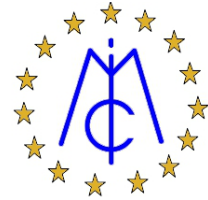




The 2026 MCI European final RULES



Version 2 -2026 – 05/02/2026

This version of the regulation supersedes any earlier version. The reference version is the french version that is currently published on the website MCI <https://mastersiberique.com/>

Table of Contents:

1 - INTRODUCTION	page 1
2 - DEFINITIONS	page 2
3 - PARTICIPATION RIGHTS AND RULES	page 2
4 - DRESSAGE TESTS 2026	page 2
5 - ORGANIZATION OF SELECTIONS	page 3
6 - NUMBER OF PLACES IN FINAL BY CIRCUIT	page 3
7 - SELECTION PROCESS FOR THE MASTERS (FINAL)	page 3
8 - ORGANIZATION OF THE MASTERS (FINAL)	page 4
8-1 Introduction :	page 4
8-2 Text of the tests	page 4
8-3 Judges	page 4
8-4 Dress and Tack	page 5
8-5 Freestyle Dress Code Points	page 5
9 - RANKINGS OF THE MASTERS (FINAL)	page 6
9-1 Individual Masters (13 titles)	page 6
9-2 Masters National team (circuit)	page 6
9-3 European Champion Title	page 6
9-3-1 European Champion level 1 to 4	page 7
9-3-2 European Champion Young Horses	page 7
9-3-3 European Champion level 5 & 6	page 7
9-4 Summary	page 8
10 – COMPLAINTS (OBJECTIONS)	page 8
11 – MISCELLANEOUS	page 8
12 - INSURANCE AND LIABILITY	page 9
13 - VACCINATIONS AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES	page 9
14 – RULES OF THE WARM UP AREAS	page 9
15 – FEI CODE OF CONDUCT	page 9
16 - ARTICLE 401 FEI	page 10

1 - INTRODUCTION

The European Iberian Masters (a branch of the MCI, a non-profit French association) is in charge of organizing once a year the Masters (or Final) of dressage of which she is the owner. Final reserved for Purebred horses with full papers: Pura Raza Española (PRE) or Lusitanos (PSL); exclusively from the selections of the different MCI Europe circuits. Any association wishing to participate in the European MASTERS is deemed to have read and accept the general conditions and the rules.

2 - DEFINITIONS

MASTERS DU CHEVAL IBERIQUE (MCI) : Brings together circuits, round, plus the Masters over one year.

Circuit = All rounds from which results are taken into account to establish a ranking, in view of the selection for the Masters. A circuit can be National or Regional

Round / contest = Set of different tests generally taking place on the same weekend.

Masters / Final = The annual European Championship for finalists that have qualified from each country in Europe

Qualifying Season: Contest period taken into account to determine the number of places in the final for each circuit, **starts on January 1, 2026 until September 18.**

The European Masters or MCI-Eu: Brings together associations of countries that have organized the qualifications for selection of the Masters (final). Each country can have either a National circuit or several Regional circuits.

Competitor: A rider and horse. A competitor is defined for the qualifying season. A rider can ride as many different horses as he/she wishes. Each combination of horse and rider will be defined as a new competitor.

3 - PARTICIPATION RIGHTS AND RULES.

The MCI-Eu recognizes only one association per country, allowed to organize selections on its own territory and participate in the Masters

To date, the following MCI circuits (year of creation) have been recognized and approved:

For France (1997) : le MCI = Masters du Cheval Ibérique

For Italy (2001): AIMCI (2025) Associazione Italiana Masters Cavallo Iberico => **New association in 2026**

For Belgium (2005): le MCI-BE = MCIB-MIP Masters du Cheval Ibérique - Masters van het Iberische Paard

For Spain (2009): le MCI-ES = Master del Caballo Ibérico

For Great Britain (2015): Le MCI-GB = Iberian Dressage Masters

For the Czech Republic: Le MCI-CZE (2015) = Iberské mistři koní => **New association being created**

For the Netherlands (2018): MCI team NL => **New association in 2025**

For the Portugal (2026) : Le MCI-POR : association being created

Any new membership application of a country must be requested from MCI (France) owner of the European final;

