

**RULES GOVERNING NATIONAL EQUESTRIAN
CHAMPIONSHIPS/EFI HORSE SHOWS
DRESSAGE: EFFECTIVE 1ST JAN 2015**

Article 1

CATEGORIES:-

1. NEC Intermediate-I
2. NEC Prix St Georges
3. NEC Advanced Test
4. FEI WDC Medium Test
5. FEI WDC Elementary
6. FEI WDC Preliminary

Note: For all regional/EFI approved horse shows the FEI WDC Medium Test must be used as the test for the “open dressage test” category. **The Elementary test currently being used is outdated and not followed by FEI.**

Article 2

ELIGIBILITY OF RIDERS

1. All riders 16 years and above can participate. **Article 502 (JNEC) refers.**
2. Teams will comprise of three riders and all three scores will count.
3. A Rider can enter a max of-three horses in each grade in the NEC. He will have to nominate any two horses for his percentage to be counted towards rider points and medals. Nominated horses will start first in the competition. A rider will get points in any grade for his highest placed nominated horse only. The percentage of the other horses will only be counted towards up gradation and not towards rider points irrespective of the result
4. **A rider in Dressage must get Minimum of 60% Marks in each grade to get rider points and 60% to be awarded a medal Article 5 refers.**

**RULES GOVERNING NATIONAL EQUESTRIAN
CHAMPIONSHIPS/EFI HORSE SHOWS
DRESSAGE: 2016**

Article 1

CATEGORIES:- All the following categories will be applicable for NEC as well as FEI WDC:-

- | | | |
|------------------------|---|--------|
| 1. Intermediate-I | - | Appx A |
| 2. Prix St Georges | - | Appx B |
| 3. Advanced Test | - | Appx C |
| 4. Medium Test NEC | - | Appx D |
| 5. Medium Test FEI WDC | - | Appx E |
| 6. Elementary | - | Appx F |
| 7. Preliminary | - | Appx G |

Note: For all regional/EFI approved horse shows the FEI WDC Medium Test must be used as the test for the “open dressage test” category.

Article 2

ELIGIBILITY OF RIDERS

1. All riders 16 years and above can participate. **Article 502 (JNEC) refers.**
2. Teams will comprise of three riders and all three scores will count.
3. **A Rider can enter a max of-two horses in each grade in the NEC. He will have to nominate any one horse for his percentage to be counted towards rider points and medals. Nominated horses will start first in the competition. A rider will get points in any grade for his nominated horse only. The percentage of the other horses will only be counted towards up gradation and medal for the event entered and not towards rider points irrespective of the result**
4. **FEI Events:-**
 - (a) Should a foreign rider based in India wish to compete in any FEI Competition (including FEI WCD) will compete for his/her own flag and need to get his/her National Federation's permission (NOC)

Article 3

ELIGIBILITY / PARTICIPATION OF HORSES

1. Horses must participate in the Test according to their grade.
2. All horses of 4 yrs of age and above can participate in Preliminary/Novice.
3. All horses of 5 yrs of age and above can participate in Elementary Dressage.
4. All horses 6 yrs of age and above can participate in NEC Medium/Advance Dressage.
5. All horses 7 yrs of age and above can participate in NEC Prix St Georges & Inter-1 Dressage.
6. **It is mandatory for the organizers to conduct all Dressage competitions of all grades irrespective of the number of entries, to enable the riders to upgrade their horses.**
7. Refer to Article 12(Dressage) for Hors Concours entry.
8. Horses of all grades will be allowed to be used for Children 1, Children 2, Juniors and Young Rider dressage.

Article 4

GRADING OF DRESSAGE HORSES

GRADE	
PRELIMINARY	Any horse who has not been graded in a higher grade
NOVICE	All horses upgraded from Preliminary grade
ELEMENTARY	All horses upgraded from Novice grade & downgraded from Medium grade.
MEDIUM	All horses upgraded from Elementary grade & downgraded from Advanced grade.
ADVANCED	All horses upgraded from Medium grade & downgraded from PSG grade.
PRIX St GEORGES	All horses upgraded from Advance grade and downgraded from Inter-1.
INTERMEDIATE - I	All horses upgraded from Prix St Georges grade.

Note: As per the FEI WDC rules a horse will be allowed to compete in its own grade and one grade higher.

(b) **Foreign Riders not to form as part of Indian Team:** Foreign Riders will not be the part of Indian Team. A foreign rider can participate in the Indian Chapter of WCD but they will have to get an NOC from their own Federation and their score will not be counted against India.

