



## **REINING RULES**

5th Edition, effective 1<sup>st</sup> January 2016

Updates effective 1<sup>st</sup> January 201920

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## **PREAMBLE**

The present Reining Rules are the 5th edition, effective 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2016.

As from the aforementioned date, all other texts covering the same matter (other editions and all other official documents) issued previously are superseded.

Although this booklet sets out the detailed Rules of the FEI governing International Reining Events, it must be read in conjunction with the Statutes, the General Regulations (“General Regulations”) and the Veterinary Regulations (“Veterinary Regulations”) and any other FEI Rules and Regulations.

Every eventuality cannot be provided for in these Rules. These Rules are supplemented by a “Notes for Guidance” document published and updated from time to time on the FEI website. When interpreting the rules, the “Notes for Guidance” document should also be taken into account and the Rules should be interpreted accordingly. Additionally, in any unforeseen or exceptional circumstances, it is the duty of the Ground Jury and any other FEI Official to make a decision in a sporting spirit and approaching as nearly as possible to the intention of these Rules and of the General Regulations and any other FEI Rules and Regulations.

For the sake of brevity these Rules use the masculine form; this is to be interpreted to include both genders. Terms with a capitalised first letter are defined in the Reining Rules, in the General Regulations or in the Statutes.

## FEI CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE WELFARE OF THE HORSE

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:

### 1. General Welfare:

#### a) Good Horse management

Stabling and feeding must be compatible with the best Horse management practices. Clean and good quality forage, feed and water must always be available.

#### b) Training methods

Horses must only undergo training that matches their physical capabilities and level of maturity for their respective disciplines. They must not be subjected to methods which are abusive or cause fear.

#### c) Farriery and tack

Foot care and shoeing must be of a high standard. Tack must be designed and fitted to avoid the risk of pain or injury.

#### d) Transport

During transportation, Horses must be fully protected against injuries and other health risks. Vehicles must be safe, well ventilated, maintained to a high standard, disinfected regularly and driven by competent personnel. Competent handlers must always be available to manage the Horses.

#### e) Transit

All journeys must be planned carefully, and Horses allowed regular rest periods with access to food and water in line with current FEI guidelines.

### 2. Fitness to compete:

#### a) Fitness and competence

Participation in Competition must be restricted to fit Horses and Athletes of proven competence. Horses must be allowed suitable rest period between training and competitions; additional rest periods should be allowed following travelling.

#### b) Health status

No Horse deemed unfit to compete may compete or continue to compete, veterinary advice must be sought whenever there is any doubt.

#### c) Doping and Medication

Any action or intent of doping and illicit use of medication constitute a serious welfare issue and will not be tolerated. After any veterinary treatment, sufficient time must be allowed for full recovery before Competition.

#### d) Surgical procedures

Any surgical procedures that threaten a competing Horse's welfare or the safety of other Horses and/or Athletes must not be allowed.

e) Pregnant/recently foaled mares

Mares must not compete after their fourth month of pregnancy or with foal at foot.

f) Misuse of aids

Abuse of a Horse using natural riding aids or artificial aids (e.g. whips, spurs, etc.) will not be tolerated.

**3. Events must not prejudice Horse welfare:**

a) Competition areas

Horses must be trained and compete on suitable and safe surfaces. All obstacles and competition conditions must be designed with the safety of the Horse in mind.

b) Ground surfaces

All ground surfaces on which Horses walk, train or compete must be designed and maintained to reduce factors that could lead to injury.

c) Extreme weather

Competitions must not take place in extreme weather conditions that may compromise welfare or safety of the Horse. Provision must be made for cooling conditions and equipment for Horses after competing.

d) Stabling at Events

Stables must be safe, hygienic, comfortable, well ventilated and of sufficient size for the type and disposition of the Horse. Washing-down areas and water must always be available.