4 - DRESSAGE TESTS 2026

Le MASTERS du CHEVAL IBERIQUE Européen (MCI-Eu) comprises: 14 tests from Young Horse to Grand Prix, including 6 Freestyle to Music classes specific MCI

These are 2026 tests of the - F.F.E. - F.E.I. or SHF

- **PRIMERA:** Level Young Horse 4-6 year olds => **New test in 2026**
- **NOVILLA:** Level Young Horse 4-6 year olds => **New test in 2026**
- Reprise **GOLEGA** : Level 1 = Elementary
- **RLM CARMENCITA** : Level 1 = specific to MCI freestyle
- Reprise **SEVILLA** : Level 2 = Medium/Advanced Medium
- **RLM FLAMENCA** : Level 2 = = specific to MCI freestyle
- Reprise **LISBOA** : Level 3 = Individual Competition JUNIOR F.E.I.
- **RLM FANDANGO** : Level 3 = specific to MCI freestyle
- Reprise **MADRID** : Level 4 = Prix ST GEORGES F.E.I. => **Double or Snaffle bridle, spurs optional**
- **RLM LUSITANIA** : Level 4 = specific to MCI freestyle => **Double or Snaffle bridle, spurs optional**
- Reprise **MAGISTRALE** : Level 5 = INTERMEDIAIRE A F.E.I. => **Double or Snaffle bridle, spurs optional**
- **RLM BAILARINA** : Level 5 = specific to MCI freestyle => **Double or Snaffle bridle, spurs optional**
- Reprise **REYALE** : Level 6 = GRAND PRIX F.E.I => **Double or Snaffle bridle, spurs optional**
- **RLM IBERICA** : Level 6 = specific to MCI freestyle => **Double or Snaffle bridle, spurs optional**

See the texts and specificities of each test on the MCI France website : <https://mastersiberique.com/>

5 - ORGANIZATION OF SELECTIONS.

Each MCI association is free to organize selections in their own country: number of circuits, number of round, method of points allocating for the ranking selection, determining the minimum number of rounds and the minimum results (%) to be obtained to participate in the Masters, National final...

Subject to respect the following points:

1 / Programming a minimum of 3 selection round per year

2 / Proposing at least all MCI-Eu tests, during the selection season

- The Primera, Novilla, Golega and Sevilla may have different texts in selection depending on the country, provided they respect the same level of difficulty.
- The Lisboa, Madrid, Magistrale and Reyle are FEI test
- The freestyles are specific to the MCI

3/ Updating a competition schedule and a provisional ranking for each test after each qualifying round. With public results accessibility either on their own website, or communicating them to MCI France who will publish them on its website

4 / Not to have in its national rules, points in contradiction with these rules in particular concerning the number of places allocated at the final, according to article 6.

6 - NUMBER OF PLACES IN FINAL BY CIRCUIT

The number of places per test allowed at the final, depends for each circuit of the number of different competitors who participated during the year to the selections of the considered test

Test	number of different competitors who participated during the qualifying season, per test										
PRIMERA - NOVILLA	1 à 4	5 à 7	8 à 11	12 à 15	16 à 20	21 à 25	26 à 31	32 à 37	38 à 43	44 à 50	+ de 50
GOLEGA - CARMENCITA SEVILLA - FLAMENCA	1 à 4	5 à 9	10 à 14	15 à 20	21 à 26	27 à 33	34 à 40	41 à 48	49 à 56	57 à 65	+ de 65
LISBOA - FANDANGO MADRID - LUSITANIA	1 à 3	4 à 5	6 à 8	9 à 11	12 à 15	16 à 20	21 à 25	26 à 30	31 à 36	37 à 45	+ de 45
MAGISTRALE - REYALE - IBERICA	1 à 2	3	4 à 5	6 à 7	8 à 9	10 à 11	12 à 13	14 à 15	16 à 18	19 à 21	+ de 22
Number of places allowed in final for the considered circuit	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

Example: at the end of selection In France 28 different competitors ranked in Sevilla test = 7 places in Sevilla final for France
In Italy 11 different competitors ranked in Sevilla test = 4 places in Sevilla final for Italy

2/ The host country of the finale, will receive a total quota of 15% more (excluding freestyle) for his team, to distribute, according to his choice between the different levels of test, while respecting Article 7

Example: Great Britain number of places allocated at the end of the selections: Primera / Novilla = 3 competitors, Golega = 6, Sevilla = 7, Lisboa = 4, Madrid = 5, Magistrale = 2, Reyle = 2. Total = 31 competitors x 15% = 4,35 = 5 additional competitors for Great Britain

3/ The MCI-Eu will regularly inform each circuit for each test, the number of places they will have at the Masters (final) according to the publication of their provisional results.