5. **National Equestrian Championship:** All athletes having Indian Nationality are allowed to participate in the National Championship. **However, a foreign rider is allowed to take part in regional horse shows but in the National Championship He/She can participate as an HC Entry.**

Article 3

ELIGIBILITY / PARTICIPATION OF HORSES

1. Horses must participate in the Test according to their grade.
2. All horses of 4 yrs of age and above can participate in Preliminary.
3. All horses of 5 yrs of age and above can participate in Elementary Dressage.
4. All horses 6 yrs of age and above can participate in NEC Medium/Advance Dressage.
5. All horses 7 yrs of age and above can participate in NEC Prix St Georges & Inter-1 Dressage.
6. **It is mandatory for the organizers to conduct all Dressage competitions of all grades irrespective of the number of entries, to enable the riders to upgrade their horses.**
7. Refer to **Article 11 (Dressage)** for Horse Concours entry.
8. Horses of all grades **except for Inter-I & Prix St George** will be allowed to be used for Children 1, Children 2, Juniors and Young Rider dressage.

Article 4

GRADING OF DRESSAGE HORSES

GRADE	
PRELIMINARY	Any horse who has not been graded in a higher grade
ELEMENTARY	All horses upgraded from Preliminary grade & downgraded from Medium grade.
MEDIUM	All horses upgraded from Elementary grade & downgraded from Advanced grade.
ADVANCED	All horses upgraded from Medium grade & downgraded from PSG grade.
PRIX St GEORGES	All horses upgraded from Advance grade and downgraded from Inter-1.
INTERMEDIATE - I	All horses upgraded from Prix St Georges grade.

Note: As per the FEI WDC rules a horse will be allowed to compete in its own grade and one grade higher.

Article 5

GRADING PROCEDURES GENERAL

1. All grading of horses will be done based on the results of NEC Dressage / FEI WCD / EFI Horse Show. **Horses will be graded after every NEC / FEI WDC / EFI Horse Show.**
2. All six grades of Dressage will be held at every Horse Show in the EFI calendar. All competitions will be organized in a progressive manner starting with Preliminary and ending with Inter-1 to enable a horse to participate in up to two Dressage grades in a single Horse Show if it gets 55% in each grade.
3. **Example: A Preliminary grade horse that has scored 55% or above can participate for a medal in its own grade & Elementary grade in every NEC / EFI Horse Show provided that it has scored a minimum of 55% in each grade. If the Preliminary grade horse scored below 55% in Elementary grade, that is it's next higher grade, it is not entitled to participate in Medium grade. Similarly for all other grades. However, horses will be upgraded only when they score 60% or above in their own grade.**
4. It is the responsibility of the participant to enter in the event of correct grade of eligibility. Any error would mean automatic disqualification and forfeiture of entry fee and withdrawal of prizes and placing awarded. Further participation in that Meet/ Horse Show/ Championship will be as per discretion of organizing Committee.
5. **All horses when competing in India for the first time, in Dressage, may enter in any grade of their choice. For subsequent competitions, both NEC and EFI approved, the grading of the horse entered will remain the same as given initially, irrespective of change or request of rider /owner/club /unit. Thereafter and all upgradations will apply as per Article 6.**
6. If a rider wants to upgrade his horse at anytime he can do so by writing an application to the EFI. Once the horse is upgraded the horse can only be downgraded as per Article 7.

