward or his/her appointee for a tack check immediately upon leaving the competition arena.  
**Exception:** A rider may, of course, dismount and remove their hat and jacket in the case of illness or feeling faint.

2. The steward or his/her appointee is responsible for ensuring that saddlery and dress regulations are followed including, where necessary, asking for ear covers, nose nets and if used, boots or bandages to be removed to allow and inspection of the ears, bit(s) and/or legs. No muffling of sound in any way is permitted (See Chapter 4).
3. Juniors must wear ASTM/SEI or BSI approved protective headgear at all times while mounted. At the tack check, a junior may be asked to dismount to allow an inspection of their headgear (See Chapter 4).
4. Riders are welcome to approach the steward and ask for saddlery/dress rule clarifications prior to riding their test.
5. The person responsible for checking the bits must use disposable surgical gloves. A new disposable surgical glove must be used for each horse.
6. Only the chief steward may appoint someone to do a tack check.
7. Any deviation from the saddlery rules found by the steward or his/her appointee after the test will result (after consultation with the judge and/or organizing committee) in elimination.
8. The checking of the bridle and bit must be done with the greatest caution, as some horses are very touchy and sensitive about their head and mouth.

#### **ARTICLE E 16.17 TACK/DRESS CHECK PRIOR TO RIDE**

A rider may approach the steward or his/her appointee, prior to each test to ensure that dress and equipment are in accordance with the rules.

#### **ARTICLE E 16.18 CHECKING THE COMPETITION ARENA AND SUPERVISING THE WARM-UP AREA**

1. Judges and dressage stewards must check the correctness of the arenas. Dressage stewards must supervise the warm-up areas.
2. Any horse which has been eliminated twice in one day for lameness may not be ridden in the warm up area until the next day of competition. The OC or scorers must communicate with the steward when a horse has been eliminated for lameness and if such a horse is eliminated again the same day, the steward must not allow the horse back into the warm up area. See Article E 9.3.6 a

#### **ARTICLE E 16.19 TWO RINGS**

When a competition operates with two or more rings and classes are held simultaneously, the competition must have sufficient dressage stewards in attendance to adequately monitor all schooling rings. When schooling rings cannot be seen from one vantage point by one steward, additional dressage stewards are required. The additional steward(s) may be learner or basic dressage steward(s). The competition must select individuals who are well versed in the divisions being offered and suited by experience to the divisions in which they are to adjudicate as dressage stewards. Any deviation from the tack/dress rules must always be brought to the attention of the chief steward.

## **CHAPTER 17 YEAR END EQUINE CANADA NATIONAL AWARDS (Given out in each Province)**

### **ARTICLE E 17.1 GENERAL INFORMATION**

1. For complete information on EC provincial awards, see General Regulations, Chapter 15.
2. Points won at dressage championships (Silver and Gold) may be counted either in the province in which the competition was held or in the competitor's province. It is the responsibility of the competitor to inform the provincial awards committee in which province the competition is to be credited with the points, prior to the final tabulation.

### **ARTICLE E 17.2 GOLD PROVINCIAL AWARD GROUPS**

EC Provincial Awards for Dressage will be divided into eleven groups

- Training (Jr, Am, and O)
- First Level (Jr, Am, and O)
- Second Level (Jr, Am, and O)
- Third Level (Jr, Am, and O)
- Fourth Level (Jr, Am, and O)
- FEI Children Award (FEI Children's classes to count: Preliminary, Team and Individual)
- FEI Pony Award (FEI Pony classes to count: Preliminary, Team and Individual)
- FEI Junior Award (FEI Junior classes to count: Preliminary, Team and Individual)
- FEI Young Rider Award (FEI Young Rider classes to count: Preliminary, Team and Individual)
- FEI Advanced Award (FEI Prix St. Georges and Intermediaire 1)
- Grand Prix Award (Jr, Am, and O) Classes to count: FEI Intermediaire 2, Grand Prix and Grand Prix Special

### **ARTICLE E 17.3 GOLD PROVINCIAL FREESTYLE CATEGORIES**

Provincial Awards will be given annually in the following Open freestyle categories:

- First Level Freestyle (includes Jr/Am/O)
- Second Level Freestyle (includes Jr/Am/O)
- Third Level Freestyle (includes Jr/Am/O)
- Fourth Level Freestyle (includes Jr/Am/O)
- FEI Pony Freestyle (FEI Pony division)
- FEI Junior Freestyle (FEI Junior division)
- FEI Young Rider Freestyle (FEI Young Rider division)
- FEI Intermediaire 1 Freestyle (includes Jr/Am/O)
- FEI Grand Prix Freestyle (includes Jr/Am/O)

#### **ARTICLE E 17.4 ELIGIBILITY**

The minimum eligibility requirements for consideration are that the horse or pony be shown in not fewer than four EC Gold (National) competitions in its particular section, three of which must be in the province for which the award is being given.