4/ Three weeks before the MASTERS the MCI-Eu will communicate the final number of places allocated for each circuit, whoever that has not respected the point 5.3, cannot have place in the final. If necessary, each circuit will be able to continue its selections during 15 days, to finish determining the names of its qualified

Update on April 30, 2018														
Number of places allowed at the European Masters per test														
European MCI Circuit	Primera	Novilla	Golega	Carmencita	Sevilla	Flamenca	Lisboa	Fandango	Madrid	Lusitania	Magistrale	Reyle	Iberica	Total
France	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Italy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Belgium	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Spain	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Great Britain	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Czech Republic	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nederland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Portugal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Swede	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

7 - SELECTION PROCESS FOR THE MASTERS (FINAL)

At the end of the selections, to be able to participate in the Masters (final) of one of the tests, a competitor must fulfill all the following conditions

a/ Being ranked on the original circuit in the selected quota for the concerned test (see table above)

b/ A horse can only participate once at the final of the same test. If at the end of the selections a horse is selected twice for the Masters (final) for the same test, the owner must choose which rider he/she wishes to compete his/her horse

c/ A rider may not participate 2 times during the year at the final of the same test (even if the number of points earned is sufficient). If at the end of the selections, a rider is selected more than once for the Masters (final) for the same test, it will be necessary to choose the one horse his/her wish to compete

d/ A horse can participate in up to two finals (Masters) during the year. If at the end of the selections a horse is selected for more than 2 finals (Masters), the owner must choose from all of the selections which 2 finals they wish to compete in.

e/ For a horse to participate in the finals of PRIMERA and NOVILLA, the horse must not exceed 6 years of age during that calendar year.

g/ If a Declaration of withdrawal (horse or rider) for the finals is received by the due date, the next combination that has qualified but not yet selected, will be offered this place.

8 - ORGANISATION OF THE MASTERS (FINAL)

Regulations applied to the Masters final is the same as that which governs the tests in the rounds organized by the MCI France plus the following items that complete, replace or cancel some of these articles:

8-1 Introduction : A competitor who has not participated in the qualification rounds on one of the circuits, cannot participate in the final

8-2 Text of the tests:

PRIMERA, NOVILLA, GOLEGA, SEVILLA = text MCI France

LISBOA, MADRID, MAGISTRALE, REYALE = text F.E.I

CARMENCITA, FLAMENCA, FANDANGO, LUSITANIA et IBERICA = Text MCI-Eu

8-3 Judges

These are Official Judges (St Georges level minimum) of the Equestrian Federation of each country and / or FEI Judges who are all independent of the MCI. Each test will be marked by the Judge according to FEI guidelines and according to the guiding ideas of each movement of each test as defined with the test description.

The method of judging for the young horse tests PRIMERA and NOVILLA will be judged in the same way as all FEI Young Horse classes. The judging will be based on FEI Young Horse classes: walk, trot, canter, flexibility, suppleness and general impression and not on the execution of each movement.

Their decision is final and without appeal

Judges may appeal to members of the Committee of MCI only to help solve a problem of regulation or technique.

The ranking established by the judges is the final ranking for the test.

Ground Jury: Each circuit, will provide at least one judge per 30 qualified competitors, it is advisable to provide judges FEI and / or minimum level Grand Prix. Then if necessary the jury will be completed by judges of the country receiving the final.

*Example: France 52 competitors in final = 2 judges from France, Italy 26 competitors = 1 judges from Italy
Czech Republic 8 competitors = 1 judge, Belgium 37 competitors = 2 judges, Great Britain 44 competitors = 2 judges
Total 11 judges, if need 15 judges Country who will receive the final will provide additional judges.*

Each circuit supports travel costs and expenses of its judges, circuit (country) receiving the final supports all jury charges on site (hotels, meals, ...)