**4. Humane treatment of horses:**

a) Veterinary treatment

Veterinary expertise must always be available at an Event. If a Horse is injured or exhausted during a Competition, the Athlete must stop competing and a veterinary evaluation must be performed.

b) Referral centres

Wherever necessary, Horses should be collected by ambulance and transported to the nearest relevant treatment centre for further assessment and therapy. Injured Horses must be given full supportive treatment before being transported.

c) Competition injuries

The incidence of injuries sustained in Competition should be monitored. Ground surface conditions, frequency of Competitions and any other risk factors should be examined carefully to indicate ways to minimise injuries.

d) Euthanasia

If injuries are sufficiently severe a Horse may need to be euthanised on humane grounds by a veterinarian as soon as possible, with the sole aim of minimising suffering.

e) Retirement

Horses must be treated sympathetically and humanely when they retire from Competition.

**5. Education:**

The FEI urges all those involved in equestrian sport to attain the highest possible levels of education in areas of expertise relevant to the care and management of the Competition Horse.

This Code of Conduct for the Welfare of the Horse may be modified from time to time and the views of all are welcomed. Particular attention will be paid to new research findings and the FEI encourages further funding and support for welfare studies.

## **CHAPTER I General**

### **Article 300 International Rules**

1. These Rules are intended to standardise International Reining Events as far as is possible, so that the conditions at such Events are fair and similar for all Athletes.
2. A Reining Event commences one hour before the First Horse Inspection and concludes one half hour after the announcement of the Final Results.
3. Reining is a judged Event designed to show the athletic ability of a western type Horse in the confines of a show arena.
4. In a Reining Competition, Athletes/Horses are required to run one of several approved patterns. Each pattern includes small slow circles, large fast circles, flying lead changes, roll backs over the hocks, 360 degree spins done in place, backups and the sliding stops that are the hallmark of the reining Horse.



## CHAPTER II Structure of Competitions

### Article 301 Competitions

1. International Reining Events are divided into CRI (Concours de Reining International) and CRIO (Concours de Reining International Officiel):

2. **Star Rating of CRIs:**

Event	level
CRI 1*	Apprentice
CRI 2*	Intermediate
CRI 3*	Advanced
CRIO4*	International Team Competitions
CH-EU-R / CH-M-R	FEI Continental and World Championships
WEG	FEI World Equestrian Games

3. **CRI**

- 3.1. They must comply with the requirements of the General Regulations and the FEI Reining Rules.
- 3.2. In these Events there must only be an official individual Classification. CRIs can be run over one or two go rounds.
- 3.3. CRIs for Seniors are identified in the FEI Calendar as CRI1\*/ CRI2\*/ CRI3\*/- /CRIO4\*.
- 3.4. CRIs for Young Riders are identified in the FEI Calendar as CRIYR1\*/ CRIYR2\*/ CRIYR3\*.
- 3.5. CRIs for Juniors are identified in the FEI Calendar as CRIJ1\*/ CRIJ2\*/ CRIJ3\*.
- 3.6. CRIs for Children are identified in the FEI Calendar as CRCh1\*

4. **CRIO and Championships**

- 4.1. CRIOs and Championships must comply with the requirements of the General Regulations and the FEI Rules Reining Rules.
- 4.2. Championships are defined in the calendar as CH-EU-R or CH-M-R or WEG.
- 4.3. At a CRIOs and Championships, there must be an individual and team classification.
- 4.4. A minimum of three teams is necessary for a Team Competition to be considered an Official Team Competition.
- 4.5. Each team and additional Individual Athletes must be of the same sport nationality.
- 4.6. Entries for CRIOs and Championships (excluding WEG)
  - 4.6.1. Each NF may enter one team of four Athletes and four Horses and up to a maximum of two additional Individual Athletes and Horses.
- 4.7. Entries for World Equestrian Games

