

**PROPOSALS FOR RULES CHANGES OF
FEI OLYMPIC REGULATIONS FOR EQUESTRIAN EVENTS AT THE
OLYMPIC GAMES, PARIS 2024**

DRESSAGE

14 October 2022

Dear National Federations,

Please find below a summary of the proposed changes to the FEI Olympic Regulations for Equestrian Events at the Olympic Games - Dressage together with the corresponding explanations, the comments received as well as the reasoning for accepting or not accepting each proposal.

Note:

- Following the introduction of the new FEI Dressage Ranking Rules, articles 627.4.1.4/4.1.5 were amended to refer to these new Rules.
- The tie breaking rules in the Team final and Individual Final (GP Freestyle) have been amended to reflect the tie breaking system applied for the OG. A rule is added to define the procedure in case a tie cannot be broken (see amendments to art. 627.5.1 and 627.5.2 below).

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

- A.** [Proposed Rules changes to be voted at the FEI General Assembly 2022;](#)
and
- B.** [Proposed Rules changes that have been rejected or deferred to a future Rules revision.](#)

Sincerely,



Bettina de Rham
Dressage Director

A. PROPOSED RULES CHANGES TO BE VOTED AT THE FEI GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2022

Horse inspection – Chapter III Dressage
Horse Inspection – starting order
FEI/Technical Committee Feedback – Explanation for Proposed Change
Many NFs have requested that the starting order of the Horse Inspection is done by draw instead of by order of Nations. This is supported by the DC.
Proposed Wording
<p>6. Horse Inspection</p> <p>Horse Inspections will be carried out in accordance with Veterinary Regulations (VRs). <u>The starting order per Nation will be determined by a draw.</u> Nations will present themselves in alphabetical order <u>determined by the draw</u> and according to the official NOC code, and by Horse numbers of each nation. <u>Each team can present a maximum of four (4) horses (including the Reserve Horse) at the Horse Inspection.</u></p>
Comments received by 24 August 2022
No comments received
FEI feedback
N/A
Proposed Final Wording to be voted at the FEI General Assembly 2022
The proposal remains unchanged

Horse Inspection – Chapter III Dressage
Timing Of The Horse Inspection In Relation To The Establishment of The Starting Order For The Grand Prix
Feedback received online by the deadline of 15 February 2022
Request to review the timing of the Horse inspection in relation to the establishment of the Order to go of the Grand Prix. One training day is requested between the Horse inspection and the first day of competition (Grand Prix).
FEI/Technical Committee Feedback – Explanation for Proposed Change
The FEI Veterinary department supports the proposal to have one day between the Horse Inspection and the start of the Grand Prix at OG. The Rules are reviewed in line with this request. (HI should take place within 24h before the start of the first competition – Ref. VR art. 1035)

Proposed Wording

The wording is amended in the Veterinary Regulations to allow one day between the HI and the start of the GP, if possible.

Comments received by 24 August 2022

NF USA

There is no indication of whether there is a day between the Horse Inspection and the Grand Prix. The USA NF fully supports a day between the Horse Inspection (and thus the production of the Starting Order for the GP) and the Grand Prix as it will ensure athletes know in a timely fashion whether they are Day 1 or Day 2 of the Grand Prix.

FEI feedback

The change is reflected in the VRs to allow the HI to take place up to 48 hours before the start of the first competition. As the timetable includes all three disciplines, it is difficult to include it in the Rules.

We were not able to publish the Timetable when the first draft of the Regulations were published on 6 July 2024 due to the fact that the Organising Committee for equestrian had not been appointed at that stage and there was no entity to agree the timetable with.

In recent weeks, the FEI has had meetings with the newly appointed Organising Committee and the timetable has now been published on the FEI website at the following link. <https://inside.fei.org/fei/games/olympic/paris-2024>

It is cross referenced in the Olympic Regulations at Annex H.

ANNEX H –OLYMPIC COMPETITION SCHEDULE

Note: Schedule per session to be confirmed by the IOC, Paris 2024 & OBS and is subject to change.

Finishing times of competitions may be adapted. All Medal Ceremonies will take place within 10mins of clearance of arena.

The latest version of the timetable is available on the following webpage:
<https://inside.fei.org/fei/games/olympic/paris-2024>

Proposed Final Wording to be voted at the FEI General Assembly 2022

The proposal remains unchanged

Grand Prix – Starting order – Art. 627.4.1.9**Grand Prix – starting order****FEI/Technical Committee Feedback – Explanation for Proposed Change**

In Tokyo, due to withdrawals, there were less than 60 combinations in the Grand Prix and there was no clear provision to define how the number of starters in each group would be re-defined.

The DC proposed the following wording for clarification.