8-4 DRESS AND TACK

(This rule is subject to change depending upon current FEI regulations subsequent to this version of MCI-Eu rules being printed. The FEI rules will always prevail)

All FEI information on tack (saddle, bit, bridle and snaffle bridle, etc.) is now only available in the FEI TACK APP (FEI Tack, Equipment & Dress - <https://tack.fei.org/>).

Horse tack: Horse tack can either be Spanish, Portuguese or classical English. The types of bit must be strictly adhered to as authorized by the FEI for dressage. Martingales and other similar types of training aids are prohibited. No boots or bandages, blinkers or shields are allowed.

Dress for Riders: Spanish or Portuguese traditional dress is recommended but the classical FEI dress is accepted

Spurs : Must strictly comply with the FEI regulations.

Special case of “gooseneck-type” spurs mounted (clipped) on the heel of the boot (see figures). These spurs are admitted to the MCI only for riders in traditional dress.



They must be mounted on the boot or ankle boot, the upper must be either curved or straight, and directed towards the rear and must not go up beyond the heel of the rider.

The branches of the spur must be smooth and designed so as not to injure the horse. **Serrated rowel spurs (even blunt ones) have been permanently banned since September 2025.**

Whip/Cane: whips are allowed during the warm-up. Whips or canes are only permitted to be used by the rider who is competing, walking in hand or with the horse on a lunge. Any other person who is authorized to carry a whip must ensure it does not interfere with the training of the horse

Whip/Cane Maximum length is 1.20 meters

whips prohibited for all tests in final (except for PRIMERA and NOVILLA)

Headphones: During the competition, the use of headphones by riders is allowed only when training in the warm-up. They are prohibited in all the tests.

No commanders/callers allowed when competing at the Masters final.

Riding Helmets & hats:

The standard riding helmet is accepted with the Iberian outfit and wearing it will not interfere with the points for Freestyle

Minor riders: Whatever the level. Protective hats are to be worn by all riders at all times when mounted at an MCI competition, including exercising, warming up and competing.

Other riders: when mounted at an MCI competition

- With the young horses, Protective hats are to be worn by all riders at all times, including exercising, warming up and competing
- Other horses, the Protective hats are strongly recommended at all times. Major riders, Top hats or uniform caps are permitted as an exception for all MCI tests but only for the warm up directly prior to the competition (which may include riding from horse box park/stable to warm up arena) and the test.

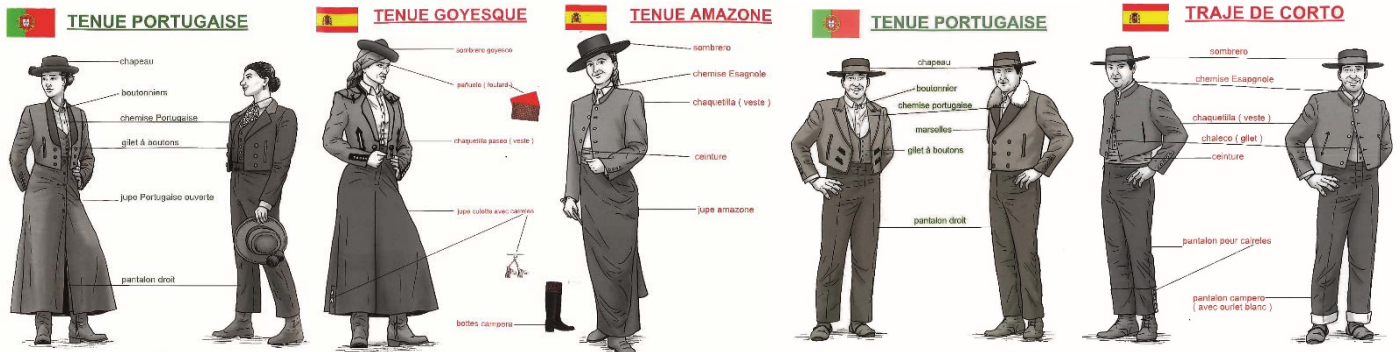
Any Rider in default may be disqualified without refund of their registration or entry fees.

