

UAE EQUESTRIAN & RACING FEDERATION



GENERAL RULES

NATIONAL DRESSAGE COMPETITIONS

These Rules are effective from 01 January 2021

and

replace all previously issued Rules,

Regulations and Instructions.

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MISSION

The Mission of
The United Arab Emirates Equestrian & Racing Federation
With this Rule Book
is
to Promote, Guide, Develop and Manage Equestrianism
in
The United Arab Emirates
and to do so in a Manner
which Promotes the Highest Standards in both
Equestrianism and Animal Welfare

SECTION 1 - INTRODUCTION AND DEFINITIONS

Article 100. General Regulations

- These Rules are established so that competitors and teams of competitors may compete against each other under fair and equal conditions.
- They can, however, never cover every eventuality. Matters, which cannot be resolved by interpreting the rules to the letter, shall be resolved in the spirit of the Rules to obtain a solution, which fairly represents the ethics, integrity and spirit of the sport.
- Recourse to **FEI** Rules is permitted when appropriate and not covered by **NF** Rules and authorized by **EEF**
- It is the absolute, sole and personal responsibility of all Officials and persons registered with the Federation to be fully familiar with all published Rules, Regulations and Instructions of the Federation, as ignorance of any such Rules, Regulations or Instructions will never be accepted as a valid excuse for, nor as mitigation for, transgressions which may occur.
- **NF** will publish rules online as well as periodic updates.
- It is the sole responsibility of the rider to ensure that they are au fait with the rules.
- **NF** to set up email alias to receive and respond to any questions the riders may have.

Article 101. Rules

These Rules have been drawn up in the broadest possible spirit to allow Organisers of events as much freedom as possible in the preparation and management of their programmes.

Article 102. Application of Rules

- The Dressage Rules of The Emirates Equestrian Federation (**NF**) shall apply to all events held under the auspices of **NF**, rather than International Events, which must be held under the Rules of the Federation Equestre International (**FEI**).
- Local amendments to dressage rules to be reviewed by a Dressage Rules Committee prior to implementation.

Article 103. Financial Responsibility

EEF accepts no financial responsibility whatsoever for events held under its auspices or under its rules.

Article 104. Definitions

Terms used in these Rules are defined as follows:

Agent: An employee of, or other person, who is duly authorized by, an Owner or person registered with **NF**, to be their person responsible areas.

Competition: The term “competition” refers to each individual class for which placings and prizes are awarded.

Discipline: The term “discipline” refers to the type of event or competition which can be either, Dressage, Show Jumping, Eventing, Combined Event, or any other which the Federation may decide.

Event: The term “event” refers to the complete meeting, show or concours under the control of the Organisers. “Events” may include “competitions” for more than one “discipline”

The Federation: The Emirates Equestrian Federation or **NF** or The Executive Committee of The Emirates Equestrian Federation.

Guardian: A person, duly authorized to act on behalf of the person legally responsible for the underage individual.

Height: Pony height is up to and including 148cms. Horse height exceeds 148cms.

Horse: Refers also to a Pony or other member of the genus Equus unless the context requires otherwise. A Horse shall be born from a mare.

Junior: A person may compete as a Junior from the beginning of the calendar season in which he/she reaches the age of Sixteen (16) until the end of the same season i.e if 16 when registering with the EEF at the beginning of the season Oct-April of any given year the person may ride as a junior throughout that same season.

Young Rider: A person may compete as a Young Rider from the beginning of the calendar Season in which he/she reaches the age of Seventeen (17) until the end of the calendar season in which he reaches the age of twenty-one (21).

Judge: A member of the Judges’ panel appointed by the Federation or be appointed by the Event Organising Committee.

Organisers: The organizer or organizing committee (OC) recognized by **NF** and responsible for organizing any equestrian event. Criteria against which **NF** will recognise the OC should be published prior to commencement of the competition season.

Person Responsible: In all cases the rider is deemed to be the Person Responsible (P.R.)

Registered Person: Any paid-up person for the year current with The Emirates Equestrian Federation.

Rules: The Rules of The Emirates Equestrian Federation.

Show Ground: The area in which the ring/arena, collecting ring, exercise/assembly areas, transport parks and stabling are situated.

Trainer: A person whose normal employment/appointment in the UAE is that of Dressage Trainer or a person officially appointed by **NF** to act as Official Trainer.

Year: The year commences on 1st January and ends on the 31st December, as per **FEI**.

UAE competition season: from October 1st to June 1st.

SECTION II - GENERAL RULES

CHAPTER I CODE OF CONDUCT

Code of Conduct for the Welfare of the Horse.

- In all equestrian disciplines the horse must be considered paramount.
- The wellbeing of the horse shall be above all demands of breeders, trainers, owners, riders, dealers, organisers, officials or any agent of such persons.

- All handling and veterinary treatment must ensure the health and welfare of the horse.
- The highest standards of nutrition, health sanitation and safety shall be encouraged and maintained at all times.
- Adequate provision must be made for ventilation, feeding, watering and maintaining a healthy environment during transportation.
- Emphasis should be placed on increasing education in training and equestrian practices and on promoting scientific studies in equine health.
- In the interest of the horse the fitness and competence of the rider, his groom or any other agent, shall be regarded as essential.
- All riding and training methods must take account of the horse as a living entity and must not include any equipment or technique considered by **NF** or the **F.E.I.** to be abusive.
- The Emirates Equestrian Federation hereby establishes a control in order that all persons under its jurisdiction, their agents or guardians respect the welfare of the horse.
- The National and International Rules and Regulations in equestrian sport regarding health and welfare of the horse must be adhered to not only during National and International competitions but also in training.
- Compliance with this code of Conduct is a pre-requisite of all persons registered with Emirates Equestrian Federation, and their agents or guardians.

Code of Conduct for good sportsmanship

No Official, Owner, Rider, Trainer, Agent or Guardian at an event shall:

- Argue with a Judge or Official or use abusive, threatening or unseemly language or behave with incivility or contempt towards a Judge or Show Official.
- Conduct himself in a manner which is offensive to the public or detrimental to the character or prejudicial to the interests of **NF**.
- Ill-treat a horse in any way whether inside or outside the arena.
- Make either orally or in writing, to an officer of **NF**, the Jury, Senior Judge or the Organiser, a statement on any matter covered by the Rules, which he knows to be untrue.
- Compete as owner or rider in a competition for which the horse or rider are not fully eligible.
- Having started a competition, willfully incur elimination.
- Unreasonably refuse to assist **NF** at any inquiry.
- Offend in any way the Codes of Conduct as published in this Rule Book.
- Behave in a manner, which brings the Country, the Sport or **NF** into disrepute.
- Any person who commits a breach of any part of this rule shall be deemed to be guilty of unseemly conduct and in respect of a breach of sub paragraphs **1.1 to 1.10**. They shall be eliminated from the competition by the Ground Jury or Senior Judge and/or referred to **NF**.

CHAPTER II DRESSAGE

Article 105. Object and general principles of dressage

- 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 Athlete. These qualities are demonstrated by:

- 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 bit, with submissiveness/thoroughness without any tension or resistance.
- The Horse thus gives the impression of doing, of its own accord, what is required. Confident and attentive, submitting generously to the control of the Athlete, remaining straight in any movement on a straight line and bending accordingly when moving on curved lines.
- 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. The Horse responds to the slightest indication of the Athlete and thereby gives life and spirit to all the rest of its body.
- By virtue of a lively impulsion and the suppleness of the joints, free from the paralysing 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.
- 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 consistent soft submissive contact. 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 Athlete.
- 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 all the variations of these paces.
- The regularity of the paces is fundamental to Dressage.

CHAPTER III COMPETITIONS

Article 106. Recognition

No competition shall be recognized by **NF** unless judged under NF Rules, or in the case of International Competitions, under the Rules of the **F.E.I.**

Article 107. Competition

- The term “competition” refers to each individual class for which placings and prizes are awarded
- Separate Competitions for the following standard categories of Athletes may be included in the schedules for all Events unless stated otherwise in the Rules:
 - a. Seniors

- b. Young Riders 17 to 21yrs (see definition in article 104)
- c. Juniors – up to 16yrs (see definition in article 104)

d. Events may include other separate Competitions which must be specified on the Schedule and approved by NF, i.e. Separate Classes for Arabian Horses

- In order for the result to be counted as a qualifying result and for the rider to demand the prize and rosette set in the invitation there must be a minimum 3 entries in the competition. If a rider in such class cancel the entry on the day of the show, due to rider's illness or horse illness that can be proved by a doctor's note or veterinary note, the class can still be counted for and the two remaining riders will get their prizes and qualifying results.
- Any class can be put together when running in consecutive level as one class if the numbers of entries are less than 3 in each of the classes. PSG and Intermediate 1 can run as an exception of 2 in each class.

Article 108. Levels of Competitions

The National Dressage competitions are divided into following classes:

- Introduction Class
- Preliminary Class
- Novice Class
- Elementary Class
- Medium Class
- Advanced Medium Class
- Advanced (including PSG)
- Intermediate I

Article 109. Tests

Each Competition has its own test. The Official Dressage tests are published on the authority of the NF and can in no case be modified or simplified without the approval of the NF. Test are either NF or FEI

The NF Tests can be downloaded at the homepage of NF: www.uaeerf.ae

These tests are:

- Tests for Preliminary Classes NF and FEI test available
- Tests for Novice Classes Only NF Tests
- Tests for Elementary Classes NF and FEI test available
- Tests for Medium Classes NF and FEI test available
- Tests for Advanced Medium Classes NF and FEI test available
- Tests for Advanced Classes- NF and FEI test available
- Tests for PSG – FEI only
- Tests for Intermediate – FEI Only
- Tests for Freestyle to Music Preliminary to Advanced Class - NF only
- Test for Freestyle to Music Medium and above - FEI only

FEI tests may also be used in National competitions. Only the latest versions must be used. The tests can be downloaded at the homepage of **FEI**: www.fei.org

The tests are:

- **FEI Dressage Challenge Tests:**
 - a. Preliminary
 - b. Elementary
 - c. Medium
 - d. Advanced
- **FEI Preliminary Competition Test Children (National Medium Class)**
- **FEI Test for Juniors (National Advanced- Medium Class)**
- **FEI Test for Young Riders (National Advanced Class)**
- **FEI Prix St. Georges - Test of medium international standard (National Advanced Class)**
- **FEI Intermediare I - Test of international advanced medium standard**
- **FEI Intermediare II - Test of international advanced standard**
- **FEI Grand Prix – Test of the highest international standard**
- **FEI Grand Prix Special - Test of the same standard as Grand Prix**
- **FEI Freestyle Test in Medium-Grand Prix level**

At National Events **rising trot** is allowed in Intro, Preliminary and Novice tests. Sitting trot is compulsory from Elementary and upwards apart from where it is stated in the tests i.e., option of rising in medium trot or on a stretching circle.

