



## **Changes to the Sport Rules & Guidelines for 2017**

**Effective April 1, 2017**

The following sport-related changes have been made to the FEIF Rules and Regulations and the Sport Judge's Guidelines. The complete details of the changes can be found in the minutes of the Delegates' Assembly 2017 on the FEIF website.

### **1. Elimination of Combinations in PP1**

Combinations receiving "0" from three judges in the first run of PP1 are now allowed a second run.

### **2. C-Finals**

Tournament organizers may include "C" finals if they wish. The "C" final is for riders in places 11 through 15 after the preliminary round. The winner of the "C" final advances to the "B" final.

### **3. Late Withdrawal with Veterinary Excuse**

The veterinary exception to the "late withdrawal" rule is clarified to indicate a veterinary surgeon must examine the horse on the site of the tournament before he may issue an excuse for a late withdrawal.

### **4. Rider Nationality**

Riders may only represent one country in a specific year at competitions where national teams are competing (Mid-European Championships, Nordic Championships, World Championships, etc.). Riders are assumed to have a "sport nationality" based on their representation at the first such event.

Riders may change their registered "sport nationality" per the procedures set forth in the FEIF General Rules not later than April 1 of each year.

### **5. Rein & Pace Direction Choice in Finals**

In the unlikely but possible case of a tie when deciding the starting rein or direction of pace in a final the tie shall be broken by a coin toss.

### **6. Final Equipment & Shoeing Decisions**

The General rules are updated to make it clear the Chief Judge is the final authority when deciding what equipment and shoeing is allowed at a given tournament.

The Chief Judge is also the final authority regarding when a horse may be reshod at a tournament.

### **7. Checking for a Bleeding Horse**

A specific procedure has been added to the Sport Judges' Guidelines for determining whether a horse is bleeding during equipment check.

## 8. Judges on the Pace Track

Any internationally licensed FEIF Breeding or Gæðingakeppni judge may occupy a position on the pace track where the only requirement is to show a flag indicating horse is in pace or not.

## 9. Standardization of “Disqualification” Terms

The rules have been inconsistent regarding the terminology around the removal of a horse & rider combination from a test. The rules are now standardized to the FEI terms:

Term	General Meaning
Withdrawn	The rider has cancelled his start prior to a test within the allowed time or with a valid reason accepted by the Chief Judge.
Retired	The rider started a test but abandoned the performance of his own choosing.
Eliminated	The rider has started, but the rider had to end the performance due to the breach of the rules. This is a decision of the judges.
No show	The rider did not come to start without further information.

## 10. Role of Arbitration Committee

The arbitration committee at a competition should provide a path of appeal for a rider rather than being involved in all disqualification / elimination decisions. The General Rules are updated to indicate this change.

## 11. World Championships Changes

Several changes are made to the rules related to the World Championships all to take immediate effect for the World Championships 2017.

- a. Teams with 8 or more riders are entitled to a Deputy Team Leader. The Deputy shall have the same access rights as the Team Leader.
- b. Text related to judges and timekeepers entered by countries is deleted.
- c. Text related to countries judging tests is deleted.
- d. Limitations on the shoeing control judges are removed.

## 12. Experimental: Alternative Shoeing in Competition

The Sport Committee in response to repeated national requests is offering an experimental chance to try a limited number of alternatives to the normal nailed-on steel shoes allowed by the Sport Rules.

Refer to the separate document “*Permitted Alternative Shoeing Options for Sport Competition*” for more information.