- 4.7.1. Each NF may enter one team of four Athletes and Horses and one additional Individual Athlete and Horse.
- 4.8. Classification for CRIOS and Championships
- 4.8.1. The three best results from the team combinations will be considered for the final team classification.
- 4.8.2. A team of three Athletes may be admitted. In this case, the marks of all three are taken into consideration for the final classification providing all three finish the Competition. Further, if a team of only three Athletes is entered, no additional Individual Athletes can be entered by that NF.
- 4.9. A NF that cannot send a team may send a maximum of two Individual Athletes.
5. **FEI World Equestrian Games and Continental/World Championships**
- 5.1. The following Competition formula shall be used for FEI World Equestrian Games and Continental/World Championships:
- Competition 1            Team/Individual Competition Team Medals.
- Athletes placed first to fifteen (15) qualify directly for the Individual Final, to include ties at fifteen's place.
- Competition 2            Second Qualifying Competition (no prize-money).
- Open to Athletes placed sixteenth (16) to thirty-fifth (35) in the Team/Individual Competition.
- The highest place eligible for the second qualifying competition is thirty fifth (35) place, including ties for thirty fifth (35).
- Competition 3            Individual Final – Individual Medals
- Open to the fifteen (15) best Athletes as above and five best Athletes from the Second Qualifying Competition including the ties for the fifth place in the second qualifying competition.
- A rest day must be scheduled, preferably between competition 2 and competition 3.
- 5.2. The Second Qualifying Competition and the rest day are optional for Continental and World Championships, excluding World Equestrian Games.
- 5.3. In case no second Qualifying Competition is scheduled, the Individual Final shall be open to the best twenty (20) Athletes from Competition 1 including the ties for the 20<sup>th</sup> place.

## CHAPTER III Eligibility

### Article 302 Athlete

1. Any person from the year in which they reach their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday is allowed to take part in all Senior Reining Competitions (CRIs, CRIOS and FEI Championships) either as an individual or as a team member.
2. Any person from the year in which they reach the age of 14 until the year in which they reach the age of 18 is allowed to take part in Junior Reining Competitions.
3. Any person from the year in which they reach the age of 16 until the year in which they reach the age of 21 is allowed to take part in Reining Competitions for Young Riders.
4. Any person from the year in which they reach the age of 12 until the year in which they reach the age of 14 is allowed to take part in Reining Competitions for Children.

### Article 303 Qualifications

1. The World and Continental Reining Championships are open to all Athletes eligible according to FEI published qualification criteria.
2. For World, Continental Championships, a Certificate of Capability required from NFs for all entered Athletes. Minimum qualification standards will be established by the FEI for each FEI World, Continental Championships and published on the FEI Website.
3. FEI Reining has five levels of Competition, CRI 1\*, 2\*, 3\*, 4\* and Championships. Athletes have three levels of Qualification (Expertise). These are 1\* (Apprentice), 2\* (Intermediate) and 3\* (Advanced). In order to progress up through the level of Competitions an Athlete must qualify at each level before being allowed/required to compete at the next higher level. National Athletes have automatic entry to 1\* FEI Reining Competitions.

### Article 304 Star Level qualification

1. Star qualification of Senior Athletes

Category	Qualification criteria
1* Athletes	no minimum qualification criteria required
2* Athletes	Athletes who have successfully completed two different CRI1* with a minimum average score of 65 points at each of those CRIs.
3* Athletes	Athletes who have successfully completed two different CRI2* with a minimum average of 68 points at each CRI2*.

## 2. Star qualification of Juniors and Young Riders

Category	Qualification criteria
1* Athletes	no minimum qualification criteria required
2* Athletes	Athletes who have successfully completed two different CRIJ1* or CRIYR1* with a minimum average score of 65 points at each CRIJ1* or CRIYR1*.
3* Athletes	Athletes who have successfully completed two different CRIJ2* or CRIYR2* with a minimum average of 68 points at each CRIJ or CRIYR.

3. Star qualification is obtained for life.
4. Championships Open to FEI 3\* Athletes achieving the Championship qualification criteria as published by the FEI in advance of the Championship.
5. Athletes who have achieved the requirements for the next star rating level are no longer allowed to compete in the previous level.