Article 5

GRADING PROCEDURES GENERAL

1. All grading of horses will be done based on the results of NEC Dressage & FEI WCD. **Horses will be graded after every NEC & FEI WDC. Except for upgradation of Adv grade which will be done on the basis of result of NEC Medium Test as given in Appx 'D'**
2. All six grades of Dressage will be held at every Horse Show in the EFI calendar. All competitions will be organized in a progressive manner starting with Preliminary and ending with Inter-1 to enable a horse to participate in higher grades in a single Horse Show if it gets MER as mentioned in **Article 16** and meeting the age criteria.
3. It is the responsibility of the participant to enter in the event of correct grade of eligibility. Any error would mean automatic disqualification and forfeiture of entry fee and withdrawal of prizes and placing awarded. Further participation in that Meet/ Horse Show/ Championship will be as per discretion of organizing Committee. **Necessary disciplinary action will be initiated by EFI for any such violation.**
4. **All horses when competing in India for the first time, in Dressage, may enter in any grade of their choice. For subsequent competitions, both NEC and EFI approved, the grading of the horse entered will remain the same as given initially, irrespective of change or request of rider /owner/club /unit. Thereafter all upgradations will apply as per Article 6.**
5. If a rider wants to upgrade his horse at anytime he can do so by giving an application to the EFI which will be vetted and approved by a committee consisting of Vp Tech, Secy Gen & Member Discipline. Once the horse is upgraded the horse can only be downgraded as per Article 7.
6. **Double upgradation in one Equestrian Calendar year (01 Sep – 31 Aug):-**
 - (a) With the present policy of participation a horse may participate in two or more different grades in the same EFI Calendar year (01 Sep to 31 Aug). With this policy in vogue it is possible that certain horse may get upgraded by two grades within the same EFI Calendar yr. However, the rider will have the liberty whether to accept or reject the 2nd upgradation within the same yr by sending a written application to Secy Gen EFI.
 - (b) In case, after the first upgradation if the horse participates in next higher grade and achieve results within first three positions in individual event of NEC during the same EFI calendar yr the horse will remain in the next higher grade in which he participated (i.e 2nd upgradation).

Article 6

UP GRADING PROCEDURES

FROM	TO	
Novice Preliminary	Elementary	Any horse that scores 60% or more in one NEC / EFI Horse Show Novice test which has National Judges will be upgraded. All Preliminary horses will be compulsorily upgraded to Elementary grade on completion of two years
Elementary	Medium	Any horse that scores 60% or more in one NEC / EFI Horse Show Elementary test which has National Judges will be upgraded.
Medium	Advanced	Any horse that scores 60% in one NEC / EFI Horse Show Medium test which has National Judges will be upgraded.
Advanced	Prix St Georges	Any horse that scores 60% in one NEC / EFI Horse Show which has National Judges will be upgraded.
Prix St Georges	Intermediate-I	Any horse that scores 60% in one NEC / EFI Horse Show which has National Judges is entitled will be upgraded.
Asian Games Trials	Prix St Georges/ Inter - 1	Any horse that scores more than 60% in any of the trials is entitled to be upgraded to the grade (Prix St Georges / Inter-1) it has participated in. Alternatively the horse will be graded as per norms laid down for its original grade.
World Dressage Challenge Tests	Advanced/ Prix St Georges/ Inter-1	Any horse that scores 60% or more in the World Dressage Challenge Advance/PSG tests is entitled to be upgraded into that relevant grade.

NOTE:

The competitions where up gradation of horses is considered has to be NEC/EFI approved event which has National Judges/ FEI Judges

Article 6

UP GRADING PROCEDURES

FROM	TO	<u>MINIMUM ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS (MER)</u>
Preliminary	Elementary	Any horse that scores 60% or more in NEC / FEI WDC Preliminary test which has National Judges will be upgraded. All Preliminary horses will be compulsorily upgraded to Elementary grade on completion of two years
Elementary	Medium	Any horse that scores 60% or more in NEC / FEI WDC Elementary test which has National Judges will be upgraded.
Medium	Advanced	Any horse that scores 60% in NEC Medium test which has National / International Judges will be upgraded.
Advanced	Prix St Georges	Any horse that scores 60% in NEC / FEI WDC which has National Judges will be upgraded.
Prix St Georges	Intermediate-I	Any horse that scores 60% in NEC / FEI WDC which has National Judges.
Asian Games Trials	Prix St Georges/ Inter - 1	Any horse that scores more than 60% in any of the trials is entitled to be upgraded to the grade (Prix St Georges / Inter-1) it has participated in. Alternatively the horse will be graded as per norms laid down for its original grade.

Article 7

DOWN GRADING PROCEDURES

1. Down grading is permitted only up to elementary dressage. (No downgrading permitted below this grade)
2. Any horse that scores less than 50% in two consecutive tests in its own grade (ie Medium/Advanced/PSG/Inter-1) may be downgraded on a written application to the Secy Gen. No down grading will be done below Elementary grade.

Article 8

BITTING/SPURS RULES FOR DRESSAGE

- | | | |
|----------------------|---|---------------------------|
| 1. -Preliminary Test | : | Snaffle. |
| 2. Elementary Test | : | Snaffle. |
| 3. Medium Test | : | Snaffle. |
| 4. Advance Test | : | Snaffle or double bridle. |
| 5. Prix St Georges | : | Double bridle only. |
| 6. Intermediate-I | : | Double bridle only |

Spurs are mandatory for all tests.