Article 110. Execution of the test:

1. Sound of bell. After the sound of the bell, the Athlete must enter the arena at A within forty-five (45) seconds. In the Freestyle, the Athlete has forty-five (45) seconds to signal to start the music. During Freestyle tests, in case of technical failure or delay in start of the music, the Judge at C can interrupt the count and re-continue after the problem has been resolved. The Judge at C is responsible for the bell and clock/time.

In the event that the Horse starts to defecate or urinate, the clock will be stopped until the Horse is ready to continue at which point the clock will be restarted.

2. Salute. Athletes must take the reins and whip (if used) in one hand at the salute, then lower the free hand to their side and nod their head. An incorrect salute or no salute will incur a 2-mark deduction for each failed execution

3. Error of course. When an Athlete makes an “error of course” (takes the wrong turn, omits a movement, etc.) the Judge at C warns him, by sounding the bell. The Judge at C shows him, if necessary, the point at which he must take up the test again and the next movement to be executed, then leaves him to continue by himself. However, in some cases when, although the Athlete makes an “error of course”, the sounding of the bell would unnecessarily impede the fluency of the performance - for instance if the Athlete makes a transition from medium trot to collected walk at V instead of at K, or, cantering up the centre line from A, makes a pirouette at D instead of at L - it is up to the Judge at C to decide whether to sound the bell or not. However, if the bell is not

sounded at an error of course and the test requires the same movement to be repeated and the Athlete again makes the same error, the Athlete is only penalised once.

The decision as to whether an error of course has been made will be at the sole discretion of the Judge at C. The other Judges' scores will be adapted accordingly.

4. Error of test/execution. When an Athlete makes an "error of the execution of the test" (trots rising instead of sitting, at the salute does not take the reins in one hand, etc.) he must be penalised as for an "error of course". In principle, an Athlete is not allowed to repeat a movement of the test unless the Judge at C decides on an error of course (sounds the bell). If, however, the Athlete 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, penalise for an error of course.

5. Unnoticed error. If the Ground Jury has not noted an error, the Athlete has the benefit of the doubt and will therefore not be penalised for the error.

6. Penalties

6.1. "Error of Course".

Every "error of course", whether the bell is sounded or not, must be penalised, except as noted above.

- First error Two (2) points.
- Second error Four (4) points.
- Third error Elimination.

6.2. Other Errors

All of the following are considered errors, and two (2) points will be deducted per error, but they are not cumulative and will not result in Elimination (including for Freestyle tests):

- Entering the space around the arena with whip or with boots on the horse's legs or with discrepancy in dress (eg. lack of gloves) and/or
- Entering the Dressage arena with whip or with boots on the horse's legs or with discrepancy in dress (eg. lack of gloves). If the test has already started before the discrepancy has been noticed, the Judge at C stops the athlete and if needed and possible, an assistant may enter the arena to remove the item(s). The athlete then continues the test, either starting from the beginning (from the inside of the fence) or from the movement where he was stopped. The marks given before the stop are not changed.
- Entering the arena before the sound of the bell.
- Not entering the arena within forty-five (45) seconds after the bell, but within ninety (90) seconds.
- For Freestyle tests, entering the arena after more than thirty (30) seconds of music.
- If the Freestyle test is longer or shorter than stipulated on the test sheet, zero-point five percent (0.5%) will be deducted from the total artistic score.
- For NF competitions leaving the arena that is not closed eg, no gate at A and/or boards under 30cms - marks will be deducted for falling out or loss of balance. If a horse is disobedient and runs out of the arena it is eliminated.
- Using voice or clicking the tongue repeatedly.

7. Elimination.

7.1. **Lameness.** In a case of marked lameness, the Judge at C informs the Athlete that he is eliminated. There is no appeal against this decision.

7.2. **Resistance.** Any resistance which prevents the continuation of the test longer than twenty (20) seconds is punished by Elimination. However, resistance that may endanger Athlete, Horse, Judges or the public will result in elimination for safety reasons earlier than within twenty (20) seconds. This also applies to any resistance before the entering the Dressage arena or when leaving the arena.

7.3. **Fall.** In the case of a fall of a Horse and/or an Athlete, the Athlete will be Eliminated.

7.4. **Leaving Arena During Dressage Test.** A Horse leaving a completely closed arena (at gate at A), with all four (4) feet, during a Dressage Competition between beginning and end of the test will be Eliminated. If a horse is disobedient and runs out it is eliminated.

7.5. **Outside Assistance.** Any outside help by voice, signs, etc. is considered as illegal or unauthorized assistance to an Athlete or to his Horse. An Athlete or Horse receiving positive assistance must be Eliminated.

7.6. Other Reasons for Elimination

- The performance is against the welfare of the Horse.
- Horse and Athlete combination not entering the Competition arena within ninety (90) seconds after the bell. Except where a valid reason thereto has been informed to the Judge at C (valid reason may be losing a shoe, etc.)

8. **Penalty Points.** The penalty points are deducted on each Judge's sheet from the total points obtained by the Athlete.

9. **Execution of Movement at 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 Athlete'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. This includes the execution of flying changes.

10. **Beginning/End of Test.** A test begins with the entry at A and ends after the salute at the end of the test, as soon as the Horse moves forward. Any incidents before the beginning or after the end of the test have no effect on the marks. The Athlete should leave the arena in the way that is prescribed in the text of the test.

11. **Details to The Freestyle Test.** An Athlete must enter the arena within twenty (20) seconds of the music starting. At the beginning and end of a Freestyle Test a halt for the salute is compulsory. The test time will start after the Athlete moves forward after the halt and stop with the final salute.

Article 111. Marking

1. All movements, and certain transitions from one to another, which have to be marked by the Judges, are numbered on the Judge's sheet.
2. They are marked from zero (0) to ten (10) by each Judge, zero (0) being the lowest and ten (10) the highest mark.
3. The scale of marks is as follows:
 - 10 Excellent
 - 9 Very good
 - 8 Good
 - 7 Fairly good
 - 6 Satisfactory
 - 5 Sufficient
 - 4 Insufficient
 - 3 Fairly bad
 - 2 Bad
 - 1 Very bad
 - 0 Not executed

“Not executed” means that practically nothing of the required movement has been performed.

4. **Collective marks** are awarded, after the Athlete has finished his performance for:
 - 1) Paces.
 - 2) Impulsion.
 - 3) Submission.
 - 4) The Athlete's position and seat; correctness and effect of the aids.

Each collective mark is awarded from zero (0) to ten (10).

Article 112. Entries

- Organisers will make appropriate arrangements to invite entries for each competition included in the schedule of the Event. Such entries will then be forwarded to **NF** who will ensure that all eligible horses and riders can enter.
- Closing dates for **NF** events will be 4 days prior to the competition. Entries received after the closing date prior to an event may not be accepted
- Entry Fees will set by the NF and will be clearly marked on the Schedule.
- Entry Fees are to be paid on entry and before the start of the competition. Failure to do so will incur elimination from the event.
- Any cancellation or withdrawal completed less than 48 before the start of the competition will be subject to a 50% penalty. This penalty shall be waived if a Veterinary note is presented to the O.C. within that 48-hour period prior to the competitions start. If a rider registers for a competition, does not cancel within the stipulated timeframe and does not compete on the day, all of the entry fee will be forfeited to offset the event running costs.

Any rider not paying an outstanding entry fee will not be allowed to compete at any center until this outstanding balance has been paid. All centres will be updated of outstanding

payments via the NF. Failure to produce a veterinary or doctors' certificate within the stipulated time stated - entry fees will be forfeited in total.

- Start Lists will be published and sent out via e-mail by 4pm two days prior to the competition by the host Centre/Club. Substitutions will be at the Centre or Clubs discretion for National Events.
- All Class must have 3 riders competing for the results to be accepted as a Class.
- Where there are reduced entries, classes maybe combined eg: Preliminary Junior & Senior, Novice Junior & Senior, Elementary & Medium or Medium & Advanced Medium.
- Prix St George maybe combined with Advanced Class.
- If a rider wishes to ride Intermediate 1 they must apply to the EEF/Organiser & combine with the Advanced Class.

Article 113. Schedules

All schedules must give the dates and location of the Event and the dates by which entries must be received in accordance with the following check list:

- The words "UAE Equestrian & Racing Federation Competition
- The Disciplines in which Competitions will be held
- The programme of Competitions
- The category of eligibility according to **NF** rules
- Whether the Competitions will be indoors or outdoors
- The type and dimensions of the schooling areas and the Competition arenas
- The stabling and accommodation available
- The value of the prizes and their distribution with the actual break down of each placings in each class
- The national veterinary health requirements
- The name on the Senior Judge/Ground Jury
- The name on the Chief Steward
- Any other relevant details.
- The Schedule must also give the time and place of the commencement of the Horse inspection under the Veterinary Regulations if this will be held.

Article 114. Organisers

- The Organisers must appoint all Judges and Officials from **NF** list for national events or approved judges from other countries, or **FEI**-judges.
- For **F.E.I.** International Events **NF** will appoint Officials from the **F.E.I.** recommended list and cover the costs of international Judges and Officials.
- The Organisers must supply to the Secretary General of **NF** within 5 days of completion of the event, the following in respect of each competition:
 - a. A list of all starters, together with their results.

b. Lists of all placings should be signed by the Senior Judge and the Chief Scorer (National Events) or two members of the Ground Jury (International Events) of the competition.

