

2008 FEI WORLD DRESSAGE CHALLENGE

The Competition is held from **January to December** in accordance with the FEI Rules for Dressage Events, 22st edition, effective 1st January 2006, Art. 401 - 413, 416 - 418, 422, 425.1, 427- 435.1, 437.1 - 437.4 and 439. (pls. consult www.fei.org >Dressage > rules) and FEI General Regulations, Pony Regulations and Veterinary Regulations into force.

ARTICLE 1 - PRINCIPLES

1.1 The event is open to a maximum of **40** riders/horses in total (minimum **10**).

1.2 The event consists of:

a) The FEI World Dressage Challenge

The Prix St-Georges Class	–	<i>open to senior riders</i>
The Advanced Class	–	<i>open to senior riders (16 yrs old and above)</i>
The Medium Class	–	<i>open to senior riders (16 yrs old and above)</i>
The Elementary Class	–	<i>open to all riders (12 yrs old and above)</i>
The Preliminary Class	–	<i>open to 12-15 years old riders</i>

1.3 **FORMULA**

Day 1: Judges' arrival

Day 2: Judges' free day (free day may also be scheduled after the clinic)
Horse Inspection (evening prior to the competition's day **or on the morning of the competition**)

Day 3: Challenge Competition
FEI Prix St-Georges – edition 2000
FEI Challenge Advanced Test – edition 2008
FEI Challenge Medium Test – edition 2008
FEI Challenge Elementary Test – edition 2008
FEI Challenge Preliminary Test – edition 2008

Video Session **OR** General Discussion

Day 4: Clinic (see Guidelines)

Day 5: Judges' departure

Note: The order in which the classes are scheduled is not imposed. However, we suggest that **the Preliminary Test be scheduled first so the younger riders can watch the senior riders perform** which would be beneficial for them. In any case a progression would be preferable.

ARTICLE 2 - PARTICIPATION

2.1 The FEI World Dressage Challenge Competition is **only** open to National Federations which have a total of **10 or less** riders competing at Grand Prix level.

2.2 The Competition is open to the following age groups from the 1st January of the year in which they reach their 16th or 12th birthday:

FEI Prix St-Georges	–	16 yrs of age and above
FEI Challenge Advanced Test	–	16 yrs of age and above
FEI Challenge Medium Test	–	16 yrs of age and above
FEI Challenge Elementary Test	–	12 yrs of age and above
FEI Challenge Preliminary Test	–	12-15 yrs of age

2.3 The Competition is, however, open to competitors domiciled abroad. Competitor Living Abroad – A competitor is considered to be living abroad if he spends more than six months of a year in a foreign country (the host country) FEI GR 123.10. **These riders may be members of their host country's team.**

2.4 Competitors from another Challenge NF may compete under the condition of Art. 105 FEI General Regulations, i.e. Individual foreign competitors, other than "Competitors Living Abroad" [Art. 123.10], may take part in CNs provided they have obtained written permission from their own NF and from the NF of the OC concerned. Permission must state the exact period for which it has been granted. **They cannot be a member of the host country's team.** For foreign riders from a non-Challenge NF, they may exceptionally start "Hors Concours" if the quota of 40 places is not reached. Their results will not be taken into account for classification.

2.5 The Competition is open to **horses** of any origin provided they are minimum **6** years of age (tests below PSG level) and **7** years of age for PSG. The age is counted from 1st January of the year of birth in the Northern hemisphere and 1st August for Southern Hemisphere).

2.6 The FEI World Dressage Challenge competition **must take precedence on any other competition organised in its framework** and horses entered should not take part in another national competition organised in the framework of the Challenge, if any.

2.7 Any **Rider/Horse combination** that have competed at any FEI Events (**CDIs, Regional Games and/or Seniors Regional Championships**) using tests higher than Prix St-Georges, is not permitted to participate in any of the Challenge classes. **This only applies to Rider/Horse combinations, therefore a rider can compete using another horse and a horse can be ridden by another rider (refer to 2.11).**

2.8 Any **rider or horse** that has participated in his/her career at Olympic Games, FEI World Equestrian Games and Seniors Continental Championships is no longer eligible to compete in the Challenge.

2.9 It is the responsibility **of** the National Federation to select the participants (horses/riders) for this Competition in strict accordance with the participation rules above and make sure that riders and horses comply with these rules.

2.10 NFs are free to set further qualification limits or hold selection trials in the case of too many riders.

2.11 A rider is allowed to start twice in the Challenge classes: **1)** with the same horse but in two different classes with no more than one level difference (i.e.: in the progression Preliminary - Elementary, Elementary-Medium, Medium-Advanced or Advanced-PSG) **2)** in the same class but with two different horses **or 3)** with 2 different horses in 2 different classes.