**Article 305 Fast track procedure**

1. NFs may fast track Athletes to a star level. ~~provided the Athletes have never started in a CRI before.~~
2. Each request for fast track must be ~~accompanied by a report of records and must be approved sent to by~~ the FEI at the latest 30 days before the start of the Event.

**Article 306 Youth qualification**

1. A star rated Young Rider or Junior is automatically qualified for the equivalent star rating level in Senior Competitions.
2. A Young Rider or Junior may decide to start participating in Senior Competitions at a star rating level lower than the one he has attained in his own class. This new star level will be the level he will have to start progressing up from, as per Article 304.1.
3. A Junior Athlete may decide to start participating in Young Rider Competitions at a star rating level lower than the one he has attained in his own class. This new star level will be the level he will have to start progressing up from, as per Article 304.2.
4. Star rating qualification does not apply to Athletes competing in Children categories.

### **Article 307 Invitations**

1. **CRI**  
The number of Officials and Athletes, competing as individuals, to whom hospitality will be extended is at the discretion of the OC. The number of individuals, which can be accepted, will be stated in the official invitation to foreign NFs.
2. **CRIO and FEI Championships**
  - 2.1. CRIO and FEI Championships
    - 2.1.1 Four Athletes and four Horses plus up to two Individual Athletes and Horses, a non-riding Chef d'Equipe and a Team Veterinary must be included in the official invitation to the NF concerned.
  - 2.2. World Equestrian Games
    - 2.2.1 Four Athletes and four Horses plus one Individual Athlete and Horse, a non-riding Chef d'Equipe and a Team Veterinary must be included in the official invitation to the NF concerned.
  - 2.3. A NF that is not able to send a team may send up to two individual Athletes and two Horses.
  - 2.4. OC of a CRI, CRIO and FEI Championship must accept one Groom per Athlete.
  - 2.5. With regard to the number of NFs required for FEI Championships See General Regulations

### **Article 308 Expenses and Privileges**

1. The Entry Fee and expenses to be offered is at the discretion of the OC.
2. OCs of World and Continental Championships may accept responsibility for meeting the travelling and living expenses of all Athletes, Horses, Grooms and team Officials to be invited according to the Rules from the day before the First Horse Inspection until the day after the end of the FEI Championships. This must be published in the Schedule.
3. OCs of World Equestrian Games must accept responsibility for meeting the living expenses of Athletes, horses, grooms and team Officials (Chefs d'Equipe and Veterinarians) to be invited according to the rules from the day before the First Horse Inspection until the day after the end of the Championships. This must be published in the Schedule.

### **Article 309 Advertising and Publicity on Athletes and Horses**

See General Regulations.

### **Article 310 Entries and Substitutions**

1. Definite Entries for CRIs and CRIOs:

- 1.1. Definite entries must be made at the latest four (4) days preceding the beginning of the Event. These represent the final selection of Athletes and Horses that may participate in the Event. Substitutions of Athletes and/or Horses may be only made in accordance with these Rules.
2. All Athletes invited or nominated for a CRI or CRIO must be entered by their NFs. All foreign Athletes selected by their NFs, as specified in the schedule and in accordance with the FEI Reining Rules, must be accepted by the OC. OCs may not accept any other entries (Refer to General Regulations Art 116).
3. Entries for FEI Championships and World Equestrian Games must be made in accordance with the FEI General Regulations Art. 116.5.
4. Substitutions
  - 4.1. For FEI Championships and World Equestrian Games, the OC and FEI will decide on the last date and time for substitutions at FEI Championships and detail this in the schedule. This date and time has to be before the Horse Inspection and substitutions for definitely entered Athletes and/or Horses can only be made with Athletes and/or Horses as entered in the Nominated Entries.
  - 4.2. Following the Horse Inspection no further substitutions can be made other than as defined in art. 310.4.3.
  - 4.3. In the event of an accident or illness directly involving an Athlete and/or Horse declared as a team starter, this Athlete and/or Horse and/or combination may be substituted by an Individual Athlete and/or Horse, up to one hour before the start of the Competition and on production of either a certificate from a Doctor (for an Athlete) and/or Team Veterinary (for a Horse). There must be approval of the Ground Jury. The Athlete and/or Horse removed from the team can no longer compete at that Event
  - 4.4 Athletes who withdraw after the Definite Entry Date or who are no-shows will be liable to reimburse the OC for the financial loss incurred by the OC (i.e. stabling and hotel expenses) as a result of such late withdrawal or no-show.