For insurance purposes we must follow these rules

8-5 Freestyle Dress Code Points:

Spanish or Portuguese Dress: 10, 12, 14 or 16 points based on traditional outfits. Classic Dress : 8, 9 or 10 points
Plaited Tail : 1 point Plaited Mane: 1 point Traditional Saddle: 2 points

Spanish or Portuguese Dress : Standards or traditional outfits – see below (Illustrations de la Sellerie RIOJA)



Traditional dress



9 - RANKINGS OF THE EUROPEAN MASTERS (FINAL)

9-1 Individual Masters (14 titles)

Each test will result in a ranking of first to last qualifying competitor. **Competitors ride individually and under the rider Nationality colors.**

In the case of a draw/tie between competitors, the competitor wearing traditional dress will be ranked ahead. If there is still a tie, the highest overall score will decide the final ranking. If a tie still exists the competitors will be ranked equally.

9-2 Masters National team (circuit)

For the team ranking; each qualifying circuit according to the definition in article 3 can claim the team ranking and it will form a team which will take the name of the country where the selections took place. Each competitor is in the team of the circuit that allowed them to qualify, regardless of their nationality.

The ranking is determined by adding the average scores expressed as percentages to three decimal places. Only the 15 best percentages obtained by competitors for each team are taken into account, subject to the following restrictions:

Calculation based on the 15 best percentages obtained by the competitors according to the following scale:

- 3 young horse results (PRIMERA or NOVILLA)
- The 5 best results obtained in Freestyle (CARMENCITA, FLAMENCA, FANDANGO, LUSITANIA, BAILARINA and IBERICA), only the top 2 from each Freestyle test count
- The best 7 results obtained in the tests: GOLEGA, SEVILLA, LISBOA, MADRID, MAGISTRALE et REYALE
- The 1 lowest score are then deducted for an accumulation of 14 results

In case of a tie between teams, the lowest score will be reinstated. If the tie still remains a 16th best result (whatever its origin) will be included in the calculation. If a tie still exists, a 17th result will be included in the calculation and so on until the tiebreaker between the teams.

The top 3 teams will be rewarded on a podium with medals for: Gold, Silver and Bronze

9-3 European Champion Title

For the European Champion title, a combined ranking will be established alongside the individual Masters tests, this title will be presented on a podium with medals for the first 3: Gold, Silver and Bronze.

Final places are calculated by adding the average scores of tests achieved in percentages to three decimal points. In case of a tie, the competitor in traditional dress will be ranked ahead. If still tied, the best total points for the set of the highest tests (Novilla or Freestyle) decide the ranking. The rider presence is mandatory for the awarding of prizes, under penalty of disqualification.

There will be 7 European Champion Titles in 2023

Level Young Horse= PRIMERA + NOVILLA

Level 1 = GOLEGA + CARMENCITA

Level 2 = SEVILLA + FLAMENCA

Level 3 = LISBOA + FANDANGO

Level 4 = MADRID + LUSITANIA

Level 5 = MAGISTRALE + BAILARINA

Level 6 = REYALE + IBERICA

9-3-1 Qualification and Participation Conditions for a European Champion Title in Levels 1 – 4

1 / Freestyle (of the corresponding level) participation is mandatory as part of the qualification process to compete in a European Champion Title

2 / The competitor must qualify and participate in the individual Masters imposed test according to Article 6 of the Regulation.

3 / If a competitor has not qualified in the individual Masters Freestyle test, the rider is still allowed to compete and obtain a score for the European Championship. Subject to comply with item 9-3-1-1.

4 / A rider may only compete in one Level (from 1-4). Riders riding in different categories (between 1-4), must declare in writing at the time of entry or at least 48 hours before the start of the first test of the final: which category of the European Championship Title they are competing in.

5 / A rider who participates in one of the European Championship levels 1- 4 can compete with another horse for the title of European Champion levels 5 or 6 and with another horse for the title of European Champion Young Horse (providing they have obtained the necessary qualification for each horse according to Article 6 of the Regulation).

If a competitor has not clearly indicated his choice of horse or level when entering the Championship, then the level of the first test he rides will define his level of Championship.

9-3-2 Qualification and Participation Conditions for the title of Young Horse European Champion

1 / The competitor must have obtained his individual Masters qualification in one of the two tests (PRIMERA or NOVILLA) (according to Article 6 of these Regulations). He must also be in one of the provisional classifications of selections for the other Young Horse test even if his place does not allow him to access to the individual Masters of the latter.