Proposed Wording

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4.1.8	Starting order of the Grand Prix Competition: the starting order in each group starts according to the numbered rows 1 to 10 in Table 1.
4.1.9	<u>In case there are less than 60 horses competing the Grand Prix, the number of places in each group will be reduced accordingly, with a starting place being removed from Group A first, then if necessary from Group B, then from Group C and so on.</u>
4.1.10	<u>In case of a Pre-Competition Change when the start list has already been produced, the replacement Athlete/Horse combination will take the place in the order to go that the replaced Athlete/Horse combination would have taken.</u>
Comments received by 24 August 2022	
No comments received	
FEI feedback	
N/A	
Proposed Final Wording to be voted at the FEI General Assembly 2022	
The proposal remains unchanged	

Grand Prix – Starting order – Art. 627.4.1.4 and 4.1.5	
Grand Prix – starting order	
FEI/Technical Committee Feedback – Explanation for Proposed Change	
The revised FEI World Ranking Rules, effective 1 st September now provide a separate Ranking for Athletes and one for Horses. Up to now, the starting order of the Grand Prix in the Olympic Regulations was based on the Athlete/Horse combination position in the World Rankings as per the previous FEI World Ranking Rules. The DC reviewed the OG Regulations, and recommend that the OG Regulations are updated to reflect this change and that the starting order of the Grand Prix is based on the FEI Dressage World Rankings for Athletes.	
Proposed Wording	
See below	
Comments received by 24 August 2022	
N/A	
FEI feedback	
See above	
Proposed Final Wording to be voted at the FEI General Assembly 2022	
4.1.4	The Athlete/Horse combinations' starting order for the FEI Grand Prix Competition is based on the FEI World Ranking List position of the Athlete/ Horse combinations in the FEI World Ranking List in effect on the date of definite entries. The Athlete/Horse

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combinations shall be positioned in the six (6) groups, as per Table 1 below with the highest ranked Athlete in position #1, the second highest ranked Athlete Horse in position #2, and so on until all Athlete/Horse combinations are placed.

4.1.5 In case of equality in FEI Dressage World Ranking points, the Athlete/~~Horse combinations~~, with the greatest number of higher placings in the highest level competitions will be considered as ranked higher than the other Athlete/~~Horse combinations~~, and so on until any ties are broken. If there is still a tie, then a draw shall be done.

Minimum Eligibility Requirements – Art. 629

Level, deadlines, special qualifying events, etc.

Feedback received online by the deadline of 15 February 2022

The MER limit could be slightly raised and would still ensure the universality principle can be maintained.

FEI/Technical Committee Feedback – Explanation for Proposed Change

The DC proposed to raise the MER from 66% to 67%

Proposed Wording

Article 629

A minimum ~~66~~67% must be attributed twice to the Athlete/Horse combination by both a 5* star judge and as an average from all judges in the competition, and the score must be achieved in a Grand Prix test at two different CDI3*/CDI4*/CDI5*/CDI-W/CDIO events. The two 5* judges must be of a nationality other than of the Athlete. Scores achieved in ~~Preliminary or Consolation~~ Grand Prix (Consolation) classes judged by three Judges do not count towards the minimum eligibility requirement.

Comments received by 24 August 2022

JNP - The Olympic Game is not only about showing the best sports performance. Not increasing the minimum percentage for the MER may be relevant for an athlete from a country where the discipline has been improving. That participation may promote the Dressage in own country and will award an entire life dedicated to our sports. Our suggestion is to keep it as it was in Tokyo.

Proposed wording:

"..... A minimum ~~67%~~ 66% must be attributed twice"

FEI feedback

The DC discussed this proposal but believes that this increase by 1% is correct in relation to the current levels in competition of Athlete/Horse combinations

Proposed Final Wording to be voted at the FEI General Assembly 2022

The proposal remains unchanged

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Team Competition – Art. 627.3.2**Length Of The Break Before The Start of The Last Group of Team Athletes****Feedback received online by the deadline of 15 February 2022**

Most comments received expressed a wish to keep the same order in the last group and hence no need for a longer break (just regular arena maintenance break). There is a general consensus to agree to this; however, it is noted that a reverse order in the last group did create more excitement.

FEI/Technical Committee Feedback – Explanation for Proposed Change

The DC supports this request and in addition, if the starting order in the last group remains unchanged and the break is shorter, the DC proposes to increase the number of Teams in the GPS from 8 to 10 (three groups of 10).

Proposed Wording**627.3.2 FEI Grand Prix Special (Team Final)**

The FEI Grand Prix Special is the Team competition. The FEI Grand Prix Special is limited to and compulsory for the best ~~eight (8)~~ ten (10) placed teams of the FEI Grand Prix, including those tied for ~~8th-10th~~ place. No individual Athletes are allowed.