Article 114.1 Arena and Exercise Arenas (For Diagram see annex arena)

- At National NF events and National Championships, the competition arena must be inspected and approved by The President of the Ground Jury (highest qualified judge of the day).
- At International Events, the competition arena must be inspected and approved by the Foreign Judge or the President of the Ground Jury.
- Arena Specifications. The arena, flat and level, must be either sixty meters (60 m) long and twenty meters (20 m) wide or forty meters (40 m) long and twenty meters (20 m) wide. The arena surface shall be approved by the EEF. The measurements above are for the interior of the enclosure, which must be separated from the public by not less than ten meters (10 m). Exception from this may be granted by the EEF. For indoor competition, the arena should, in principle a minimum distance of two meters (2 m) from the wall.
- The enclosure itself must consist of a low white fence (rails which must not be solid), thirty centimeters (30 cm) high. The section of fence at 'A' should be easy to remove, to let the Athletes in and out of the arena. The width of the entrance must be at least two meters (2 m). The rails of the fence should be such as to prevent a horse's hoofs from being caught. The rails may not contain any metal components by 1st January 2018.
- Letters: The letters outside the enclosure shall be placed about fifty centimeters (50 cm) from the boards and clearly marked. It is compulsory to place a marker on the fence itself, level with and in addition to the letter concerned. Advertising is not allowed on letters or on letter holders. Letters should also be visible for the public.
- Placing of Judges: Three (3) Judges must be placed along the short side, on the outside of and a maximum of five meters (5 m), minimum of three meters (3 m) from the arena at outdoor Competitions and preferably a minimum of two meters (2 m) at indoor Competitions; the Judge at C on the prolongation of the centre line, the two (2) others (M and H) two meters fifty (2.50 m) from and on the inside of the prolongation of the long sides. The two (2) Side-Judges (B and E) must be placed on the outside of and a maximum of five meters (5 m), minimum three meters (3 m) from the arena at B and E respectively; at indoor Competitions, preferably a minimum of two meters (2 m). When three (3) Judges are used one (1) should sit on the long side. See Article 437 of the Dressage Rules. When seven (7) Judges are used, the two (2) additional Judges will sit at the opposite short side of the Judge at C, five meters (5 m) from and on the inside of the prolongation of the long sides. Exceptions from this may only be approved by the FEI for International competitions.
- Judges' Hut: A separate hut or platform must be provided for each Judge. It must be raised a minimum of fifty centimeters 50 cm. The booth/hut must be large enough to accommodate four (4) persons.

- Entering the arena: For Competitions where it is not practical for the athletes to ride their horses around the outside of the arena prior to entering the arena, athletes are permitted to enter the arena before the bell is sounded. After the bell has sounded, the athlete starts the test from within the arena.

In competitions where it is possible to ride a horse around the outside of the arena, the athlete is allowed to enter the space around the arena before the bell is sounded but may only enter the arena after the bell has been sounded.

The Judge at C is responsible for bell and clock/time.

- Warm-up Arena. On no account and under penalty of disqualification, may an Athlete/Horse use the competition arena at any time other than during their performance in a competition or when at the discretion of the OC the main arena is open for training. A suitable size warmup arena must be provided and approved by the EEF
- Interruption. In case of any technical failure that will interfere with the Competition, the Judge at C shall ring the bell. In clear cases of external disturbance, the same procedure is applied. During extreme weather conditions or other extreme situations, the Judge at C may ring the bell for interruption of the test. The Technical Delegate/OC may also suggest to the Judge at C to stop the competition. The affected Athlete should return to complete his test when conditions so permit.
- In the case of an Athlete's music failing during a Freestyle Test and in cases where there is no back-up system, the Athlete can, with the permission of the Judge at C, leave the arena. There should be minimum interference with the starting times of the other Athletes.
- The affected Athlete should return to complete or restart their test during a scheduled break in the Competition or at the end of the Competition. The Judge at C, after conferring with the Athlete, will determine when the Athlete should return to the arena. It is up to the Athlete whether to restart the test from the beginning or to commence from the point where the music failed. In either case, the marks already given will not be changed.
- If there are foreign objects in the arena which could have an influence on performance, the test has to be stopped and the Athlete can continue once the object has been removed.
- If an Athlete has to restart an ordinary test, he can choose to start from the beginning of the test or from where stopped. Any scores given before the interruption remain.

Article 115. Medical and Veterinary services

In compliance with UAE National Law no event may commence without the presence of Medical Services. Show Organisers are therefore obliged to ensure that Medical Services, together with Treating Veterinary Services are present prior to and throughout their event.

Article 116. Starting possibilities

- Rider/horse combination:
- A rider/horse combination can start in two different classes but with no more than one level difference, i.e.: Preliminary-Novice, Novice-Elementary, Elementary-Medium, Medium-Advanced Medium.
- Rider:
A rider can start:

- a. in different classes – with no more than one level difference if on the same horse.
- b. in the same class but with different horses
- c. The O.C. may restrict the number of entries from a rider if the total number of entries for the class exceeds the maximum number of entries.
- Horse:
A horse is allowed to start:
 - a. twice in Introduction and Preliminary classes on the same day with two different riders (unaffiliated + affiliated).
 - b. once in each class entered from Novice or above on the same day (unaffiliated + affiliated).
 - c. no more than two classes a day from Novice or above (unaffiliated + affiliated)

Article 117. Identification

Where registration numbers are issued to competitors the correct numbers must always be worn by the horse when taking part in competitions and during the Show.

Article 118. Hors Concours

- A Horse and or Rider that is permitted to take part in a competition Hors Concours by the **NF** will not be eligible for any prize or points in that class.
- Hors Concours are permitted up to Prix St. George level with permission from the **NF**.
- Horse and or Rider may compete without full registration with **NF** on proof of vaccination during a season as HC maximum twice with the approval of the NF and the organising Committee.
- A horse or pony may not be ridden competitively in a class if it has already been ridden Hors Concours by another rider in the same competition.

Article 119. Callers

- Callers can be used in all classes for National Competitions.
- Callers are forbidden at National Championships or **F.E.I.** International Challenge/Championships.

Article 120. Warming-up

- At **F.E.I.** International Dressage Competitions, Regional and National Championships it is prohibited under penalty of elimination for anyone to school a horse other than the person riding in the competition
- In all National Competitions at Intro and Preliminary levels the horse maybe ridden by one other competitor.
- In all other National competitions, the horse may not be ridden by another person other than the competitor unless for the purpose of warming-up as stipulated below or bringing their horse to and from the warming-up arena.
- Warming-up activities by another person other than the competitor shall be restricted to walk or trot on a long rein, lunging or hand walking.
- Warming-up with a contact and/or schooling the horse by another person than the competitor is not allowed under penalty of elimination
- All warming-up activity is to be done within line of sight of the steward.

- If the warm-up arena is becoming overcrowded those not competing on the ongoing class may be asked to leave the arena. If so necessary, the Steward or Senior Judge can limit the number of horses in the warm-up arena so that each horse has a minimum of 45 minutes to its allocated starting time.
- Coaches to coach riders during warm-up must stand either outside the fence or in a corner of the riding arena and not disturbing other riders.

Article 121. Unforeseen Circumstances

- Every eventuality cannot be provided for in these Rules. In any unforeseen or exceptional circumstances, it is the duty of the Ground Jury or Senior Judge to make a decision in a sporting spirit and approaching as nearly as possible to the intention of these Rules.
- In the event of any ambiguity with the interpretation of **NF** Rules, the current **F.E.I.** Dressage Rules published in English language will take precedence over versions in any other language.

CHAPTER IV EMIRATES EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION CHAMPIONSHIPS

Article 122. Place and Date

The Emirates Equestrian Federation Championships in Dressage take place at the end of each season which shall be October through May.

Article 123. Starting possibilities

Each combination of Horse and Rider that competes can gain points, throughout the season and will be eligible to compete at the Championships riding in the highest section in which points were achieved.

Article 124. Numbers to Qualify

- For the Preliminary, Novice, Elementary and Medium classes the top 10 horses/rider combinations will automatically qualify as per the last published league/points table at the end of the season. For Advanced Medium and above classes, ALL horse/rider combinations will automatically qualify.
- Should there be a tie for any of the 10th places the highest placed horse will be offered the 10th.
- A rider may qualify no more than 2 horses over two different levels for the **NF** Championships from Preliminary to Elementary level.
- Where a horse has qualified by winning points with more than one rider the combination of horse and rider that has gained the most points at the higher level will be given preference to compete.
- Should the rider with the higher number of points chose not to compete on this horse the next highest placed combination on the horse may do so.

- Only the horse and rider combinations that have gained points throughout the season will be permitted to compete, no riders will be permitted to be substituted for Championships.

Article 125. Competitions in the Championships

There will be held Championships in the following Competitions:

- Preliminary Class – Junior and Senior
- Novice Class – Junior and Senior
- Elementary Class
- Medium Class
- Advanced Medium Class
- Advanced Class
- Preliminary Freestyle
- Novice Freestyle
- Elementary Freestyle
- Medium Freestyle
- Advance Medium Freestyle
- Advanced Freestyle

The top 6 riders from classes 1-6 will qualify for the freestyle for their level.

CHAPTER V

FEI WORLD DRESSAGE CHALLENGE SELECTION/QUALIFYING RULES

<https://inside.fei.org/fei/disc/fei-world-challenge/dressage>

CHAPTER VI

CEREMONIES, PRIZES AND EXPENSES

Article 126. Ceremonies

- Participation in the Prize Giving of placed riders is compulsory. Failure to do so without seeking prior permission and obtaining same from the Senior Judge (National Competitions) or the President of the Ground Jury (International Competitions) should entail the competitor losing the classification, trophy/prize money and points (horse and rider).
- Competitors are obliged when required to parade mounted or unmounted, properly attired in full competition gear to receive their prizes. It is recommended that failure to do so should incur elimination and forfeiture of prize/prize money and points.

Article 127. Prizes

- Refer to Article 113. Schedules to show required information.
- The amount of Prize Money and type and value of prizes if in kind, must be stated in the schedule and is unrestricted.
- Prize Money for Sponsored Competitions will be awarded as advertised regardless of number of Starters.
- The minimum Prize Money for non-Sponsored Competitions will be based on the Entry Fees and will be awarded according to the placing table.
- The minimum prize money will start at the lowest placing eligible for Prize money and must be equal to the Entry Fee. This will rise higher going up to first place.
- In all National Competitions prizes and/or rosettes will be awarded according to the placing scale below. From Medium and above the first three riders on the result list shall be awarded prizes and rosettes.
- With the consent of NF additional rosettes may be awarded for competitions during an event.
- Organisers are encouraged to award rosettes up to at least 6th place for National Events. Where classes are split into sections the scale applies to each section.
- The minimum Placing scale is shown below:

Place	Placing Scale
1 st	1-4 Starters
2 nd	5-8 Starters
3 rd	9-12 Starters
4 th	13-16 Starters
5 th	17-20 Starters
6 th	21-24 Starters

Where classes are 25 starters and over - competitors will be split e.g.: Junior and Senior for Preliminary and Novice or equal numbers.