2 / For the second test, if the competitor is not qualified for the Individual Masters of it, he will nevertheless be allowed to compete to obtain a score for the Young Horse European Championship. Must comply with Point 9-3-2-1

3 / A rider who competes for the title of Young Horse European Champion can compete with another horse for the title of European Champion Title Levels 1-4, and another horse for level 5 or 6 (providing they have obtained the necessary qualification for each horse according to Article 6 of the Regulation)

9-3-3 Qualification and Participation Conditions for a European Champion Title in Levels 5 & 6

1 / BAILARINA or IBERICA Freestyle participation is mandatory as part of the qualification process to compete in a European Champion Title

2 / The competitor must qualify and participate in the individual Masters imposed (MAGISTRALE or REYALE) test according to Article 6 of the Regulation.

3 / The same rider can be classified at Levels 5 and 6. Riders with a horse in each Category (5 & 6) must declare in writing at the time of their entry, or at the latest 48 hours before the start of the first test of the final, which horse will compete for the title of European Champion.

4 / A rider who participates in one of the European Championship levels 5 or 6, can compete with another horse for the title of European Champion levels 1 -4 and with another horse for the title of European Champion Young Horse (providing they have obtained the necessary qualification for each horse according to Article 6 of the Regulation)

If a competitor does not clearly indicate their choice of horse or level when entering the Championship, the first horse competing in one test or level will be taken as their definitive choice.

9-4 summary

A horse can participate only in 2 individual masters = 2 tests

examples 2 imposed test (Sevilla+ Madrid); or 1 imposed test + 1 freestyle (Lisboa + Fandango); or 2 freestyle

A rider can ride only one horse by individual masters, there are 14 different tests = 14 horses maximum per rider. So 14 possibility of title in individual masters...

Title of European Champion :

By horse a single title possible.

By riders 3 possibility of title: one young horse + one level 1 to 4 + one level 5 or 6.

A competitor who, as part of the qualification process has never ride a Freestyle cannot compete at the European Championship levels 1 to 6.

10 - COMPLAINTS (OBJECTIONS)

A complaint against a competitor or horse during the final, in connection with their ranking, their organization or their progress, must be dealt exclusively by the team captain.

Composition of the Appeal committee: The President of ground Jury, the President of the MCI-EU (or his representative), the event Director, all the Team Captains.

Any complaint must be made in writing (no verbal complaint is accepted). For the complaint to be admissible, each complaint must be filed no later than one hour after the incident to the President of ground Jury or a representative of MCI.

Any complainant must pay a deposit of €150. This deposit will be returned for justified claims or the MCI will retain the deposit if the case is rejected.

In all cases where there is a complaint the Appeal committee will be required to adjudicate. The Appeal committee will have all power to address different issues, with reference to these Rules and Regulations as well as

National and international regulations, but these Regulations in particular. These decisions are irrevocable, without appeal and immediately applicable.

11 - MISCELLANEOUS

In the case of a disagreement on the interpretation of the terms and conditions of the competition or the regulations, the interpretive version of the Appeal committee will prevail. MCI-Eu reserves the right to modify these Rules and Regulations, under the laws in force at any time and without notice.

All entrants and members of the MCI including all persons with any involvement in any of the competing horses and riders, are deemed to have read these Rules and Regulations and to be in agreement, without any reservation, on all points contained herein.

All participants are reminded to: have in all circumstances a loyal conduct towards the MCI, to refrain from any behavior likely to undermine the image of the equestrian sports, to respect the decisions of the judges and referees and the sovereignty sports arbitration, to contribute to the fight against doping by participating in the organized preventive actions and by submitting personally to the controls provided for by the laws and regulations in force

12 - INSURANCE AND LIABILITY

Insurance cover currently offered by MCI-Eu. are in the context of its own insurance and cannot engage the association beyond the clauses, guarantees and conditions of the contracts concerned

Additionally, any injury or damage to horses or other animals, objects and personal effects are by no means insured or the responsibility of the MCI-Eu

Competitors (rider & horse) must be personally insured against the consequences of any civil liability that they may incur due to their participation in the contests of MCI, in their capacity of owner, rider or handlers of equines for all rounds of the competition including the final. By entering a dressage test set by MCI, the rider recognizes and certifies that he/she has taken out the relevant insurance for their own personal requirements.