## CHAPTER IV Participation

### Article 311 Team Declaration

1. Chefs d'Equipe must declare the members of teams and the names of Individual Athletes and their Horses after the Veterinary Inspection and no later than one hour before the draw.

### Article 312 Draw for the order of start

1. **CRI**
  - 1.1. There must be a separate draw for each Competition. It shall be made in the presence of the President or a Member of the Ground Jury, the Technical Delegate (when applicable) and the Chefs d'Equipe (when applicable).
  - 1.2. The draw for the order of starting in individual Competitions should be made regardless of nationality. Should an Athlete have more than one Horse, the order of starting may have to be adjusted to ensure that a suggested gap of at least five places is left between his Horses.
2. **CRIO / FEI Championships**
  - 2.1. The order of starting in Competitions including both Team and Individual Athletes will be conducted by draw.
  - 2.2. The Chef d'Equipe of each NF will determine the starting order of team members from his NF. The Chef d'Equipe must deliver to the Event Director in writing, at the latest one hour after the Horse Inspection is finished, the order of go of the Team Athletes. The order of go for teams and individuals shall be defined as first, second and so on. No slots will remain untaken and in the event that an Athlete is removed from the start list for any reason those Athletes declared to follow will move up to fill the vacant declared slot.
  - 2.3. Numbers equivalent to the total number of starters are placed in a bag or receptacle and a draw is made, regardless of nationality, for the starting position of each of the Individual Athletes.
  - 2.4. Then the numbers equivalent to the total number of starting teams are placed in a bag, etc. and a draw is made for the starting order for each of the teams.
  - 2.5. The starting list is made out with the Individual Athletes placed in the positions they have drawn. The Team Athletes are then inserted in sequence in the remaining places.
  - 2.6. The order of go for the Individual Competition at CRIO and FEI Championships shall be as follows:
  - 2.7. Individual Final: In reverse order of result from the Team Competition and first Individual Qualifying Competition. Ties will be broken by a draw to be conducted by the OC.
  - 2.8. At FEI World Equestrian Games and Championships, when a Second Qualifying Competition is held, the starting order shall be in reverse order from the Team Competition results. Ties will be worked off by the original draw of the Team competition.
  - 2.9. Each Horse keeps the same identification number received on arrival throughout the Competition. It is compulsory that this number be worn by the Horse at all times outside of the Horse's stable for example; while actively competing and at any time while working in the exercise and schooling areas (from the time of their

arrival until the end of the Event) so that they can be identified by all Officials including the Stewards. Failure to display this number incurs a first warning and, in the case of a repeated offence, a Yellow Warning Card.



## **CHAPTER V Horses**

### **Article 313 conditions of participation**

1. Each Horse may only start in a maximum of two separate Competitions per day.
2. A Horse may not start in a National class within one hour of the Horse Inspection for a CRI/CRIO.
3. Restrictions on Schooling Horses: All schooling must be in the designated arena(s):
4. Following the Horse Inspection: Any Horse(s) taking part in a CRI/CRIO may only be ridden by the Athlete(s) who will ride the Horse in the Competition. The penalty for violating this rule shall be immediate Disqualification.
5. During warm up and exercise sessions Horses must not be closer than two meters to the boundary of the arena at the completion of a sliding stop. The penalty for violating this rule shall result in a Yellow Warning Card being issued to the Athlete.
6. During warm up and exercise sessions Horses cannot spin more than eight consecutive times during a training session. Horses that are stressed or exhausted may not be spun. The penalty for violating this rule shall result in a Yellow Warning Card being issued to the Athlete.
7. The maximum total time allowed for exercising sessions is ninety minutes (per 12 hours) per horse. The penalty for violating the rule shall result in a Yellow Warning Card being issued to the Athlete. This does not include lunging and hand walking in designated areas.
8. All Horses entered in FEI Reining Events must be registered as Horses with the FEI and not as Ponies