**Note:** For complete details on calculation of provincial awards and rules, see General Regulations, Chapter 15.

## **CHAPTER 18 EQUINE MEDICATIONS**

See General Rules and Regulations A Chapter 10 Equine Medication Control

#### **ARTICLE E 18.1 STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY**

The Person Responsible for a horse is an adult who has, or shares responsibility for the care, training, custody, and performance of the horse and who has the official responsibility for that horse under EC rules and is liable under the penalty provisions of the Rules for any violation of the EC Rules.

**The Person Responsible must hold an EC individual or group license (see General Rules and Regulations A1011).**

For the purpose of these rules, the Person Responsible is normally the trainer, owner or the competitor who rides or drives the horse during an event. The Person Responsible is ultimately responsible for the condition, fitness and management of the horse and is responsible for any act performed in the stables by himself or herself or by any other person with authorized access to the horse, or while the horse is being ridden, driven, or exercised.

#### **ARTICLE E 18.2 EQUINE DRUG AND MEDICATION PENALTIES**

See General Rules and Regulations Chapter 10

Any violation of the Equine Medication Rules proven to have occurred will result in the imposition of penalties and the return of all winnings of the horse in question.

#### **ARTICLE E 18.3 DRUGS AND MEDICATION: EQUINE**

Normal levels of the drugs ranitidine, cimetidine or omeprazole may be administered to competition equines for the therapeutic treatment of ulcers. Absolutely no other drugs are permitted in Dressage: Exception: see the rules of Equine Canada, Section A, General Regulations, Article A1005, Emergency Veterinary Treatment.

#### **NOTE: Equine Medication Rules for Dressage Bronze Competitions**

Dressage Canada, in consultation with the Equine Canada Equine Medication Control Committee, has determined that Bronze level dressage competitions will follow the Equine Canada Medication rules. These rules are found in the General Regulations Section A, Chapter 10 and allow specific and volume limited therapeutic medication.

The medications permitted are available by prescription only. Permission to follow these rules for the Bronze level competition in dressage is under trial. Abuse will result in a more stringent policy.

The Equine Medication rule for Silver and Gold Dressage competitions will continue to follow Article E 18.3

The Equine Canada regulations allow treatment with one non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug when needed and they allow use of a bronchodilator when needed. Exact wording pertaining to those changes is included below:

#### **ARTICLE A1003 PERMITTED MEDICATIONS**

Permitted Medications may be present in a horse during an EC-sanctioned competition.

1. Permitted medications are the following:
  - a) non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs approved for use in Canada for horses: flunixin meglumine, ketoprofen, phenylbutazone, vedopropfen or acetylsalicylic acid, subject to the restrictions below.
  - b) Clenbuterol
  - c) the anti-ulcer medications: cimetidine, ranitidine or omeprazolePlease note that some Permitted Medications can alter the elimination guidelines contained in the Schedule of Drugs.
2. Only one non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug may be administered. If more than one non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug is found in any sample, the test will be deemed positive. Samples found to contain a permitted medication may be subjected to quantitative testing.
3. Restrictions relating to permitted medication are as follows:
  - a) The maximum permissible plasma or serum concentration of flunixin is 1.0 microgram per millilitre.
  - b) The maximum permissible plasma or serum concentration of phenylbutazone is 15.0 micrograms per millilitre.

4. The rules of certain divisions/breed sports are more restrictive and in some cases allow no drugs or medications. See discipline/breed sport rules.

The five permitted non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medications are all products that are licensed and available in Canada for use in horses. No other non-steroidal medication is permitted. Only one of these five is permitted at one time. Occasionally, a horse is prescribed one medication for a musculo-skeletal problem and given another for something such as colic. That horse must be withdrawn from competition until one of the non-steroidal products has been cleared. The emergency drug form will not exempt a horse with 2 non-steroidal products from being charged with a positive test.

