



FEI World Cup™ Dressage North American League Rules 2008/2009

PREAMBLE

These rules set forth the detailed rules of the FEI World Cup™ Dressage North American League Rules, which are to read in conjunction with the pertinent FEI World Cup™ Dressage Rules, 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. In case of a conflict between the FEI World Cup™ Dressage Rules and the FEI World Cup™ Dressage North American League Rules, the later shall take precedence.

1. The North American League will be comprised of all countries within the North American continent.

2. **Declaration**
Any rider wishing to participate must declare by 15 January 2009 their intent to their National Federation in order to be eligible to count qualifying points and qualify to compete in the FEI World Cup™ Dressage Final, regardless of which League they wish to compete in. From the start of the qualifying period all scores will be entered in the NAL Standings list. The Standings list will then be revised as of 1 February 2009 to include only declared riders.

3. **Qualification for North American League**
 - a) Rider/horse combinations must start in CDI-Ws (“qualifying competitions”) in order to gain qualifying scores. The three best results obtained in the qualifying competitions will count. (See point in section #8 of these rules.) In order to qualify for the FEI World Cup™ Dressage Final a rider/horse combination must have started and completed at least three times in the Freestyle to Music at a CDI-W in addition to having declared as above and meeting the qualifying criteria within these rules.

 - b) For all qualifying competitions, the final classification will be determined by placing in the Grand Prix Freestyle. All rider/horse

combinations will be required to start and complete the Grand Prix competition, which will determine that starting order in the Grand Prix Freestyle (per FEI Art 425). Riders may only start one horse in the CDI-W Freestyle.

- c) A draw for order of starting in the Grand Prix shall be made according to the currently applicable FEI rules for the running of CDI-W competitions. The Freestyle to Music draw shall be in the reverse order of the placing of the Grand Prix competition (in groups of 5).
 - d) The Qualifying period is to begin 30 May 2008 following the FEI World Cup™ Dressage Final 2007/2008 and end 15 March 2009 prior to the World Cup™ Dressage Final 2008/2009.
 - e) Rider/horse combinations obtain scores to decide the representatives from North America, providing that each combination has met the FEI criteria for eligibility to compete in the FEI World Cup™ Dressage Final.
4. Representation will be determined solely by final score, and no League final will be necessary or held.
5. The FEI will offer two (2) World Cup™ Dressage Final positions to North America. The FEI may in addition extend extra positions as Wild cards in addition to this number for the FEI World Cup™ Dressage Final.

6. PERMANENTLY DOMICILED FOREIGN RIDERS – ADDITIONAL RIDERS

Riders permanently domiciled in a country (FEI G.R. 123) of another League must be allowed to qualify in that respective League. If qualified for the FEI World Cup™ Dressage Final they would compete as additional riders.

However, according to Rule 487.8 of the FEI World Cup™ Dressage, in principle a maximum of three rider/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 riders to send to the Final in the event of more than three riders qualifying from any one NF as a result of participation in other Leagues.

7. QUALIFICATIONS TO COMPETE IN THE FEI WORLD CUP™ DRESSAGE FINAL

Minimum qualification criteria for all Finalists including wild cards will be determined by the FEI. FEI Article 487.6

8. QUALIFICATION SCORES

In the qualifying events (CDI-W) the scores of the riders who have competed in the FEI World Cup™ Freestyle to Music will be awarded as follows:

The percentage score from a rider's FEI Grand Prix Freestyle to Music will be used. The top three percentage scores will be added together and divided by three (3) to calculate a rider's final score. For example, a rider has scored 71.000%, 72.000% and 73.000% in the Freestyle to Music at three CDI-W events this will result in a final score of = 72.000%

9. ADDITIONAL QUALIFYING OPPORTUNITY

Riders from non-Western European Leagues may also earn scores by participating in Western European World Cup events and transferring them to their own League. These scores from a maximum of three (3) Western European events may count in their own League.

A rider can no longer earn points in another league, once the last competition of his/her own league has been held.

10. QUALIFYING TESTS

At any event (CDI-W), the FEI Grand Prix Test serves as the qualifying test to the FEI Freestyle to Music, the latter of which is the competition in which World Cup™ Dressage scores can be earned.

11. NUMBER OF QUALIFYING EVENTS IN NORTH AMERICAN LEAGUE

The number of FEI World Cup™ Dressage qualifying events in the North American League will be proposed yearly by the respective NFs for approval by the FEI.

12. NUMBER OF HORSES

Riders in the North American League may start one (1) horse in the qualifying Grand Prix for the Grand Prix level Freestyle Test – FEI World Cup™ Dressage qualifier.

In the event of a Grand Prix Special also being offered (with opting) the rider may start additional horses in the Grand Prix at the discretion of the OC. A declaration as to the choice of horse for the Grand Prix level Freestyle Test - FEI World Cup™ Dressage qualifier must be made prior to entering the Grand Prix while at the same time declaring

- a) the remaining horse/horses may compete only in the Grand Prix test (if so stated in the FEI approved schedule) or
- b) declaring the other horse/horses for the Grand Prix Special Test (the best placed horse being able to go forward).

It is advisable for Organisers when there are a large number of starters in the Grand Prix to divide the competitions into two tours GP-GP Freestyle and GP-GP Special.