



## **RULES FOR THE FEI WORLD CUP DRESSAGE SEASON 2009/2010**

### **PREAMBLE**

These rules set forth the detailed rules of the FEI World Cup™ Dressage, which are to read in conjunction with the pertinent Statutes, General Regulations, Rules for Dressage Events and Veterinary Regulations. It is acknowledged that every eventuality cannot be provided for in these Rules and in any unforeseen or exceptional circumstances it is the duty of those responsible to make a decision in a sporting spirit and approaching as nearly as possible the intention of these Rules and of the General Regulations

### **Art. 480 - PRINCIPLES AND GENERAL**

1. The FEI World Cup™ Dressage is a series of competitions at FEI Grand Prix level, comprising a number of qualifying events and a Final. The FEI Dressage Rules apply, except where stated differently in these rules. Moreover these rules must be read in conjunction with the FEI valid Statutes, General Regulations and Veterinary Regulations.
2. The FEI has established four Leagues, i.e. the Western European League, the Central European League, the North American League, and the Pacific League (Australia and New Zealand). Further Leagues may be established.
3. Specific Qualification Procedures and Guidelines for the North American League, Pacific League must be approved separately by the FEI Dressage Committee. Any changes regarding League Qualification Procedure and guidelines have to be approved by FEI HQ the year before they are to become effective (deadline for submission to the FEI: end March).
4. Although Central Europe, North America, Australia/New Zealand have their own independent Leagues, athletes from these Leagues and from countries not belonging to any League may also qualify in the Western European League. The NF concerned will have to inform the FEI HQ, in writing before the start of the season, which athletes wish to qualify in Western Europe. In that case they will be treated like the Western European competitors. However, athletes from non-Western European Leagues

qualifying in Western Europe cannot take away places in the Final from Western European athletes, and will compete in the Final as additional athletes.

4.1. Athletes permanently domiciled in a country (G.R.123) of another League must be allowed to qualify in that respective league. If qualified for the League Final and/or Final they would compete as additional athletes.

However, according to Rule 487.8, in principle a maximum of three athlete/horse combinations per NF (excluding the titleholder) will be allowed to participate in the Final.

It will be the responsibility of the relevant NF to determine which three athletes to send to the Final in the event of more than three athletes qualifying from any one NF as a result of participation in other Leagues.

The FEI has the right to allow an additional starting place for the home country, where the FEI World Cup™ Dressage Final takes place.

5. If an athlete changes nationality during a FEI World Cup™ Dressage season, he/she must continue to qualify under the system in which he/she has started the season subject to Article 480.4.1 above. The FEI reserves the right to judge each case individually.

6. Athletes from non-Western European Leagues may also earn points by participating in Western European FEI World Cup™ Dressage events as extra invited athletes but cannot take starting places from WEL athletes and transferring them to their own League. These points from a maximum of **3** Western European events may count in their own League.

6.1. Athletes from the Western European League taking part in CDI-Ws in the Central European League as extra athletes, may also obtain points for their own League. However, except at one event where they may gain 100% of the points, Western European athletes will receive 50% of the points as mentioned under Art. 480.6.1 (in case of participation at several Central European events, the event where the best result was achieved will count 100%). Fractions of 0.5 or more are rounded up.

6.2. An athlete can no longer earn points in another league, once the last competition of his own league has been held.

7. The number of FEI World Cup™ Dressage Qualifying events in Western Europe and Central Europe will be annually decided by the FEI, The number of FEI World Cup™ Dressage events in the other Leagues will be proposed yearly by the respective NFs for approval by FEI HQ.

8. Organising Committees must apply for a CDI-W through their respective National Federation to the FEI according to the established application procedures.

9. In any League, a athlete/horse combination may only start in **six** qualifying events. The **four** best results obtained in the qualifying events will count. In order to qualify for the Final or a League Final a athlete horse/combination must have started at least **two** times in the Freestyle to Music at a CDI-W.

(CDI3/4/5\*/CDIOs for athletes belonging to a NF outside established Leagues.)

10. At any event, the FEI Grand Prix Test serves as the qualifying test to the FEI Freestyle to Music, which is the competition in which FEI World Cup™ Dressage points can be earned.