Article 128. Expenses

- The OC shall meet the travelling, accommodation, and meals Expenses of all Officials.
- **NF** appointed Officials whose Expenses are to be paid by the OC shall be appointed with the agreement of the OC.
- National judges and chief steward shall be paid not less than 100 AED per hour.
- International Judges shall be paid 200 AED per hour and travel.

CHAPTER VII RIDERS

Article. 129. General

Riders include both female and male athletes, unless otherwise stated.

Article 130. Registration - Riders

- To be eligible to compete all riders must be registered with **NF**.
- The final decision regarding all licenses remains the solely and exclusively with **NF**.
- Registration Fees will be set by **NF**.

Article 131. Person Responsible

- Person Responsible: In all matters the Person Responsible (**P.R.**) will be the rider. As per **F.E.I.** General Rules.
- If a rider is under 18 years of age, the Person Responsible (**P.R.**) for his horse must be nominated by **NF** of Chef d'Equipe and may be the Owner of the horse, a Parent of the rider in question, Team Coach, Team Veterinarian or some responsible Adult. If **NF** and/or Chef d'Equipe fail to nominate the P.R. any one or more of the Owner of the horse, a Parent of the rider, the Chef d'Equipe, Team Coach and or Team Veterinarian may be viewed as the **P.R.**
- In some circumstances, the Legal Department may be able to establish that a minor is involved, but the determination and the designation of the **P.R.** for such a minor remain the responsibility of **NF** and the relative Club Manager.
- However, in addition to the above and in certain circumstances, **NF** may consider that some or all of the responsibilities rest with the Owner, relative Club Manager, Official Trainer and/or Official Veterinary Surgeon. In such cases **NF** may also, if appropriate, apportion responsibility/liability to any one or more of such persons.
- The term 'Official' necessitates verifiable appointment by **NF** or Club relative to appointee in question, having been made and authorized by **NF** or Club relative prior to competition involved.

CHAPTER VIII HORSES

Article 132. Eligibility

- Only horses, which are registered with **NF**, are eligible to compete at Events run under the Rules of **NF**. (Hors Concours included)
- **NF** may, at its sole discretion, permit foreign riders/horses (i.e.) those affiliated to a foreign Federation) to compete in national competitions subject to the following conditions:
- Written application for such permission is received by **NF** from Foreign Federation.
- Full documentation is received by **NF** in respect of registration of both horse and rider.

Article 133. Registration – Horses

- All horses entered in events must be registered with **NF**.
- No horse under 4 years of age may be registered.
- To secure registration the owner is obliged to furnish **NF** with Identification Documents and with up to date equine influenza vaccination details, both completed by a qualified and **NF** approved veterinary surgeon.
- The Emirates Equestrian Federation will keep a register of horses showing full details.

Article 134. Horses name

- Horses must only be registered, entered, and compete in competitions under their registered names.
- Should an owner wish to change a horse's name, application must firstly be made to EEF for authorization and subsequent amendment of the register.
- Animals holding **F.E.I.** passports will be registered with and may only compete under their **F.E.I.** registered names.

Article 135. Horses – Age

- Horses may compete if they are a minimum of:
 - 4 years of age for “Adults” Preliminary & Novice
 - 5 years of age for “Adults” Preliminary to Elementary
 - 6 years of age for “Children” Preliminary to Elementary
 - 6 years of age for Medium to Advanced
 - 7 years of age to PSG
 - 8 years of age in Intermediate II to Grand Prix
- The age is counted from 1st January of the year of birth

Article 136. Competitive Conditions

The PR, parent or guardian is responsible for the welfare of their horse competing at an event. The senior judge, where appropriate after consultation with a Veterinarian give permission to start or eliminate a horse if the level of performance, fitness, injuries, or general condition is detrimental to the welfare of the horse or the sport's reputation.

CHAPTER IX DRESS

Article 137. Dress Code - General

- Competitors must wear the dress appropriate to Dressage and be properly dressed when appearing before spectators, media or whenever they are in the confines of the arena and at presentation of prizes.
- In very warm weather, the Jury or Senior Judge may permit competitors to remove their jackets.
- If competitors are not properly dressed, they will be eliminated by the Ground Jury.

Article 138. Advertising

Competitors or their horses are not permitted to carry or wear any form of advertising material while in the arena, unless specifically permitted by **NF**. (Ref. Art. 149)

Article 139. Jacket/Coat

- From Introductory to Medium Level – National Service Dress or Short Jacket with correctly tied stock or collar shirt and tie and protective head gear. The stock and tie to be white, off white or same colour as the jacket,
- Advanced Medium and above – Tailcoat with protective hat or top hat, or short jacket with protective hat with correctly tied stock or tie in same colour as jacket. National Service Dress to be worn with protective hat.
- Jackets to be conservative in colour with no patterns. Black, Navy, Dark Grey/Charcole or Dark Brown is permitted. Contrast piping is allowed.
- National Service Dress, Tailcoats or short Jackets to be worn and may be of any plain conservative dark colour
- National Riders eligible to wear **NF** Uniform may do so with permission from **NF**. National Riders competing in F.E.I. International events are obliged to wear the Official Emirates Equestrian Federation Jacket (Black with facing, green colour with red piping).
- At the discretion of Organisers, competitors may be permitted to ride without jackets in excessively hot weather, but a suitable long/short sleeved shirt that fastens at the neck with either a correctly tied stock or tie. No sleeveless shirts or vests are permitted.

Article 140. Hats

- From Intro up to and including Medium classes, protective headgear must be worn.

- **NF** will follow the current **F.E.I.** Rules for protective headgear, in classes from Advanced Medium to Grand Prix.
- Refers to **F.E.I.** Dressage Rule 427.1 to 427.1.5
- When protective headgear is worn, it must be fastened properly
- Recommended protective headgear to meet correct standards:

PAS 015, EN 1384, BSEN 1384, (British Hats with BSI Kitemark) ASTM F1163 (2004 with SEI mark) SNELL E2001 AS/NZS 3838 1998 Or any new standard that meets or exceeds those stated. As of 1 January 2021, amendments to article 140 of the FEI General Regulations regarding Protective Headgear will take effect. This rule will replace article 140.2, only. Protective headgear and top hat/bowler: As a rule, protective headgear* always must be worn by all Athletes (as well as any other person) when mounted. Any Athlete (as well as any other person) violating this provision must immediately be prohibited from further riding until the protective headgear is properly in place. The following exception applies: Athletes who are 18 years and older and who are riding Horses that are seven (7) years and older may wear a top hat/bowler instead of protective headgear. However, this exception is limited to the actual Competition and the warming-up directly prior to the Competition (with no break before the Competition), which includes riding between the stable and the warm-up area riding of the competing Horse in the warmup area, and riding back to the stable. It is always however recommended that Athletes falling under this exception nonetheless wear protective headgear for their own safety. A protective headgear formed as a top hat may be used in the same situations as a standard top hat. Note: Protective headgear is an appropriate helmet or Headgear that follows the applicable international testing standards. Note: An Athlete is considered to be eighteen (18) years old from the beginning of the calendar year (1st of January) in which he reaches the age of eighteen (18).

Article 141. Breeches/Jodhpurs

- Must be plain white, off-white, or cream.
- When worn with National Service Dress they may be of the colour of the National Service Dress.

Article 142. Gloves

- Gloves must be worn, and shall be white, off-white, or same colour as jacket. If gloves are not worn there will be a 2-mark deduction on the scoresheet.

Article 143. Boots

- Must be plain black or brown or the same colour as the coat/jacket, may be top boots or jodhpur boots for National Competitions.
- Half chaps may be worn providing they are identical leather to the boots and may not have any decoration of any sort.
- Half Chaps may be worn up to Elementary level providing they are identical colour to the boots worn and may not have any decorations, but not in F.E.I. International Competitions at that level.

- Boots worn from Medium level and up or in F.E.I. International Dressage Competitions must comply with current F.E.I. Dressage Rule Article 427

Article 144. Spurs

- Spurs may be worn at all levels and are compulsory from Elementary level upwards.
- Junior riders, in Junior classes, may wear blunt metal spurs but these may not exceed 3.5cm in length. Spurs with rowels are not permitted.
- When Junior riders compete in adult classes they compete under the same regulations as for the seniors.
- The spurs must be made of metal. The shank must be either curved or straight pointing directly back from the centre of the spur when on the Athlete's boot. The arms of the spur must be smooth and blunt. If rowels are used, they must be blunt/smooth and free to rotate. Metal spurs with round hard plastic nobs are allowed ("Impulse" spur). "Dummy" spurs with no shank are also allowed.

PROTECTIVE HEADGEAR OR TOP HAT	BLACK OR MAY BE SAME COLOUR AS COAT
BREECHES/JODHPURS	WHITE, OFF-WHITE OR CREAM
JACKET	DARK CONSERVATIVE COLOUR, CONTRAST PIPING ALLOWED
SHIRTS	MUST HAVE SLEEVES, NO PATTERNS ALLOWED
STOCK OR TIE	WHITE, OFF-WHITE OR SAME COLOUR AS JACKET
GLOVES	WHITE, OFF-WHITE OR SAME COLOUR AS JACKET
RIDING BOOTS	BLACK, BROWN OR SAME COLOUR AS JACKET
HALF CHAPS	SAME COLOUR AS BOOTS, NO DECORATIONS
SPURS	SEE ARTICLE 144

Article 145. Whips

- For National competitions, whips may be used at all levels up to (and not including) Advanced Medium.
- For National Championships or F.E.I. International Events whips are forbidden.
- If whips are carried, they must not exceed maximum length 1:20m. Refer to current F.E.I. Dressage Rule 428.4 for description of whips permitted to be used.

- Junior riders competing in National Competitions on Ponies (up to & inc.148cms) may carry a whip not exceeding 1m. Showjumping whips are not permitted.
- No substitute for a whip may be carried in or around the vicinity of the show ground. Whips may be carried in either hand, but only in the left hand when saluting.

Article 146. Earphones

Earphones and/or other electronic communication devices are strictly prohibited at National Dressage Competitions whilst competing and such usage is penalised by elimination. Earphones or similar devices are however permitted during training and warm-up.

CHAPTER X SADDLERY

Article 147. Saddles

Saddlery and equipment must conform to these General Rules and to the special rules for each discipline and with current F.E.I. Dressage Rules. Saddles must be worn and be of English or Continental Style and must be black or brown for National events.

This may include all types of saddle except for western saddles, up to and including Elementary Level. Up to Elementary level, a jumping saddle is permitted but without showjumping attachments eg. breastplate. Cruppers are permitted.