Article 9

MINIMUM STANDARD GUIDELINE (Shifted to Art 14 in amendments)

The minimum standards of entitlement for awarding of medals in the National Equestrian Championships is **60%**. A rider has to score at least 60% to be entitled to a National medal. This has been incorporated to debar presentation of medals to undeserving participants in the unlikely circumstances where participation in NEC is either very limited or unrepresentative of National standards.

Article 10

GENERAL

1. For the purpose of judging and technical conduct the FEI rules would apply.
2. Spurs must be made of metal. The shank must be either curved or straight pointing directly back from the center of the spur. The arms of the spur must be smooth or blunt. If rowels are used, they must be blunt/smooth and free to rotate. Spurs without shanks **“DUMMY”** spurs are permitted. The length of a dressage whip will not exceed **120 cms.**
3. At all National events, it is, under penalty of elimination, forbidden to carry a whip of

Article 7

DOWN GRADING PROCEDURES

1. Down grading is permitted only up to elementary dressage. (No downgrading permitted below this grade)
2. Any horse that scores less than 50% in two consecutive tests in its own grade in **NEC/FEI WDC** (ie Medium/Advanced/PSG/Inter-1) may be downgraded on a written application to **the EFI which will be vetted and approved by a committee consisting of VP Tech, Secy Gen & Member Discipline.**

Article 8

BITTING/SPURS RULES FOR DRESSAGE

As per FEI Dressage Rules.

Article 9

GENERAL:- General conduct of competition as per FEI Dressage Rules.

Note: Two medals will not be awarded for the same event.

Article-10

TECHNICAL CONDUCT AND VETERINARY REGULATIONS : As per FEI Rules (FEI Dressage Rules, General Regulations & Veterinary Rules

any kind while competing. However, the use of a whip in the practice arena is allowed. Whips will not be carried while reporting to the judges before the start of the individuals competition.

4. **The whip must be dropped before entering the space around the competition arena.**
5. **All the following are considered errors and 2 points will be deducted per error, but they are not cumulative and will not result in elimination:-**
 - (a) **Entering the space around the arena with whip.**
 - (b) **Entering the arena with whip.**
 - (c) **Entering the arena before the sound of the bell.**
 - (d) **Not entering the arena within 45 secs after the bell, but before 90 secs.**
6. Martingales, breast plates, bit guards, any kind of gadgets (such as bearing, side, running or balancing reins, etc.), any kind of boots or bandages and any form of blinkers, including ear muff, hoods and any others, are, **under penalty of elimination, strictly forbidden.**
- 7 Any decoration of the horse with unnatural things, such as ribbons or flowers, etc. in the tail, etc. is strictly forbidden.
8. Normal plating of the horse's mane and tail, however, is allowed.

Article-11 (Shifted to Art 10 in amendments)

TECHNICAL CONDUCT AND VETERINARY REGULATIONS : As per FEI Rules (FEI Dressage Rules, General Regulations & Veterinary Rules)

Article-12 (Shifted to Art 11 in amendments)

Hors Concours (HC)- A horse is allowed to start the competition in its own grade or any LOWER grade but will **not be** entitled for any benefits whatsoever. All HC entries will start at the top order of the draw in the competition. No horse can participate HC in a higher grade. Different provisions exist for a horse to participate in higher grades. **Article 5.2 refers.**

Article 13 (Shifted to Art 12 in amendments)

ABUSE / CRUELTY TO HORSES

1. WHIP

The use of a whip must be:

- for a good reason;
- at an appropriate time;
- in the right place;
- with appropriate severity.

Article-11

Hors Concours (HC):- A horse is allowed to start the competition in its own grade or any LOWER grade but will **not be** entitled for any benefits whatsoever including upgradation & downgradation. All HC entries will start at the top order of the draw in the competition. No horse can participate as HC in a higher grade.

Article 12

ABUSE / CRUELTY TO HORSES:- As per FEI Dressage Rules. **(IT IS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE PRESIDENT GROUND JURY TO ELIMINATE THE RIDER AND/OR AWARD A YELLOW CARD AS PER FEI GUIDELINES)**

Article 13

JURY FOR NEC/EFI HORSE SHOWS

There will never be any **SINGLE MEMBER JURY** whether foreign or Indian for any **NEC / EFI Horse Show / Any Trial**. There will be preferably 3/5 member jury. All jury members scores will count.

Type

Whips with raised seams, metal interior, projections, metal rivets etc are not allowed.