If one Team drops out before the start of the competition, it is replaced by the next ranked Team up to two (2) hours before the start of the FEI Grand Prix Special. In the case where more than ~~eight (8)~~ ten (10) teams qualify for the FEI Grand Prix Special due to a tie, if a team should drop out before the start of the competition, and ten (10) ~~eight (8)~~ teams remain qualified, no additional teams will move up and participate.

~~4.1.1—In each group, team Athletes will start in reverse order of the FEI Grand Prix team overall results. After the first and second group have competed, an intermediate team standing will be established and there will be a break (of between 45-60 minutes (to be determined)) before the start of the third group. In the third group, team Athletes will start in reverse order of the intermediate FEI Grand Prix Special team standing (based on results of team Athletes after the second group).~~

Comments received by 24 August 2022

No comments received

FEI feedback

N/A

Proposed Final Wording to be voted at the FEI General Assembly 2022

The proposal remains unchanged

Team Test to Music – art. 627**Should athletes bring their own music as per the current rules?****Feedback received online by the deadline of 15 February 2022**

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

FEI/Technical Committee Feedback – Explanation for Proposed Change

The fairest option is to remove the team test music option

Proposed Wording

FEI Grand Prix Special to music (Team Final) is replaced with FEI Grand Prix Special ~~to music~~ in the Dressage section of the OG Rules.

The following is deleted in article **3.2 FEI Grand Prix Special ~~to music~~ (Team Final)**

~~The Athlete must deliver his Grand Prix Special music to the OC but it will not be judged in the Grand Prix Special competition~~

Comments received by 24 August 2022

No comments received

FEI feedback

N/A

Proposed Final Wording to be voted at the FEI General Assembly 2022

The proposal remains unchanged

Team Final - results - Art. 627.5.1.1 and 5.1.2

Use of Points vs percentages in the Team Final

Feedback received online by the deadline of 15 February 2022

All scores/standings should be shown in percentages, not points

FEI/Technical Committee Feedback – Explanation for Proposed Change

The DC supports the request to use percentages in the Team Competition rather than points. Percentages are easier for all Stakeholders and media to understand.

Proposed Wording

5.1.1. Only the Grand Prix Special Competition counts towards the Team classification.

5.1.2. The winning team is the one (1) having the highest total ~~points-score~~ of their three (3) Athletes after their results of the Grand Prix Special ~~to music~~. The second placed team is the one (1) with the next highest total ~~points-score~~ and so on. The final result for each team ~~should be given in points~~ will be the addition of the final

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percentages of each Team member). The total score for the classification is obtained by adding the total percentage points on each of the Judges' sheets, eventually corrected for changes by the JSP.

Comments received by 24 August 2022

No Comments received

FEI feedback

N/A

Proposed Final Wording to be voted at the FEI General Assembly 2022

The proposal remains unchanged

Competition Schedule – Art. 627.3.2
Feedback received online by the deadline of 15 February 2022

Include in the rules a recommendation to have the rest day after the GPS and the 2nd Horse Inspection on this day, if possible.

FEI/Technical Committee Feedback – Explanation for Proposed Change

The DC agrees to maintain in the rules the recommendation to have the rest day after the GPS and the 2nd Horse Inspection on this day, if possible.

For Paris 2024, given scheduling constraints, in principle, the rest day will take place as in Tokyo, i.e. after the second day of GP and before the GPS.

Proposed Wording

The wording remains unchanged:

A rest day to be scheduled, preferably between Competitions two (2) and three (3).

Comments received by 24 August 2022

No comments received

FEI feedback

N/A

Proposed Final Wording to be voted at the FEI General Assembly 2022

The proposal remains unchanged

Competition Schedule – Art. 627.5.1/5.2
Feedback received online by the deadline of 15 February 2022
N/A
FEI/Technical Committee Feedback – Explanation for Proposed Change
N/A
Proposed Wording
N/A
Comments received by 24 August 2022
N/A
FEI feedback
The tie breaking rules in the Team final and Individual Final (GP Freestyle) have been amended to reflect the tie breaking system applied for the OG. A rule is added to define the procedure in case a tie cannot be broken in the Team Final (Grand Prix Special) and Individual Final (Grand Prix Freestyle) here after:
Proposed Final Wording to be voted at the FEI General Assembly 2022
<p>5.1.1. Ties: in the case of equality of score the winning team is the one (1) whose lowest classified team Athlete in the Grand Prix Special has the best result in the Grand Prix Special. If still tied the same rule will be applied to the second lowest classified Athlete in the Grand Prix Special and so on. If still tied, the teams will share the rank sorted by NOC Code.</p> <p>5.1.2. Ties: If two (2) Athletes have the same final score, the higher artistic marks in the Grand Prix Freestyle shall decide. If still tied the higher marks for harmony shall decide. If still tied the higher marks for choreography shall decide. If still tied, the Athletes will share the rank (sorted by NOC Code and then by Athlete name).</p>