

## 2008 FEI WORLD DRESSAGE CHALLENGE

2008 sees the FEI WORLD DRESSAGE CHALLENGE entering its 27<sup>th</sup> edition, generously sponsored by HAIG from 1982-1987 and by SAMSUNG from 1988 until 1996 and finally from 2001 to 2004 by PERFORMANCE SALES INTERNATIONAL (P.S.I.).

This project seeks to promote and expand horse-riding skills in developing countries throughout the world. In addition, it enables people, all over the world, to enjoy equestrian culture.

Its participation figures i.e. 16 countries having participated in 1982, 42 countries in 1996, and 53 countries in 2007 can best express the popularity and success of this extremely fruitful Dressage development project.

The major objectives of this worldwide Dressage competition are:

- to give the less experienced Dressage riders, who under normal circumstances, cannot take part in international Dressage competitions, in the more remote countries of the world, the opportunity to compete internationally without having to leave their own country.
- to promote the new generations. Last year, 200 Children from 49 NFs competed in the Challenge.

Internationally experienced FEI Judges will travel to the individual geographical regions of the world to judge this competition and give the riders a clinic to teach them the art of Dressage. Each Group of countries is judged by the same Ground Jury.

Many changes have been brought to this year's edition, starting with the introduction of brand new dressage tests. As decided end of 2006, the dressage tests have been revised in order to create a better cohesion between each class and provide a real sense of progression which did not exist until now. This was the perfect opportunity to link the FEI World Dressage Challenge with the FEI Coach Education System and redesign the tests using the dressage module of the FEI Coach Education and Certification System Levels 1 and 2 as it had previously been done for the FEI World Jumping Challenge.

The following amendments have been made:

- New Tests: Preliminary – Elementary – Medium - Advanced
- Participation: till 40 riders
- Age groups: 16 yrs of age and above = PSG – Advanced – Medium - Elementary  
12-15 yrs of age = Elementary - Preliminary
- Only NFs with **10 or less** riders competing at Grand Prix level may participate.
- Intermediate I, II and Grand Prix riders that have participated in FEI events may now enter the competition with a less experienced horse.
- Riders are now allowed to start twice in the Challenge classes, riding two different horses in two different classes as in the past or using the same horse in two different classes, or as a third option, in the same class but with two different horses.

All documents and information related to this competition are available on the FEI website: [www.fei.org](http://www.fei.org) > Development > FEI World Dressage Challenge