Reason

The whip must only be used either as an aid to encourage the horse forward or as a reprimand. Thus it must never be used to vent a rider’s temper - any use for such a reason is automatically excessive and therefore a breach of these Rules.

Time

As an aid, the appropriate time is when the horse is reluctant to go forward under normal aids of seat and legs. As a reprimand, the only appropriate time is immediately after a horse has been disobedient, eg refusing (**but not after elimination, when it will always be excessive**). The whip should not be used after a horse has jumped the last fence on a course.

Place

As an aid to go forward, the whip may be used down the shoulder or behind the leg. It must never be used ‘over-arm’, eg a whip in the right hand being used to the left flank.
The use of a whip on a horse’s head or ‘over-arm’ on the neck is always excessive use.

Severity

It should never be hit more than once after disengaging the hand from the reins for any one incident; and if the horse is marked by the whip, eg the skin is broken or there is a weal, its use is excessive. **Horses with evident whip abuse signs may not be allowed to start at the discretion of the President Ground Jury.**

2. SPURS

Spurs must not be used to reprimand a horse. Such use is always excessive, as is any use that results in a horse being marked by a spur. **Horses with evident spur abuse signs may not be allowed to start at the discretion of the President Ground Jury.**

3. BIT

The bit must never be used to reprimand a horse. Any such use is excessive. **Horses with evident bit abuse signs may not be allowed to start at the discretion of the President Ground Jury.**

IT IS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE PRESIDENT GROUND JURY TO ELIMINATE THE RIDER AND/OR AWARD A YELLOW CARD FOR ANY OF THE ABOVE OFFENCES

Article 14

Jury for NEC/EFI Horse Shows (Shifted to Art 13 in amendments)

There will never be any **SINGLE MEMBER JURY** whether foreign or Indian for any **NEC / EFI Horse Show / Any Trial**. There will be preferably 3/5 member jury . All jury members scores will count.

Article 15–100 BLANK

DRESSAGE POINTS 2013

EVENTS	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6 th
NEC Intermediate-I	22	18	14	10	8	6
NEC/FEI World Challenge Prix St Georges	18	14	10	8	6	4
NEC/FEI World Challenge Advance	10	8	6	4	2	0
NEC Medium	8	6	4	2	0	0
International Dressage on Borrowed Horses in India & Abroad	8	6	4	2	0	0

NOTE:

1. A rider will only get points in each grade for highest placed nominated horse.
2. A rider in Dressage must get Minimum of 60% Marks in each grade to get rider points and medal.
3. The moment National Events / International Events are held in next calendar year the points for the previous year will be cancelled.
4. If an event is not held in the next calendar year, points will be valid for only 12 months.
5. In International competitions on borrowed horses in India 2 teams of three riders will be selected as given below:-

Article 14

MINIMUM STANDARD FOR A NATIONAL MEDAL

A rider in Dressage must get following Minimum % of marks mentioned against each grade to get rider points as well as to be awarded a National medal:-

(a)	NEC Intermediate-I	-	55%
(b)	NEC Prix St-George	-	55%
(c)	NEC Advanced	-	58%
(d)	NEC Medium	-	58%
(e)	NEC Elementary	-	60%
(f)	NEC Preliminary	-	60%

Article 15

RIDER POINTS

DRESSAGE POINTS 2016

EVENTS	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6 th
NEC Intermediate-I	20	18	16	14	12	10
NEC/FEI World Challenge Prix St Georges	16	14	12	10	8	6
NEC/FEI World Challenge Advance	14	12	10	8	6	4
NEC Medium	12	10	8	6	4	2
International Dressage on Borrowed Horses in India & Abroad	12	10	8	6	4	2

NOTE:

1. A rider will only get points in each grade for the nominated horse.
2. A rider in Dressage must get **Minimum % of Marks as given in Art 14** mentioned against **each grade** to get rider points and medal.
3. The moment National Events / International Events are held in next **equestrian calendar (01 Sep – 31 Aug)** year the points for the previous year will be cancelled.
4. If an event is not held in the next equestrian calendar year, points will be valid for only 12 months.
5. In International competitions on borrowed horses in India 2 teams of three riders will be selected as given below:-

(a) 1st Team based on Rider Points. However, it is mandatory for the selected riders to give appropriate grade horses for the pool in the competition.

(b) 2nd team from an open selection competition.

(a) 1st Team based on Rider Points. However, it is mandatory for the selected riders to give appropriate grade horses for the pool in the competition.

(b) 2nd team from an open selection competition.

Article 16–100 BLANK