13 VACCINATIONS AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES

All regulatory vaccinations prescribed by ministerial or prefectural decree are mandatory. Vaccination against equine influenza is mandatory to participate in any competition..

Vaccination against rhino pneumonia is strongly recommended, as it may be mandatory in certain countries, for example equine influenza vaccination and rhino pneumonia mandatory since 2024 to be able to compete in certain events in France

During the final : All Horses entering the Stables Area must be registered. They must comply with the equine influenza vaccination requirements as described in FEI Article 1003, undergo an Examination on Arrival and comply with any additional health requirements depending on the host country.

Vaccinations administered against Equine Influenza and other equine infectious diseases must be entered in the Horse's Passport on the correct vaccination page. The name and batch number of the vaccine and the date of administration must be recorded in the Passport

14 - RULES OF THE COMPETITION ARENA AND WARM UP AREAS

The warm up arena/s is provided to work in the horses before the tests. It is therefore necessary to ensure that riders (and their horses) are respectful of other riders. Ensure that the schedule for the day is observed. Ensure before entering the ring that your outfit is correct and your tack properly adjusted.

Arena access is restricted to registered competitors warming up or for competing. It is prohibited for the groom, trainers or others to mount the horse in the paddock, warm up areas or competition arena.

Trainers are not permitted inside the warm up or competition arenas and are only allowed outside of the warm up arena. Verbal comments and training remarks must be made quietly and with discretion from the edge of the arena and without disturbing other riders. Any electronic earbud devices can be used in the warm up arenas or paddock area but must be removed before entering the competition arena. The assistance of a third person with a whip or cane to help the rider is not permitted

Unless with explicit authorization of Stewards of the warm up arenas or paddock areas, it is forbidden to lunge or walk the horse in hand or to stand in the middle of the track. To reduce the risk of accidents, keep a

reasonable distance from other horses and follow the priorities. Riders must pass on the left rein and the left rein will always have priority

Riders practicing transitions and movements other than walk, halt or reinback will have precedence. Passage, piaffe and pirouette take precedence over all other paces and movements. Boots and bandages are allowed in the warm up areas but not in the competition arena during the tests. If possible a pre-paddock will be provided for adjusting the tack or to remove boots and bandages. Do not stop in the middle of the track. If this space does not exist please leave the warm up arena to perform any adjustments and removal of boots and bandages.

Check that none of the tack can harm the horse. Injury from the bridle, spur or hand will result in immediate disqualification, both in the warm up and in the test. Do not hesitate to ask the Stewards of the warm up if you are unsure. Comply with their instructions and treat them with courtesy. They are there to help you

15 - FEI CODE OF CONDUCT

The FEI requires all those involved in international equestrian sport to adhere to the FEI Code of Conduct and to acknowledge and accept that at all times the welfare of the Horse must be paramount. Welfare of the Horse must never be subordinated to competitive or commercial influences. The following points must be particularly adhered to:

Summary of text

1. The welfare of horses takes precedence over all other requirements at all stages of their preparation and their training. This includes good horse management, training methods, farriery and saddler/tack and transportation.

2. To be allowed to compete, horses and competitors must be physically fit, competent and in good health. This includes the use of medications, surgical procedures which threaten the safety or well-being of horses, pregnancy in mares and the misuse of aids..

3. Events must not prejudice horse welfare. This involves constant attention to the competition areas, ground surfaces, weather conditions, stabling, safety of the site and fitness of the horse for onward travel after the event.

4. Every effort must be made to ensure that horses receive the proper attention they are due after the competition and that they are treated humanely when their competition careers are over. This includes proper veterinary care, competition injuries, euthanasia and retirement.

5. The FEI urges all involved with the sport of Equestrianism to attain the highest possible level of knowledge in their areas of expertise.

ARTICLE FEI : OBJECT AND GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF DRESSAGE

DRESSAGE RULES 26th edition, Including updates effective 1st January 2026

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/throughness (Durchlässigkeit) without any tension or resistance.

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A full copy of this Code and article can be obtained from the Federation Equestre Internationale, Avenue Mon-Repos 24, CH-1005 Lausanne, Switzerland (Tel: +41 21 310 4747). The Code is available in English. It can also be found on the FEI website www.horsesport.org

End of the Regulation

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