- The use of cruppers is permissible.
- At medium level and above, dressage saddles must be used.
- Seat Savers or saddle covers are not permitted.
- Stirrup leathers and stirrup irons must be Dressage specific, showjumping stirrups are not permitted.
- Stirrups must have closed branches with no attachments. The foot may not be fully or partially enclosed and must in no way be attached to the stirrups (for example with magnets or a grater style surface). Safety stirrups may be used and can have an opening on the outside branch. Side stirrups are now permissible.

Article 148. Saddle Clothes

- Saddle Cloths bearing the National Flag of the United Arab Emirates may only be worn by a competitor who is officially representing the United Arab Emirates at an F.E.I. International event.
- Saddle pads should be white, contrast colour and piping is allowed. Striped or multi-coloured pads are not permitted.

Article 149. Logos

- Logos may be worn but not exceed 200cm square (approx. 14cm x 14cm or equivalent). Club logos are permitted but must not exceed 200cm square at National competitions.

Article 150. Bridles and Bits

- Events run under National Rules at Introductory, Preliminary, Novice, and Elementary level – ordinary snaffle. See chart for full description of permitted bits, Appendix 1 •Events run under National Rules at Medium to Grand Prix level snaffle or double bridle. See chart for full description of permitted bits, Appendix 1
- Nosebands are obligatory. See chart for full description of permitted nosebands, Appendix 2.
- Bridles must be black or brown in colour and reins must be attached directly to the bit.
- Bit guards are not allowed.
- A throat lash is required except when the combined noseband or Micklem bridle are used.
- Events run under National Rules at Introductory, Preliminary, Novice, and Elementary level – ordinary snaffle. See chart for full description of permitted bits, Appendix 1
- Events run under National Rules at Medium to Grand Prix level snaffle or double bridle. See chart for full description of permitted bits, Appendix 1
- Bridles must be black or brown in colour and reins must be attached directly to the bit. Events run under F.E.I. Competitions refer to current F.E.I. Rules

Article 151. Gadgets

- Martingales, breast plates, bit guards, any kind of gadgets (such as bearing, side, running or balancing reins, nasal strips etc.), any kind of boots or bandages and any form of blinkers, including ear plugs and any others, are, under penalty of elimination,
- Notwithstanding the above, noise canceling ear plugs are allowed at prize-giving ceremonies.

Article 152. Decorations

Any decoration of the Horse with extravagant items, such as ribbons or flowers, etc. in the tail is strictly forbidden. A red ribbon in the tail to indicate kicking is permitted. Normal plaiting of the horse's mane and tail is allowed, using bands of the same colour as the mane and tail.

Article 153. False Tail/Tail Extensions

- False tails/tail extensions are permitted only with the prior permission of EEF.
- Requests for such permission should be directed to EEF Dressage department accompanied by photographs and a veterinary certificate.
- False tails may not contain any metal parts, except for hooks and eyelets.

Article 154 Protective Fly Hoods

- Protective fly hoods are permitted for both indoor and outdoor venues.
- The fly hoods should be discreet in colour and should not cover the Horse's eyes and cannot be used for masking noise canceling earplugs.
- Fly hoods may not be attached to the noseband. If Fly Hoods are worn, they will be checked by the Steward having been removed by the rider or groom.

Article 155 Checking of Saddlery

- A Steward must be appointed to check the saddlery of each Horse immediately after it leaves the arena. Any discrepancy will be reported to the Judge at C and result in immediate Elimination if confirmed.
- The checking of the bridle must be done with the greatest caution, as some Horses are very touchy and sensitive about their mouths (see FEI Steward's Manual). The Steward must use disposable surgical/protective gloves when checking the bridle (one -1- pair of gloves per Horse).

Article 156. Saddlery and bits in the warming-up and training arenas

- Paragraphs 1 to 4 above are valid also for warming-up arenas and other training areas where, however, snaffles with a cavesson or a normal dropped noseband, Mexican noseband or a Flash noseband, boots, bandages are allowed.
- **For F.E.I. Competitions refer to current F.E.I. Rules.**
- Single direct side reins or double sliding side reins (triangle) are permitted when lunging. Lunging is allowed with one (1) lunge line only.

CHAPTER XI GRADING SYSTEM

Article 157. Grading Points

Grading Points are awarded by achieving the following percentages:

60 – 61.99%	1 points
62 – 63.99%	2 points
64 – 65.99%	3 points
66 – 67.99%	4 points
68 – 69.99%	5 points
70 - 71.99%	6 points
72-73.99%	7 points
74 – 75.99%	8 points
76 - 77.99%	9 points
78 – 79.99%	10 points
80% & above	11 points

Points are not awarded for Intro or Music classes.

Article 158. Grading/Upgrading Horses

Grading/Upgrading of horses will be decided by the following scale:

Introductory level – Open to both Unaffiliated and Affiliated Riders. When achieving three (3) 1st places with a Dressage score of 60% or above, the combination will automatically move up into Preliminary level. No points are awarded therefore allowing Centre/Club horses to stay at the same level to bring on more Novice riders.

	Seniors	Juniors
Preliminary	- up to 69 points	up to 69 points
Novice	- 70-129 points	70-129 points
Elementary	- 130-159 points	
Medium	- 160-274 points	
Advanced Medium	- 275-349 points	
Advanced	- open to any horse	

Horses competing in the FEI WDC will automatically be upgraded as follows:

FEI WDC Elementary upgraded to Novice

FEI WDC Medium upgraded to Elementary

FEI WDC Advanced up-graded to Medium

FEI WDC PSG upgraded to Advanced Medium

Article 159. Downgrading of Horses

Upon registration, a horse maybe downgraded via the following options:

- Upon change of ownership or a rider, i.e. for the entirety of the season and restricted to that of the declared rider/owner at that level for the whole season maybe downgraded by a maximum of two levels lower than the horse's existing grading or to the highest competing level of the rider excluding Preliminary.
- . If a horse has not competed for one full season a horse maybe downgraded by one level.
- These acceptions are not accumulative.
- To facilitate riders with horses on lease agreements, any horse leased on a ***“full season contract”*** (which can be proven, and provided to the EEF) can be downgraded from the “owner/riders level” (within the directives of the downgrading rules above), but cannot change rider for the entirety of the season.

On expiration of the seasonal contract, in following season, once the owner/rider commences competing the horse again, the horse will resume competing at the original points.

Please note: Regardless of cancelation of the lease (prior to the end of the contract) the concerned horse cannot compete with another rider for the remainder of that season.

Article 160. Grading on Import Horses

At registration proof of competitive results must be provided or documentation of non-competition from the exporting NF. Such horse will compete at its grading points, with the exception of the above article 159

Article 161. Grading of Riders

Riders who have competed at medium level and above shall not compete in preliminary classes. Should the same rider have a young horse (4yrs old only) that they are bringing through, they will be permitted to ride Prelim on that young horse (4yrs)

CHAPTER XII SAFETY

Article 162. Horse out of control

The judge may stop the performance, eliminate, deny rider or others to ride the horse on the show ground, or show horse away from show ground if he mastered the horse so badly that it is a danger to himself, horse or other horses and people.

Article 163. Disobedience

- During the test: If the horse is disobedient more than 20 sec continuously it will be eliminated by the Judge sitting at C
- During the warmup and the entire competition: If the horse/rider combination is considered to a danger to themselves or other it will be eliminated from the competition and asked to dismount the horse, by the GJ or Chief Steward.

Article 164. Dangerous situations

When a horse/rider combination is experiencing extreme difficulty, or is considered to be a danger to themselves or others, **EEF** and/or GJ may, at its sole discretion and following extensive enquiries and consultation with owner/rider/trainer, direct that a particular course of action must be taken by the owner/rider. Such directions by **EEF** may include the following:

- a Abstention for competition and training to rectify the problems, or any other course of action, which in the opinion of **EEF** might resolve the situation.
- b. Club Managers are required to carefully monitor the competence/suitability of their riders/horses.

CHAPTER XIII

PROTECTION OF ATHLETES AND HORSES

Article 165. Protection of Athletes

- Whenever mounted on the show grounds the use of a properly fastened Protective Headgear will be mandatory. In the Competition arena venue and adjacent warm-up areas, as well as riding from one to the other and from the stables for the purposes of competing, the Protective Headgear requirements are governed by Art. 140.
- Failure to wear such Protective Headgear where and when required after being notified to do so by an Official, shall result in a Written warning, being issued to the Athlete unless exceptional circumstances apply.
- The Ground Jury after consultation with the responsible medical officer may at any time exclude from further participation in a Competition or an entire Event any Athlete who is unfit to continue by reason of a serious or potentially serious injury, impairment, or health condition.
- A Certificate First Aid person needs to be presented at the entire show.

Article 166. Protection of Horses

In cases of illness or injury during an Event, the Ground Jury will decide, after consulting the Veterinary Delegate or Commission, whether the Horse may continue in that or subsequent Competitions.

Article 167 - Abuse of Horses

- No person may abuse a Horse during an Event or at any other time. “Abuse” means an action or omission which causes or is likely to cause pain or unnecessary discomfort to a Horse, including, but not limited to:
 - To whip or beat a Horse excessively.
 - To subject a Horse to any kind of electric shock device.
 - To use spurs excessively or persistently.
 - To jab the Horse in the mouth with the bit or any other device.
 - To compete using an exhausted, lame, or injured Horse.
 - To "rap" a Horse.
 - To abnormally sensitize or desensitize any part of a Horse.
 - To leave a Horse without adequate food, drink, or exercise.

- Any person witnessing an Abuse must report it in the form of a protest without delay. If an Abuse is witnessed during or in direct connection with an Event, it should be reported as a protest to an Official. If the Abuse is witnessed at any other time it should be reported as a protest to the Secretary General for referral to the **EEF** Legal Committee.