As we have indicated, these products require a veterinary prescription. Your veterinarian is the best person to determine if use of an NSAID is advisable during competition and, if so, which NSAID is the most appropriate for the horse and for the condition.

Additionally, the veterinarian must provide a treatment regimen. Veterinarians who have questions regarding the drug rules can contact the medication committee through Kate Evans at the Equine Canada office at [kevans@equinecanad.ca](mailto:kevans@equinecanad.ca).

Medication regulations are in place to protect the health and welfare of the horse and to provide a level playing field. Dressage Canada and the Equine Canada Medication Committee believe that judicious use of these medications can benefit the health and welfare of the horse. The Equine Canada Medication Committee monitors use of permitted medication at all competitions. Excessive use at any level will be investigated.

#### **ARTICLE E 18.4 DRUG TESTING**

See General Regulations Chapter 10 Equine Medications Control

#### **ARTICLE E 18.5 HORSE INSPECTION**

FEI sanctioned events only - See FEI Rules for Dressage & FEI Veterinary Regulations, both can be found on the FEI website [www.fei.org](http://www.fei.org)

## CHAPTER 19 VIOLATIONS, PROTESTS, AND APPEALS

For complete rules on violations, protests and appeals see the Rules of Equine Canada, Section A, General Regulations, Chapter 12, Dispute Resolution Policy for EC-Sanctioned Competitions.

In general the overall dispute resolution path/process (DRP) within Dressage Canada (DC) consists of a maximum of two steps in the following order: Stage One, a dispute resolution request (DRR) to the Dressage Canada Functional Committee; then if required or desired, Stage Two, a further DRR to the DC Board of Directors (DCB). Except where otherwise provided within EC, the decision of a Stage Two DRR may be appealed to EC in accordance with the procedures set out in EC's Policies relating to Dispute Management. This policy applies except where a specific EC Dispute Resolution Policy supersedes or replaces this process.

The DC DRP may be found on the DC Website or requested from the Manager of Dressage at the EC office.

Videotapes may be used in accordance with the rules of EC, General Regulations, Section A, Article A1314, Video

## ANNEX 1 FEI

### HOW CAN I TELL IF I HAVE ENTERED AN FEI-SANCTIONED COMPETITION?

FEI Sanctioned competitions are referred to as CDI's they may also be noted on websites and in prize lists as a CDI-W, CDIO, CDIY, CDIJ, CDIP etc.

**Note:** Most CDI competitions run national competitions at the same time as the CDI competition, therefore, please make sure when placing your entries that you are clear on what competition you are entering. Different rules will apply depending on what competition you have entered.

### HOW DO I KNOW IF FEI RULES APPLY?

FEI rules will apply if you have entered a CDI competition.

### WHERE CAN I GET A COPY OF THE FEI RULES?

All FEI rules can be accessed through the FEI website at [www.fei.org](http://www.fei.org)

### WHEN IS AN FEI PASSPORT REQUIRED?

FEI passports are required for CDI competitions (CDI and above)

**Exception:** Horses entered in CDI1\* and CDI2\* competitions are not required to have an FEI passport **IF** competing in their home country. These horses, however, must still be registered with the FEI and must hold valid Horse Identification Documentation as per EC rules.

**Note:** Horses entered in CDI1\* and CDI2\* competitions outside their home country must have a valid FEI passport.

**Exception:** Horses entered in CDIP, CDICH, CDIJ, CDIY competitions are not required to have an FEI passport **IF** competing in their home country. These horses, however, must still be registered with the FEI and must hold valid Horse Identification Documentation as per EC rules.

**Note:** Horses entered in CDIP, CDICH, CDIJ, CDIY competitions outside their home country must have a valid FEI passport.

### AUTHORIZATION TO COMPETE IN FEI SANCTIONED COMPETITION?

All riders wishing to enter an FEI sanctioned competition (CDI's) must obtain authorization from the EC Manager Dressage. This authorization requirement is in effect for all FEI sanctioned competitions (CDI) held in and outside Canada.

For further information on authorizations please see the Dressage Canada website at [www.equinecanada.ca/dressage](http://www.equinecanada.ca/dressage)

**Note:** For complete rules on entering FEI dressage competitions see the FEI Rules for Dressage events and the FEI General Regulations. Both can be downloaded from the FEI website at [www.fei.org](http://www.fei.org)

**FEI REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS?**

Effective January 1, 2006, all horse/rider combinations entered in FEI-sanctioned Dressage competitions (CDI's) are required to be registered with the FEI on or before the opening date of the competition.