- **Only one score (the highest) from a horse or rider may count for the Team Competition.**
- **No horse is allowed to start more than twice in the entire competition.**

- A horse can be ridden once in one of the senior classes and once in the Preliminary or Elementary class.
- A horse can only be ridden once in each of the following classes: PSG, Advanced or Medium tests.
- A horse can be ridden twice in the Elementary or the Preliminary classes.
- Ponies may be ridden only by riders of 12 to 15 yrs old.

Note: Should ponies be ridden during the FEI World Dressage Challenge Competition, they will run under Articles 3124, 3125, 3127 to 3129 of the Pony Special Regulations (see annex).

2.13 NFs have the choice to either enter all riders into one class or to divide them among all five classes (which is strongly recommended). NFs are completely free in their choice. However, the **minimum (10) and maximum number (40)** of competitors overall must be respected.

ARTICLE 3 - CLINIC

- 3.1 The Ground Jury is not only responsible for judging but also for the realisation of a **Clinic** i.e. the **12** best-placed riders (according to their results in percentages) out of PSG, Advanced Test, Medium Test and/or Elementary Test **and the 4 best riders in the Preliminary Test (if any)** will receive a training based on their performance in the competition. The time devoted to each rider is 30 minutes (see Guidelines for the Clinic) or at the discretion of the Judge/Trainer.
- 3.2 A rider or horse can only participate once. **If there is no or less than 4 riders in the 12-15 yrs old age group, the vacant places may be taken by seniors up to the number of 16.**

ARTICLE 4 - GROUND JURY

- 4.1 The Competition within the Group is judged by the same Ground Jury, consisting of the same two FEI Dressage Judges appointed by the FEI, which travels from country to country until its mission is accomplished inside the Group.
- 4.2 As an exception to Art. 437.1, two Judges only will judge the Competition. The classes will be judged individually with the President placed along the short side of the arena at "C" (see Art. 429.5) and the Member at "E". Article 437 – Ground Jury- is in applicable parts valid.
- 4.3 After each competition in the respective countries, the President of the Ground Jury is responsible for establishing a running record as to the results and placing of the individual competitors within the Group. This running record must be sent to the FEI immediately following the last competition.

ARTICLE 5 - DRESS & SADDLERY

- 5.1 Dress: according to Art. 427. A black or dark blue tail coat, with top hat, white or off white breeches, stock or tie, gloves, black riding boots and spurs must be worn. For classes below Prix St-Georges, a black or dark blue jacket with a bowler hat or hunting cap is also permitted. However, in extreme heat, judges may give the option not to wear a jacket. A white shirt is however compulsory. The spurs being used must be in accordance with Art.427.3, FEI Dressage Regulations (dummy spurs are allowed).

- 5.2 For riders in the 12-15 years old age group, Dress according to FEI Rules for Pony Riders, Art. 3128: Dark coat or club uniform coat. White or fawn breeches and black riding boots or black boots and matching full grain leather gaiters, or jodhpurs with boots. White shirt with tie or hunting stock, hunting cap. Gloves must be worn. Top hat or bowler not allowed. No whip of any kind may be used whilst competing. However, one whip of maximum length 1.10 m is allowed in the warm-up. Spurs are optional but if used, only blunt metal spurs no longer than 1.5 cm are allowed.
- 5.3 The saddlery must be as laid down in Art. 428. For Prix St-Georges level, double bridle is compulsory. For Advanced Level the double bridle is allowed. For Medium, Elementary and Preliminary levels, an ordinary snaffle must be used (see permitted snaffles and nose-bands in FEI Dressage Rules). This applies in the practice and competition arena. For all levels, the whip must be dropped before entering the space around the competition arena.

ARTICLE 6 - HORSE INSPECTION

- 6.1 Any rider/horse combination participating must previously pass a horse inspection carried out by a Veterinary Delegate to be appointed by the OC in accordance with Art. 1011, point 3 of the FEI Veterinary Regulations.
- 6.2 Art. FEI GR 139.2
Horses taking part in the FEI World Dressage Challenge competitions in their own country are not required to have an official, valid FEI Passport, or a National Passport approved by the FEI accompanied by an FEI Recognition Card, as a mean of identification and to establish ownership.
- 6.3 All such horses must be properly registered and identifiable by diagram. Unless there is no national requirement for equine influenza vaccination in the host country and in the country of origin, all horses must have a valid vaccination certificate. The Inspection must take place on a firm, level and clean but not slippery surface. The horse must be walked and trotted on a loose rein. A Re-inspection is allowed (Art. 1011, point 7.3 FEI Veterinary Regulations www.fei.org > veterinary > rules > article 1011).
- 6.4 At least one Member of the Ground Jury must be present and the Vet. Inspection must take place in principle on the day preceding the Competition. Please refer to FEI Veterinary Regulations, Art. 1011. (See FEI website: www.fei.org > veterinary > rules).
- 6.5 It is up to the NF to award a Special prize to the best presented horse based on the Ground Jury & Veterinarian's decision.