11. For the FEI Freestyle to Music test, article 430 of the Dressage Rules applies.

11. 1 For FEI World Cup™ Dressage events and the World Cup Dressage Final Art 422.7 of the Dressage Rules applies.

#### **Art. 481 - THE FEI WORLD CUP™ COMMITTEE DRESSAGE**

1. FEI World Cup Dressage matters are decided by the FEI Headquarters upon recommendation of the FEI Dressage Committee, unless a separate FEI World Cup™ Committee Dressage is appointed.

#### **Art. 482 - PARTICIPATION**

1. In Western Europe the number of competitors/horses to take part in the Freestyle to Music is limited to and compulsory for the 15 best combinations in the qualifying FEI World Cup™ Dressage Grand Prix at the event, plus those who tie for the 15th place. Outside Western Europe this number may be less than 15.

2. Failure to start in the Freestyle to Music for reasons other than illness of athlete or horse (in which case the move-up system applies) would mean that the athlete loses his/her FEI Grand Prix classification and FEI World Dressage Ranking List points for the FEI Grand Prix.

3. Reference is made to GR Art. 121.13 "Definite Entries", whereby any NF or competitor, after accepting an invitation in writing and failing to compete without good reason, must be reported by the Organising Committee and the Foreign Judge to the Secretary General of the FEI for the attention of the FEI Legal Department/FEI Tribunal.

4. A Western European athlete is allowed to participate with more than one horse in the FEI World Cup™ Dressage events of the season, but only with one horse in each event.

Outside Western Europe an athlete, including athletes from Western Europe, may start with a maximum of two horses in the qualifying FEI Grand Prix of an event. He/she may, however, only opt to qualify with one horse for the FEI Grand Prix level Freestyle Test. A declaration as to the choice of his horse must be made prior to entering the FEI Grand Prix. The same Rule applies for League Finals.

There shall be no rest day between the FEI Grand Prix Competition and the FEI World Cup™ Freestyle to Music Competition but these shall be held on two consecutive days.

A athlete may only participate with one horse in the Final. He/she may select the horse of his/her choice, with the restriction that the horse must have started and qualified for at least **two** FEI World Cup Freestyle to Music competitions in the current season and have obtained the minimum qualification criteria of 68% in the two Freestyles. Refer to Art 487.6.

All athletes must participate at a minimum of **two** qualifying events, one of which must be in a foreign country, in order to qualify for the Final.

5. A draw for the order of starting is compulsory for all qualifying FEI Grand Prix's and for the FEI Grand Prix of the Final and for all qualifying Freestyles and for the Freestyle to Music at the Final.

- For the FEI Grand Prix the draw (in groups of 5) shall be in the reverse order of the FEI World Dressage Ranking List. Athletes who are not listed on the WDRL shall be drawn first.
- For qualifiers, the Freestyle to Music draw shall be in reverse order of the placing of the FEI Grand Prix Competition (in groups of 5). The starting order applied for a particular event must be stated in the schedule.

6. The FEI World Cup™ Dressage Freestyle to Music Competition must always be the highlight of an event, also as far as prize-money and prizes in kind are concerned, and must always be held on a main day at mid-day or in the afternoon or evening (Saturday). Exceptions to the rules must be approved by the FEI Headquarters.

7. The Freestyle to Music may be interrupted by a short break or a small display, but never by another competition. All breaks longer than 30 minutes have to be approved by the FEI Headquarters.

**Art. 483 – QUALIFICATION WESTERN EUROPEAN and CENTRAL EUROPEAN LEAGUE**

1. In the qualifying events, the points to the athletes who have competed in the FEI World Cup™ Dressage Freestyle to Music will be awarded as follows:

Freestyle results:		Number of athletes participating						
If 15 athletes or more have taken part in the FEI Grand Prix		14	13	12	11	10	9	8
1st	20 pts	19	18	17	16	15	14	13
2nd	17 pts	16	15	14	13	12	11	10
3rd	15 pts	14	13	12	11	10	9	8
4th	13 pts	12	11	10	9	8	7	6
5th	12 pts	11	10	9	8	7	6	5
6th	11 pts	10	9	8	7	6	5	4
7th	10 pts	9	8	7	6	5	4	3
8th	9 pts	8	7	6	5	4	3	2
9th	8 pts	7	6	5	4	3	2	
10th	7 pts	6	5	4	3	2		
11th	6 pts	5	4	3	2			
12th	5 pts	4	3	2				
13th	4 pts	3	2					
14th	3 pts	2						
15 <sup>th</sup>	2 pts	(only in case of a tie for 15 <sup>th</sup> place)						

Athletes belonging to the WEL and CEL Leagues may gain qualifying points also in the NAL. The number of points gained will be based on the number of athletes participating in the Grand Prix as per above.

2. ~~In principle~~ There must be five judges for each qualifying event and for the Final.

3. Three out of the five Judges for the qualifying competitions (both FEI Grand Prix and Freestyle to Music) must be of a nationality other than the host country, and must be selected from the FEI list of 5\* and 4\* (Official International and International Judges). 3\* (International Candidate Judges) may only be exceptionally selected with previous approval of the FEI.

There must not be more than two judges of the same nationality in the Ground Jury. Exceptions for CDI-Ws outside Europe must be approved by the FEI World Cup™ Dressage Director.

4. The FEI HQ will appoint the Foreign Judge of the Ground Jury for each qualifying event in the Western European League.

For League Finals a full ground jury consisting of five judges (with a minimum of three foreign judges of different nationalities) must be appointed. ~~One of the judges~~ The Foreign Judge must be appointed by FEI HQ.

#### **Art. 484 - WESTERN EUROPEAN LEAGUE**

1. In Western Europe events may be organised at a limited number of two CDI-Ws per NF. The FEI World Cup™ Dressage qualifying events must be exclusively indoor events.

#### 2. Invitations

##### 2009

- A minimum of 6 WEL nations, excluding the home country.
- A maximum of 6 home athletes (excluding organiser's 2 wild cards as below). If less than 6 home athletes are invited, more nations shall be invited to fill these places.
- 1 FEI wild card
- 2 Organiser's wild cards.

##### After 1 January of 2010:

- A minimum of 6 WEL nations, excluding the home country.
- The first 10 athletes from the FEI World Cup Standings list must be invited for the World Cup CDI-Ws through their NF. They are included in the number of 2 per country. If more than 2 athletes from any particular country are amongst the top 10, they will all be invited.
- A maximum of 5 home athletes (excluding organiser's wild cards as below). If less than 5 home athletes are invited, more nations shall be invited to fill these places.
- 1 FEI wild card
- 2 Organiser's wild cards.

The invited nations must be approved by the FEI and the schedule must state which NF and how many athletes are invited. The invited NF is to make the selection of athletes to be entered.

3. The FEI World Cup™ Dressage Director may request the Organising Committees of qualifying events to accept two additional wild cards for

overseas athletes and Central European Athletes. This must be done if possible before, or shortly after, the definite entries date of the CDI-W in question.

4. A athlete placed in the top ten on the FEI World Cup™ Dressage point-Standing-list and not having completed the allowed number of Western European qualifying events and wishing to compete at any of the last qualifying events between January 1st and the FEI World Cup™ Dressage Final, cannot be refused by an Organising Committee.

5. Athletes qualifying through the Western European League who still have a reasonable chance to qualify for the Final, have priority to compete in the last qualifying events.

6. The Organising Committee of the last qualifying event in the Western European League must offer starting places to athletes from other Leagues who are already qualified for the Final and who request a starting place as a warm-up for the Final.

6.1. Athletes from non-Western European Leagues, already qualified for the Final through their own League, who are participating in a Western European qualifier, will not receive any points and their points would be attributed to the next placed athlete. They are, however, eligible for the prizes according to their placings.

#### **Art. 485 - CENTRAL EUROPEAN LEAGUE**

1. In the Central European League (CEL) the qualifying events may be either outdoors or indoors. They must be CDI-Ws.

2. For the Central European League the same point system as the Western European League (see item 483.1) is valid. The 10 athletes (including ties for a 10th place) with the most points at the end of the qualifying season qualify for the CEL League Final, if such a final is held.