Article 168. Medication Control and Anti-Doping

- Medication Control and Anti-Doping provisions are stated in the Anti- Doping Rules for Human Athletes (ADRHA), in conjunction with The World Anti-Doping Code, and in the Equine Anti-Doping and Controlled Medication Regulations (EADCM Regulations).
- The decision as to whether a Horse may compete in an Event when under treatment or medication with a Prohibited Substance is made by the President of the Ground Jury on the recommendation of the Veterinary Delegate or Commission according to the procedures set out in the Veterinary Regulations.
- It is forbidden for any rider or horse to take part in any competition whilst under the influence of any drug, stimulant, sedative or any banned substance included on the **F.E.I.**, **I.O.C.**, or **U.A.E.** Olympic Council's list of prohibited substances. Appropriate tests may be taken at any time by a medical or veterinary practitioner authorized by either **U.A.E.** Olympic Council, the **F.E.I.**, the **I.O.C.**, or **EEF**.
- Infringement of this rule may incur the maximum penalty of disqualification and expulsion for life from **NF**.
- Random Medication Control Programme (**MCP**) will be conducted by **F.E.I./NF**, throughout the season. Refer to procedures as per the current **F.E.I.** Dressage Rule Article 444 – refer to current **F.E.I.** General Rules, the **F.E.I.** Veterinary Regulations, the Equine Anti-Doping and Controlled Medication Regulations and any other applicable **F.E.I.** Rules and Regulations.

Article 169. Veterinary Examination

- Horses attending a show and/or entered for competitions may be required by the Official Representative of **NF**, **EEF** Veterinary Surgeon and/or the Senior Judge (for National Events) or the President of the Ground Jury (for International Events) to undergo a veterinary examination (including blood/urine sampling and/or swabbing) before being allowed to compete or subsequent to competition.
- Examination of Boots/Bandages/Saddlery etc. used in the Warm Up area may be conducted prior to competition at the discretion of the Official Representative of **NF**, **NF** Veterinary Surgeon and/or the Senior Judge (for National Events) and/or the President of the Ground Jury (for International Events). The decision made by acting Officials following such an examination will be final and binding.

CHAPTER XIV JUDGES AND OFFICIALS

Article 170. Mission

The Mission of all Federation Officials is to promote, guide, develop and manage Equestrianism throughout The United Arab Emirates in the aspects delegated to them, from time to time, by the NF.

The principle obligations include:

- To act with integrity in all matters.
- To represent NF effectively, loyally, diligently, and impartially.
- Common mission.
- To monitor Equestrianism world-wide in order that they and NF remain up to date with International developments.

Article 171. Conflict of Interest

- A substantial appearance of a conflict of interest exists whenever an individual involved in any capacity with the NF is involved in or perceived to be involved in multiple interests, one of which could possibly corrupt, or is perceived to corrupt, the motivation for an act in the other.
- A conflict of interest is defined as any personal, professional or financial relationship, including relationships of family members that could influence or be perceived to influence objectivity when representing or conducting business or other dealings for or on behalf of the NF.
- Conflicts must be avoided whenever practicable. However, conflicts may be linked to experience and expertise that is necessary to qualify Officials. The specific balance between conflict and expertise shall be regulated by the relevant Sport Rules.

Article 172. Reports

- Officials (Senior Judge and Chief Steward) are required to send Reports to the EEF at the conclusion of Events, in accordance with these Rules. Matters giving rise to Protests must be included in such reports.
- Failure to return Report(s) to the NF shall be sanctioned by the NF, first with a warning and then by a Suspension until the outstanding Report(s) has been provided to the NF.

Article 173. Federation Officials Code of Conduct A

- Be fully conversant with all the Rules and Regulations relative to their assigned duties.
- Attend their assigned duties on time and fully prepared.
- Dress in a proper way as per FEI guidelines.

Article 174. Federation Officials Code of Conduct B

- Be absent or late for duty without permission.
- Conduct himself in a manner which might bring the Country, the Sport or NF into disrepute.

Article 175. Judges

- Judges and Officials will always be subject to their Code of Practice, together with all Rules, Regulations and Instructions of **NF**.
- Judging will be conducted through the medium of English.
- The Emirates Equestrian Federation shall appoint a panel of persons to act as Judges for Dressage Competitions from a list recommended by **NF**. Judges shall be appointed at the sole discretion of **NF** upon recommendation and with such qualifications as the Federation shall in each case require.
- EEF shall publish each year a list of the persons so authorised.
- EEF may, from time to time, recommend to **F.E.I.**, persons deemed suitable (by EEF) to undertake technical courses for the qualification of Judges, Stewards and Veterinary Surgeons in the various categories as decided by the **F.E.I.** Such **F.E.I.** qualifications for such personnel are at all times subject to annual review and endorsement or otherwise, by both **F.E.I.** And **NF**.
- Both **NF** and **F.E.I.** (either collectively or separately) reserve the right to remove or demote any persons, from any list, that should be deemed be correct. Removal or demotion from the list will be supported by a full explanation. Actions which could contribute to the removal/demotion will be clearly communicated.
- Permission from **NF** will be required if there is a clear conflict of interest between the local duties of the official and the said International Event. Any persons on the **NF** list, should notify the **NF** of their participation in such events

Article 176. Official Representative at an Event

- The Official **NF** Representative will be the Senior Official at all Events.
- The Ground Jury should consist of the dressage judges at the event, the most senior UAE dressage judge will also be President of the Ground Jury.

Article 177. Senior Judge/Ground Jury - Duties

- Senior Judge (SJ)/Ground Jury (GJ) shall instruct the Organiser, as appropriate, to make any alterations to matters which come under his jurisdiction, which he considers necessary.
- If there is no Technical Delegate, the President of the Ground Jury or the Senior Judge retains direct responsibility.
- The SJ/GJ shall be competent to deal with all Protests within the meaning of this Rules relate to matters anything occurring during or in direct connection with an Event and that they are presented within the period of its jurisdiction within the meaning of this Rules.
- The period of jurisdiction of the SJ/GJ commences one (1) hour before the beginning of the first Horse inspection and terminates half an hour after the announcement of the final results in the relevant Event.
- In appropriate cases involving veterinary matters during Events for which there is no and in the absence of an Appeal Committee, the President of the Veterinary Commission or the Veterinary Delegate at an Event must be/are invited to join the Ground Jury in an advisory capacity.
- The SJ/GJ may impose the following penalties and sanctions on Officials, Owners of Horses, Persons Responsible, Athletes and team officials:
 - a. An oral Warning
 - b. A written warning

- c. Elimination and/or Disqualification of an Athlete(s) and/or one (1) or more Horse(s) from Competition(s) and/or from an Event
 - d. In serious cases, immediate Disqualification during the Event with a referral to the Appeal Committee (or to the **NF** if there is no Appeal Committee).
 - Decisions must be notified in writing to the parties concerned. Cases involving penalties must be recorded by the SJ/GJ.
 - There is no Appeal against Decisions of the SJ/GJ which are final and binding in the following cases:
 - a. Where the question for Decision is based on a factual observation of performance during a Competition or the awarding of marks for performance; Examples of issues that are finally decided by the SJ/GJ (which are not exhaustive): The Judges marks, whether a Horse was disobedient, whether the particular track followed by an Athlete has caused him to incur a penalty.
 - b. The Elimination or Disqualification of a Horse for veterinary reasons, including non-acceptance of a Horse at a Horse Inspection.
 - c. The Elimination or Disqualification of an Athlete for medical reasons.
 - d. The imposition of a Warning without additional penalties
 - e. Immediate Elimination and/or disqualification during an Event.
 - The Ground Jury shall refer the following to the Appeal Committee/**NF**:
 - a. Any case matter which is beyond its competence.
 - b. Any case matter, within its competence which it considers deserving of more severe penalties than the SJ/GJ may impose under Article 159.4.
 - c. Any matter concerning alleged acts of abuse of Horses that does not require immediate action, the Decision of which is not immediately required for the purpose of judging a Competition and which, having regard to its primary duty to judge the Competition, it deems more appropriate to be dealt with by the Appeal Committee/**NF**

Article 178. Stewards

- **NF** may appoint a Chief Steward for an event, who will act subject to the President of the Ground Jury (National Championships or International Events) or Senior Judge (National Competitions) and as such will be in charge of the collecting ring, exercise arena, stabling area and other locations thought necessary and who will report any transgressions of **NF** Rules to the President of the Ground Jury or Senior Judge.
- OCs of all National Events must appoint a Chief Steward and an appropriate number of Stewards under the authority of the Chief Steward, wearing distinctive identification such as badges, arm bands, bibs, etc., with complete freedom of access to all areas mentioned in paragraph 3 below.
- OCs are responsible for all administrative matters relating to the Appointment of the Chief Steward and the Stewards, unless Steward is appointed by **NF**
- During the whole Event in every part of the stables, in exercise and schooling areas, collecting rings and all other areas under control of the OC
- The Chief Steward and the Stewards officiating with him at the Event shall:
 - a. assists the Athletes in conducting reasonable training.
 - b. intervenes in time to prevent any abuse of Horse by Athletes, grooms, owners or any other person.

- c. intervenes to prevent any contravention of this Rules or of the common principles of behaviour, fairness and accepted standards of sportsmanship.
- d. be familiar and assist with doping and medication control procedures.
- One Steward must be on duty at the collecting ring whenever it is in use.
- Any irregularities must be reported immediately by the Chief Steward to the SJ/President of the Ground Jury.
- The Chief Steward is required to send a report to the Secretary General on the stewarding of the Event as a whole and on any incident, which occurs during that Event. A copy of the report must be given to the SJ/GJ, to **NF** and to the OC of the Event.
- The Chief Steward must be a person experienced in equestrian sports, particularly in the Discipline of the Event where he is appointed to officiate.
- The name of the appointed Chief Steward must be published in the schedule and in the programme of the Event.
- **NF** maintains a list of all qualified Stewards. The Chief Stewards must be selected from this list.

CHAPTER XV THE LEGAL SYSTEM

Article 179. Preamble

The Legal System provides for the following:

- The legal powers and responsibilities of **EEF**, Officials, and bodies appointed under this Rules.
- A scale of penalties.
- A procedure for lodging protests and reports against the actions or behaviour of individuals or bodies under the jurisdiction of **NF**.
- A process of Appeal to a higher body against Decisions taken or penalties imposed by any person or body acting under this Rules.
- Before reaching a Decision on any protest or Appeal the relevant body must examine the available evidence, whether written or oral, hear all the parties concerned (provided they are available) and take into account all relevant material, in every case trying to reach a fair and equitable Decision.

Article 180. Federation Powers

- **NF** shall in particular be empowered to direct the Organisers to refuse any entry with stating reasons; it shall be the sole judge of the qualification of any horse or rider to compete in any particular class and may, at its discretion, refuse the entry or transfer the entry of any such horse or rider to a lower or higher ranking class.
- **NF** may, from time to time and its sole discretion, have the power to delegate such duties, responsibilities and authority as it deems fit, to any individual committee or sub-committee and thus authorizing such groupings to act with authority on its behalf.