### **Article 314 Age of Horses**

1. To be qualified, Horses must be at least seven years old. Mares must not compete after their fourth month of pregnancy Mares with foal at foot cannot be entered. See also Veterinary Regulations.
2. The age of Horses is counted from 1<sup>st</sup> January of the year of birth.

### **Article 315 Veterinary Inspections and Examinations**

1. The Veterinary Inspections and Examinations must be conducted in accordance with the Veterinary Regulations and Article 315.2.
2. All Horses must be presented for the Horse Inspection in a controlled and safe manner. This normally requires a bridle but in Reining a halter may be permitted. Any equipment used for presentation of the Horse must be in accordance with the FEI Code of Conduct for the Welfare of the Horse and its use is at the discretion of the GJ.

**Article 316 Abuse of Horses, Medication Control and Anti-Doping**

1. The General Regulations, Veterinary Regulations, Equine Anti-Doping and Controlled Medication Regulations (“EADCMR”) and Anti-Doping Rules for Human Athletes (“ADRHA”) apply.
2. In principle, no training session(s) may be organised at night (from 23.00 pm to 5.00 am).

**Article 317 Passports**

The General Regulations and Veterinary Regulations apply.

**Article 318 Bleeding**

1. If a Judge suspects fresh blood anywhere on the Horse during the pattern, he will stop the Horse to check for blood. If the Horse shows fresh blood, it will be eliminated.
3. The elimination is final. If the Judge through examination clarifies that the Horse has no fresh blood, the Athlete may do a re-run as soon as the schedules allows for this.
4. If the Equipment Judge or Chair Judge discovers fresh blood in the Horse’s mouth or in the area of the spurs during the equipment check, the Horse and the Athlete will be eliminated. If there is blood elsewhere on the Horse, a FEI Veterinarian is to be called to decide if the Horse is fit to continue.
5. If the Horse is eliminated pursuant to the above, or if the Horse is injured during the pattern and starts bleeding after finishing the pattern, it should be examined by an FEI Veterinarian prior to the next Competition to determine if it is fit to continue in the Event the following day(s). The decision of the FEI Veterinarian is not subject to appeal.

**Article 319 Stabling**

1. Access to stables: refer to the GRs and VRs
2. Stable security: refer to the VRs

## CHAPTER VI Equipment

### Article 320 Dress, protective headgear\* and Salute

1. All Athletes must wear appropriate western attire while competing; this will include a long sleeve shirt with collar, cowboy boots and western hat or safety helmet. When Athletes are training in the Competition arena they are required to wear Competition wear or team attire (no ball caps are allowed during training). Failure to wear such Headgear where and when required after being notified to do so by an Official, shall result in a Yellow Warning Card, being issued to the Athlete.
2. Athletes under the age of 18 years old must wear a Protective Headgear (safety helmet) at all times while riding. Failure to wear such Protective Headgear where and when required after being notified to do so by an Official, shall result in a Yellow Warning Card, being issued to the Athlete.
3. Salute: Must be done in accordance with General Regulations unless the pattern used is a run in pattern.

Note\*: As of 1 January 2021, amendments to article 140 of the FEI General Regulations regarding Protective Headgear take effect.