3. Athletes from Central European countries may earn full points for their own League by participating in a maximum of **three** Western European FEI World Cup™ Dressage events (see item 480.6.1.).

4. If a League Final is held, athletes must participate at a minimum of two qualifying events, one of which must be in a foreign country, in order to qualify for the League Final.

5. Athletes will not bring any points forward from the qualifying events to a League Final, but the result of the League Final will count as the end result of the Central European League.

When a League final is not held, the CEL points Standing list will count as the end result following the final qualifier.

6. A maximum of three athletes per NF is permitted in a League Final.
7. When a League Final is held, the Winner of the CEL League Final will qualify for the Final.

#### **Art. 486 - NON EUROPEAN LEAGUES**

1. Outside the Western European League, the qualifying events may be both indoors or outdoors. They must be CDI-Ws.
2. Those Leagues may establish their own qualification procedure and guidelines (NAL and Pacific League rules) , however, these must not conflict with the FEI World Cup™ Dressage Rules, and must be approved by the FEI HQ.
3. For all qualifying events (including Western and Central European League) and the League Finals, the final classification will be determined by the placings in the FEI Grand Prix Freestyle. All athletes will be required to start in the FEI Grand Prix competition, which will determine the starting order in the FEI Grand Prix Freestyle.
4. One of the judges required for the League Final is appointed by the FEI.

#### **Art. 487 - FINAL**

1. The Final is an indoor event that must take place at the end of the FEI World Cup™ Dressage season in March or April.
2. The Final consists of the compulsory FEI Grand Prix test and the FEI Grand Prix Freestyle to Music test.
3. The Final classification will be determined by the placings in the Freestyle.
4. An athlete may start in the Final with one horse only.

Minimum qualification criteria for **all** Finalist combinations including extra starting places:

- Having scored at least 68% in the Freestyle to Music in a FEI World Cup™ Dressage Qualifying event (CDI-W) on two different occasions or
  - Having scored at least 68% in a Grand Prix Freestyle to Music in a CDI3/4/5\*/CDIO on two different occasions, for athletes not belonging to one of the recognised Leagues.
5. In the Final, 15 athletes/horses may participate:

Western European League	7
Central European League	1
Pacific League	1
North America	2
South America/Asia	1
Title-Defender	1
<u>FEI extra starting places</u>	<u>2</u>

**Total: 15**

The FEI may give an extra starting place to an athlete from the host NF. However, the total number of athletes in the final from the host NF may never exceed three.

6. A maximum of three athlete/horse combinations per NF, excluding the Title-defender will be allowed to participate in the Final.

Athletes qualifying through a Points-standings-list and where there are ties for the last qualifying place, ties will be broken by the total average of percentage given for the athletes at the qualifying events. i.e. The athlete with the highest percentage average will qualify.

7. In case not all qualified athletes can participate in the Final the following system applies:

- 7.1. in Leagues with 1 qualified athlete: substitution to 2nd place
- 7.2. in Leagues with 2 qualified athletes: substitution to 4th place
- 7.3. in Leagues with  
3 or more qualified athletes: substitution to the place which is 50 %  
more than the number qualified, i.e.  
for 8 qualified athletes substitution to  
12th place.

Any unused starting place will be used as an FEI extra starting place.

8. Extra starting places may be allocated by FEI HQ. Extra starting places may be allocated to athletes if the FEI is of the opinion that the athletes are deserving of such a starting place and taking fairness and development of the sport into account.

9. The title defender is automatically qualified with a horse of his/her choice with which, however, he/she must have competed in the Freestyle to Music at least two FEI World Cup™ Dressage Qualifiers of the particular season. The Title defender will however not earn World Cup standings points for his/her starts.

10. The five judges required for the Final are appointed by the FEI and must be of five different nationalities.

**Art. 488 – TRANSPORT, STABLING AND ACCOMODATION**

1. For the qualifying events, the Organising Committees are required to meet the conditions laid down in the Rules for Dressage Events and General Regulations of the FEI as well as per separate Agreement with the FEI (WEL events).

2. For the Final, the travel-, accommodation and meal expenses of athletes, grooms and horses are regulated according to a separate Agreement with the FEI.