ARTICLE 7- THE CLASSIFICATION

- 7.1 Five separate ranking lists (one for each level) will be established and will count towards the final classification.
- 7.2 **The Individual Classification** in each country of the Group is decided as follows: the winner is the competitor having the highest total points converted into percentage, the second the one with the next highest total and so on. In case of equality of points for the first, second and/or third places in a country, the higher collective marks will be decisive for the placing. If a further tie exists, the higher collective marks for the rider (No 4. Rider's position and seat. See test sheet) will be decisive.

In case of equality of points for places other than the first three, the competitors concerned are given the same placing.

In case of equality of points for the first, second and/or third places in a Group, the higher collective marks will decide for the placing. If a further tie exists, the higher collective marks for the rider (No 4: Rider's position and seat see test sheet) will be decisive.

7.3 There will be a **Team Classification** in each country:

- **When the 5 Challenge tests are organized, the results of the best rider (%) of each test will be picked up. However only the 3 best percentages will count for the Team Classification.** The two lowest scores will be dropped.

Example: PSG: 1. Sara Muller (63 %) T
 Advanced: 1. John Beech (61 %) T
~~Medium: 1. José Barbera (54 %) -~~
 Elementary: 1. Barbara Cheng (70 %) T
~~Preliminary: 1. Charles Parker (58 %) -~~

- **When the 4 Challenge tests are organized, the results of the best rider (%) of each test will be picked up. However only the 3 best percentages will count for the Team Classification.** The lowest score will be dropped.

Example: PSG: 1. Sara Muller (63 %) T
 Advanced: 1. John Beech (61 %) T
~~Medium: 1. José Barbera (54 %) -~~
 Elementary: 1. Barbara Cheng (70 %) T

- **When 3 Challenge tests are organized, the results of the best rider (%) of each test will count for the Team Classification.**

Example: PSG: 1. Sara Muller (63 %) T
 Advanced: 1. John Beech (61 %) T
 Elementary: 1. Barbara Cheng (70 %) T

- **When 2 or only 1 Challenge tests are organized, there will be no Team Classification.**

- The detailed rules regarding the Team selection for the FEI World Dressage Challenge with the procedure to follow in special circumstances (ex: same rider wins 2 different levels) is available on the FEI website: www.fei.org under Development > FEI World Dressage Challenge > Rules > Team Selection Rules.

In case of equality of points for the first, second and/or third places of a team in a Group, the team whose number third rider achieved the higher percentage will be placed first. See FEI website for the relevant conversion tables.

Note: Should a horse win two different classes, the same procedure as for riders should apply in the team selection process (www.fei.org under Development > FEI World Dressage Challenge > Rules > Team Selection Rules).

7.4 When equality of points for the first, second and/or third places (Individuals/Teams country/group), FEI Judges are asked to give full details to the FEI.

ARTICLE 8 - THE PRIZES

8.1 The Organising Committee within each country is responsible for the distribution of prizes in the normal way (at least one prize for each four competitors).

ARTICLE 9 - THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE

- 9.1 NFs/OCs are requested to either fax or e-mail to andreina.wipraechtiger@fei.org **full printed results** within 3 days of the competition to all countries in their Group and to the FEI. NFs/OCs are requested to use and return to the FEI the **Official Results' Sheet** provided for this Competition on the FEI website: www.fei.org > Development > FEI World Dressage Challenge > Downloads > Results' Sheet.
- 9.2 The National Federations are responsible for the traveling expenses of the Judges within each respective country, as well as for the accommodation (board and lodging) during their sojourn. This accommodation must be provided in a standard hotel (**preferably near the city center**, 5 stars hotels are not necessary) with modern communication's means, which will allow for a certain amount of privacy and comfort to recover from the strain imposed on the judges on this long trip. **Last-minute changes ARE NOT ALLOWED!!!**
- 9.3 While preparing publications for the competition (programmes, flyers, etc.) the OC is requested to follow the FEI Brand Guidelines whenever using the FEI Logo, which you will find on the FEI website under: www.fei.org > FEI > Commercial > Marketing.

ARTICLE 10 - MISCELLANEOUS

- 10.1 **Climate:** In exceptional weather conditions and with the authority of the Ground Jury and/or the FEI, the Competition may be held indoors if the competition arena has the proper measurements. The decision to move indoor must be taken at least 24 hours before the beginning of the competition in order to give the OC enough time to set the arena properly.
- 10.2 **Horses Schooling:** On no account and under penalty of elimination, may any horse take part in the Competition which has been schooled by anyone other than the competitor, mounted in the saddle, in or outside the town where the Competition is held, from 18.00 hours on the day preceding the Competition until the Competition is finished.
- 10.3 **Bell:** A bell must be provided to the President of the Ground Jury.
- 10.4 **Copy Rights:** any rider entered by his or her NF in the FEI World Dressage Challenge concedes the rights of any photographs of the rider and/or horse and accepts their publication in the FEI Bulletin, l'Année Hippique or any other magazine.
- 10.5 The FEI World Dressage Challenge must be organised strictly according to FEI Rules.
- 10.6 The FEI is entitled to make reasonable amendments to the present rules.