Article 181. Penalties

- In deciding on the appropriate penalties to be imposed, the following factors shall be taken into consideration, together with any other relevant factors:
 - a.** Whether the action or omission resulted in an unfair advantage to the offender or an Athlete.
 - b.** Whether the action or omission resulted in a material disadvantage to any other person or body involved.
 - c.** Whether the action or omission involved the maltreatment of Horses.
 - d.** Whether the action or omission affected the dignity or integrity of any person involved in the sport.
 - e.** Whether the action or omission involved fraud, violence or abuse or similar criminal acts.
 - f.** Whether the action or omission was deemed to be deliberate.
- An oral or written warning is appropriate in cases of minor violations or contraventions committed unintentionally and without significant consequences.
- Disqualification is appropriate when it is specified in the Rules, or if the circumstances require an immediate action.
 - a.** Disqualification from a Competition means that the Athlete and Horse or Horses concerned - even should they change ownership - are removed from the list of starters and the classification and includes the forfeiture of prize money won in that particular Competition.
 - b.** Disqualification from an Event means that the Athlete and Horse or Horses concerned - even should they change ownership - may take no further part in that Event and it may include the forfeiture of any prize money won in previous Competitions at that Event where this is provided for in this Rules.
- A Provisional or Final Suspension, on such terms and subject to conditions as **NF**, may impose, is appropriate in cases of intentional or very negligent violations or contravention. In certain cases, a Provisional or Final Suspension may be automatic under Rules.
 - a.** Suspension must be for a stated period and during that period the person, Horse or body suspended may take no part in Competitions or Events as an Athlete, Horse or Official or in the organisation of, or participation in, any Event under the jurisdiction of the **FEI** or any Event under the jurisdiction of **NF**.
 - b.** In deciding when any Suspension will commence, the appropriate body shall, in order to achieve a just penalty, have regard to the gravity of the offence.
 - c.** Abuse of Horses in any form (rapping, abnormal sensitisation or desensitisation of limbs, banned schooling methods etc.) shall entail a Suspension of a minimum of three (3) months up to life.
 - d.** Incorrect behaviour towards Event Officials or any other party connected with the Event (other Athlete, journalist, public etc.) shall entail a Suspension of a minimum of three (3) months up to twelve (12) months.
 - e.** Fraud of any kind, violence and other acts defined as criminal by the national law prevailing at the Event shall entail a Suspension of a minimum of one (1) month up to life.

- In cases of offences mentioned in paragraphs 4.c and 4.d above and which are of a less serious nature and/or in cases specified in the Sport Rules and/or as mentioned in Article 181:
 - a.** The SJ/President of the Ground Jury, the President of the Appeal Committee and the Chief Steward may deliver to the Person Responsible a Written Warning, either by hand or by any other suitable means.
 - b.** Should the same Person Responsible receive one (1) more Written Warning at the same or any other International Event within one year of the delivery of the first Written Warning, the Person Responsible shall be automatically suspended for a period of two (2) months from the day following the Event at which the Person Responsible is competing after official notification from **NF** shall be responsible to notify the Person Responsible of such suspension.
- The penalty imposed in any given case can consist of a combination of Suspension and disqualification. The duration of a Suspension shall be decided according to the guidelines mentioned in paragraph 6 above and to the circumstances of the case.

CHAPTER XVI OBJECTIONS

Article 182. Submission of Objections

- For an objection to be valid it must be in writing, addressed to the President of the Ground Jury for **F.E.I.** International Competitions or the Senior Judge for National Competitions. Refer to current **F.E.I.** General Rules for a full explanation for **F.E.I.** International Dressage Competitions.
- The objection should be accompanied by a deposit of 200 AED and lodged with the President of the Ground Jury. Such a deposit will be refunded if the objection is considered to be valid, otherwise **NF** will retain it. The written objection should include the fullest details, including the Article Number/s allegedly offended. Written/signed/dated reports from witnesses and dated photographs and/or videos may be included.
- An objection does not include a query made to the **F.E.I.** Ground Jury at International Competitions or Senior Judge at National Competitions or other official of the event, before the commencement of a competition.
- An objection may only be made by:
 - a.** An adult owner or registered Rider, who is involved in the competition, or their respective duly authorized agent, or the duly authorized guardian of a minor, competing in the competition.
 - b.** The Chef d'Equipe.
 - c.** **NF** Representative or an Official of the event.

Article 183. Time Limit

- The objection must be lodged within the following time limits.

- Concerning the eligibility of any rider or horse – not less than 30mins before the commencement of the class.
- Concerning the arena, plan or anything related to the way the competition is being conducted not less than 30 minutes before the commencement of the competition.
- Concerning any incident or decision arising during the competition not later than 30 minutes after the announcement of the results.

Article 184. Referral to Federation

The foregoing shall not prevent any matter being drawn to the attention of **NF** for any actions **NF** may deem appropriate. However, reports lodged with the Secretary General 10 days after the event will not be considered.

Article 185. Query

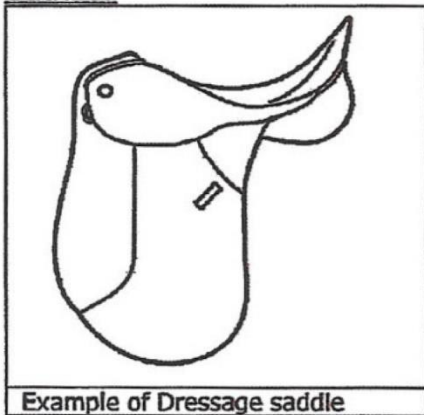
Any rider, or agent, who has a query, rather than an objection, at any time during the show, must, for it to be valid, make it in writing, address it to the President of the Ground Jury and lodge it with **NF** Steward. No deposit is required with a query.

Article 186. Appeal

- An appeal may be made against the Senior Judge at National Competitions on an objection lodged.
- For such an appeal to be legal it must be made in writing, lodged with the President of the Appeal Committee within one (1) hour of the previous decision of the Senior Judge at National competitions.
- **NF** Official Representative or such person as nominated by **NF** will act as President of the Appeal Committee.
- If an appeal is lodged, the President of the Appeal Committee may deal with the matter directly, or if he deems it necessary, call upon two suitable persons to form an Appeal Committee. The decision of the Appeal Committee is final.

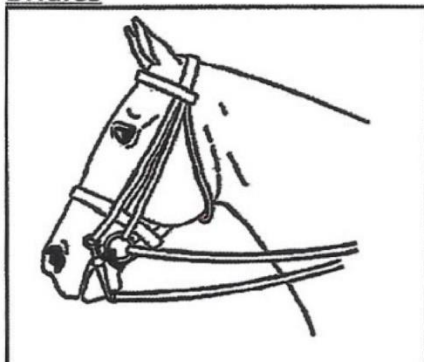
Appendix 1 – Permitted Bridles/Bits

Saddles

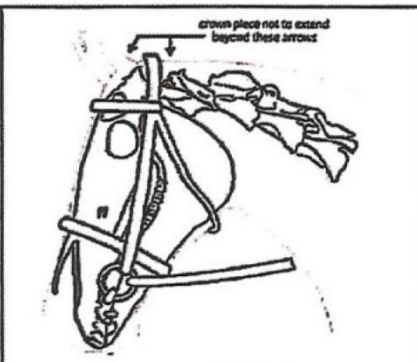


Example of Dressage saddle

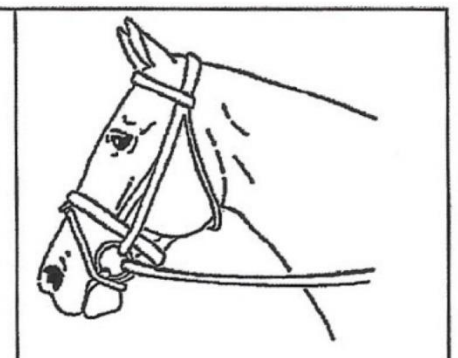
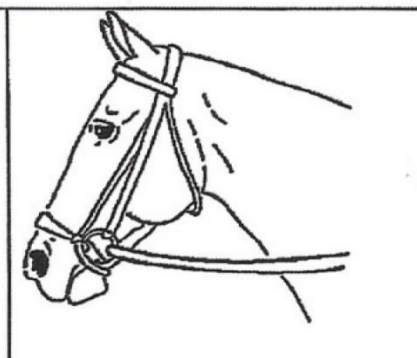
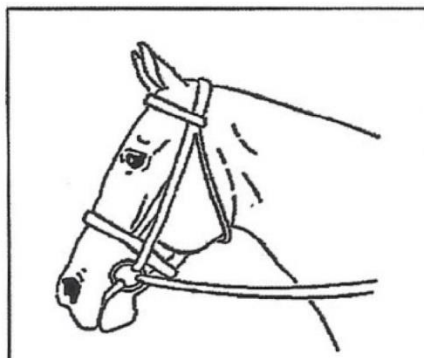
Bridles

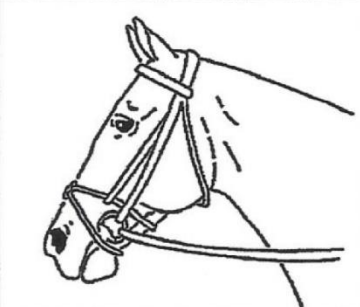
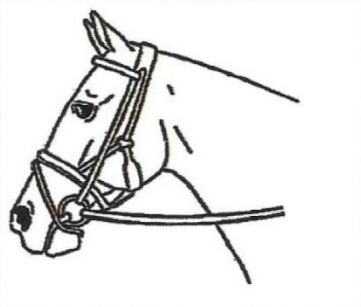



Ex. of Double Bridle, used with cavesson noseband, throat lash, bridoon and curb bits, and curb chain



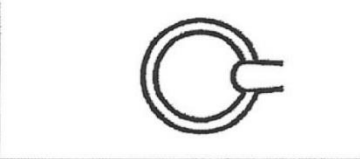
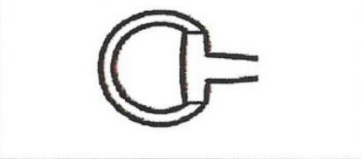