Equine Canada (EC) is responsible for managing the registration process for all Canadian horse/rider combinations. This is an online procedure that can only be completed through EC.

The FEI will charge an annual administrative fee for each horse and rider registered. The registration fees will be \$20 CDN per Rider and \$20 CDN per horse. For additional information on the registration process please see the Dressage Canada website at [www.equinecanada.ca/dressage](http://www.equinecanada.ca/dressage)

**WHAT HAPPENS IF I COMPETE IN AN FEI SANCTIONED COMPETITION WITHOUT BEING REGISTERED?**

If you enter and compete in an FEI sanctioned competition (CDI) without EC authorization or without FEI registration your results will not be accepted by the FEI for World Rankings.

**Ad:** Advanced

**Adult:** Individuals are adults or seniors from the beginning of the calendar year in which they reach the age of nineteen. For FEI rules visit [www.fei.org](http://www.fei.org)

**Am:** Amateur

**ASTM:** American Society for Testing Materials standard. Refers to approved protective headgear that must be certified by SEI or another testing body that meets the ASTM or the British Standards Institution (BSI) standard. See A905 in EC General Regulations.

**"B":** Basic (Judge or Steward)

**Category:** Refers to the eligibility of the rider defined by age, amateur status, open, etc.

**CDI:** Concour Dressage Internationale

**CDN:** Canadian

**CPC:** Canadian Pony Club

**DC:** Dressage Canada

**Division:** Blocks of FEI tests written by FEI and used by EC. Always prefaced by the abbreviation "FEI ...".

**DCB:** Dressage Canada Board

**DRP:** Dispute Resolution Path/Process

**DRR:** Dispute Resolution Request

**EC:** Equine Canada

**FEI:** Federation Equestre Internationale

**FEI C :** FEI International Candidate Judge

**FEI I :** FEI International Judge

**FEI O :** FEI Official International Judge

**GP:** Grand Prix

**GPS:** Grand Prix Special

**GPF:** Grand Prix Freestyle

**I1:** Intermediaire 1

**I2:** Intermediaire 2

**Jr:** Junior

**Judging Panel:** Two or more judges on the ring at the same time

**"L":** Learner (Steward)

**Level:** Blocks of EC/DC national dressage tests written by the USEF and used by EC. Refers to Training through Fourth Level and all Freestyles.

**"M":** Medium (Judge or Steward)

**NF:** National Federation of other countries that oversee the organization of horse shows.

**O:** Open

**PSG:** Prix St. Georges

**PSO:** Provincial Sports Organization (provincial organization overseeing equestrian activities)

**"r":** recorded (Judge)

**"S":** Senior (Judge or Steward)

**Senior:** Individuals are adults or seniors from the beginning of the calendar year in which they reach the age of nineteen. For FEI rules visit [www.fei.org](http://www.fei.org)

**USDF:** United States Dressage Federation

**USEF:** United States Equestrian Federation

**YR:** Young Rider

**Note:** Additional definitions can be found in the Equine Canada General Regulations, Section A

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**METRIC CONVERSION TABLE**

WHEN YOU KNOW	MULTIPLY BY	TO FIND
Hands	4	inches
Inches	2.54	Centimeters
Centimeters	0.3937	Inches
Yards	0.9	Meters
Meters	3.281	Feet
Feet	0.3048	Meters
Miles	1.609	Kilometers
Kilometers	0.6214	Miles
Pounds	0.4536	Kilograms
Kilograms	2.205	Pounds

**METRIC CONVERSION CHART**

**10" = 25.4 CM; 10CM = 4"**

2'3" – 0.70m	4'9" – 1.45m
2'6" – 0.75m	5'0" – 1.5m
2'9" – 0.85m	5'3" – 1.50m
3'0" – 0.90m	5'6" – 1.70m
3'3" – 1.00m	5'9" – 1.75m
3'6" – 1.10m	6'0" – 1.80m
3'9" – 1.15m	6'3" – 1.90m
4'0" – 1.20m	6'6" – 2.00m
4'3" – 1.30m	6'9" – 2.10m
4'6" – 1.40m	7'0" – 2.20m

Since 10 cm equals 4 inches, it should be noted that exact equivalents are not possible. During this time of transition between Imperial and Metric measures, this chart may be useful, but it should be remembered that the listed Metric maximum height.

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