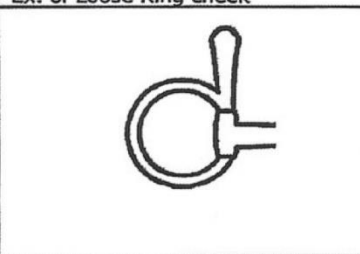
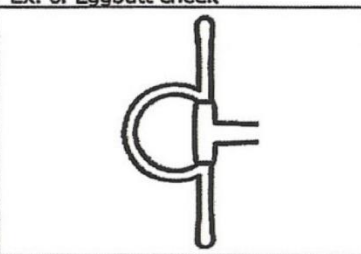
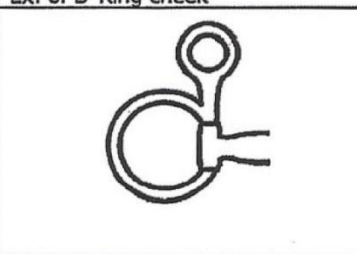
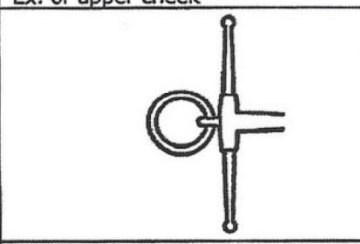
Crown piece may not extend beyond the two arrows



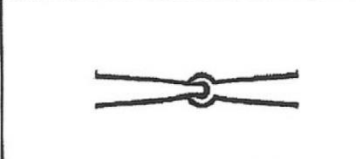
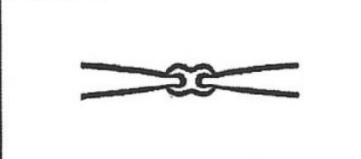
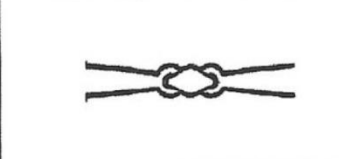
		
Ex. of crossed/mexican/grackle noseband	Ex. of combined noseband – no throat lash necessary	Ex. of Micklem style bridle – no throatlash necessary

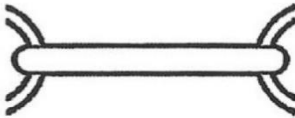




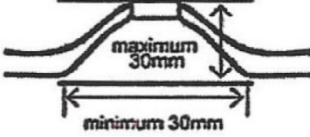
Bits

Cheek Pieces:

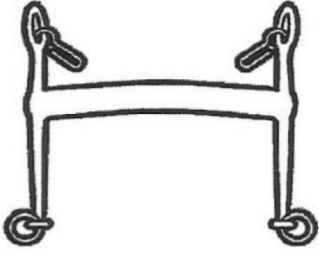
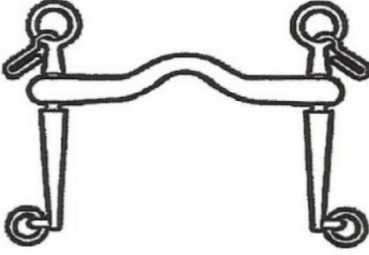
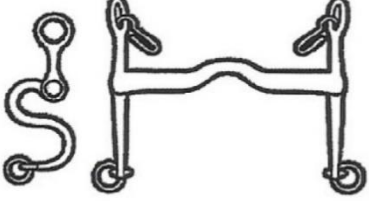
		
Ex. of Loose Ring cheek	Ex. of Eggbutt cheek	Ex. of D-Ring cheek
		
Ex. of upper cheek	Ex. of full cheek	Ex. of hanging cheek
		
Ex. of Fulmer cheek		

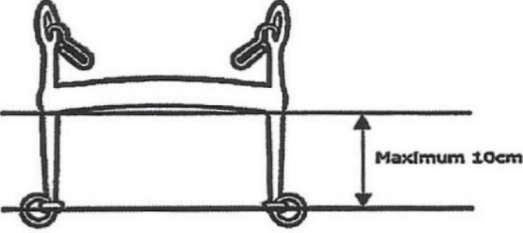
Mouthpieces:




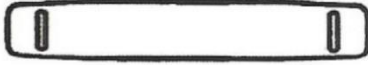
		
Ex. of single jointed mouthpiece	Ex. of double jointed mouthpiece	Ex. of double jointed mouthpiece

		
Ex. of unjointed mouthpiece	Ex. of barrel joint	Ex. of ball joint
		
Ex. of double ball joint	Ex. of centrepiece with a roller	Port deviation measurements

Curb Bits:

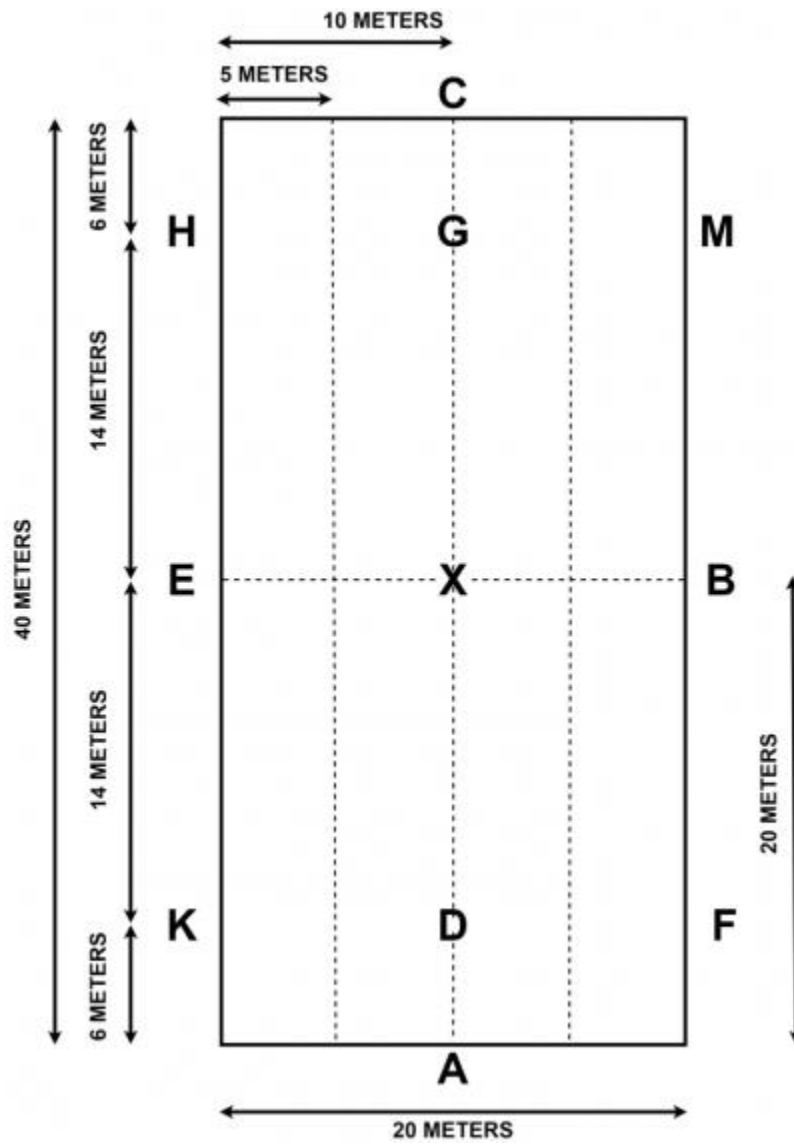
		
Ex. of curb with straight cheeks	Ex. of curb with port and sliding mouthpiece (rotating arms also allowed)	Ex. of curb with S cheeks


Maximum size of lever arm

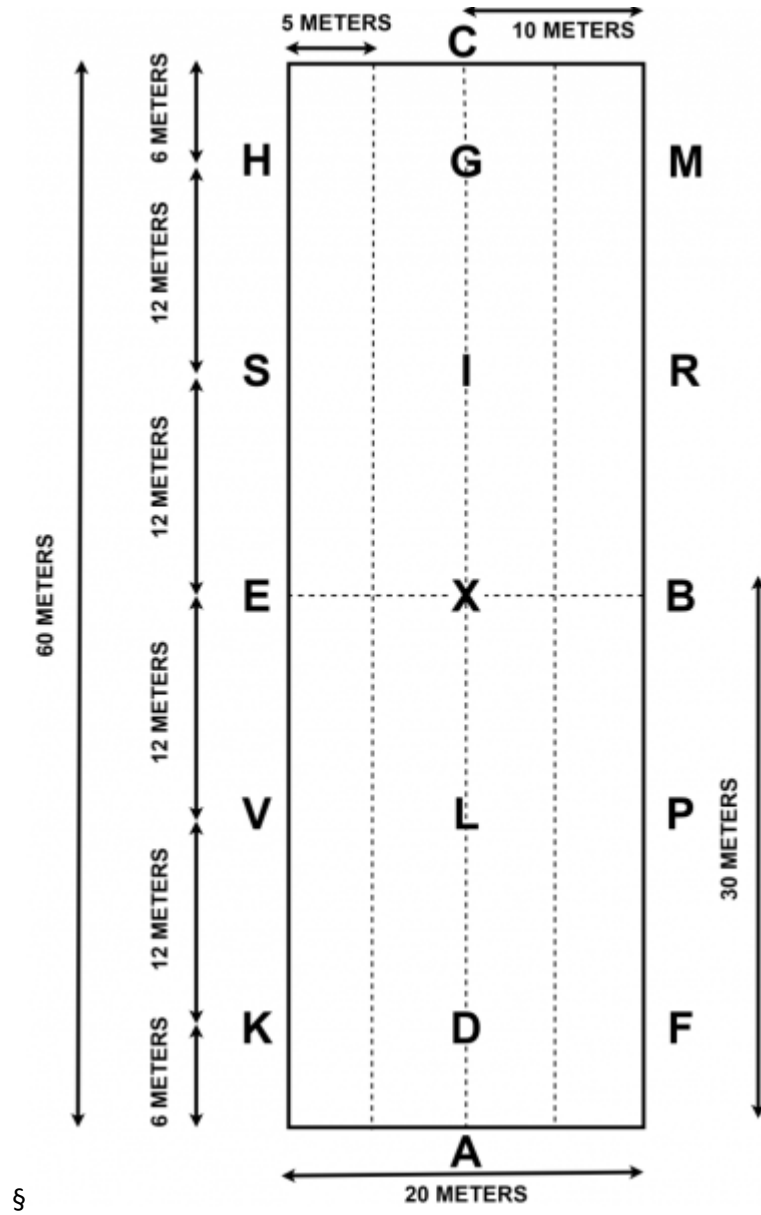
	
Ex. of Curb chain	Ex. of Leather cover for curb chain
	
Ex. of lip strap	Ex. of cover for curb chain

Appendix 2 - Arenas

20 x 40 Arena



20 x 60 Arena



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