### Article 321 Equipment

#### 1. Bits

- 1.1. References to a bit mean the use of a curb bit that has a solid or broken mouthpiece, has shanks and acts with leverage. All curb bits must be free of mechanical device and should be considered a standard western bit. A snaffle bit and the traditional hackamore (bosal) is allowed at all times.
- 1.2. A standard western bit includes 21.5 cm maximum length shank. (A guide to measurement is published in the FEI Reining Judges Guide). Shanks may be fixed or loose.
- 1.3. Concerning mouthpieces, bars must be round, oval or egg shaped, smooth and unwrapped metal of 0.8 cm to 1.9 cm diameter, measured 2.5 cm from the cheek. They may be inlaid, but must be smooth or latex wrapped. Nothing may protrude below the mouthpiece (bar), such as extensions, prongs or wire rings.
- 1.4. The port must be no higher than 8.9 cm maximum, with rollers and covers acceptable. Broken mouthpieces, half-breeds, and spades are standard.
- 1.5. Slip or gag bits, donuts or flat polo mouthpieces are not acceptable.
- 1.6. Except for Freestyle Classes and when a snaffle bit or hackamore is used in CRI1\* Competitions, only one hand may be used on the reins, and the hand must not be changed. The hand is to be around the reins; index finger only between split reins is permitted. Violation of this rule results in a penalty score of zero.
- 1.7. When a curb bit is used, a curb strap or curb chain is required. It must be at least 1.27 cm wide, lie flat against the jaw, be free of barbs, wire and/or twists.

#### 2. Ear Hoods

Ear hoods are permitted.

### 3. General

- 3.1 Only equipment allowed in Competitions (except for electronic equipment, see 321.3.2) is permitted in warm-up and exercise areas. Spot checks will take place during warm up and exercise sessions, either upon entry or exit to/from the specific areas or, if felt necessary, during a warm up session. These checks can be made by the FEI Stewards officiating at the Event. Should there be a doubt or disagreement, only the President of the Ground Jury can determine if a bit is permitted or not.
  - 3.1.1 The use of flat, smooth leather or nylon nosebands is permitted in practice and warm-up arenas prior to competition ~~and must comply with the guidelines on type and fitting instructions.~~ The width of the noseband must be minimum 15mm and maximum 26mm. For fitting, refer to the Reining Stewards Manual.
- 3.2 Electronic equipment: use of electronic equipment is not allowed in the competition arena.
- 3.3 Failure to comply with 321.3.1-2. will result in immediate Disqualification from the Competition.

**CHAPTER VII Officials**

**Article 322 Appointment of Officials**

**1. CRI**

	<b>CRI04*</b>	<b>CRI3*</b>		<b>CRI2*</b>	<b>CRI1*</b>
<b>Prize-money</b>	Open	Chf. 9500 and above	Up to Chf. 9499.-	Open	Open
<b>Ground Jury</b>	<b>1 PGJ</b> from FEI 4* List	<b>1 PGJ</b> from FEI 4* List	<b>1 PGJ</b> from FEI 3* or 4* list	<b>1 PGJ</b> from FEI 2*, 3* or 4* list	<b>1 PGJ</b> from FEI 2*, 3* or 4* list
	<b>2 Members</b> from FEI 3* or 4* list one must be foreign	<b>2 Members</b> from FEI 3* or 4* list one must be foreign	FEI 2*, 1* or A active National judges may be appointed		
<b>Equipment Judge</b>	<b>1</b> from FEI 4* or 3* list	Optional			
<b>Technical Delegate</b>	<b>1 TD</b> from FEI list	Not required			
<b>Chief Steward</b>	<b>1 CS</b> From FEI level 3 list	<b>1 CS</b> From FEI Level 2 list	<b>1 CS</b> From FEI Level 2 list	<b>1 CS</b> From FEI Level 2 list	<b>1 CS</b> From FEI Level 2 list
<b>Appeal Committee</b>	<del><b>3 Members</b></del> see General Regulations	Not required			
<b>Veterinary Delegate</b>	A Veterinary Commission with <b>three Members</b> is required See Veterinary Regulations	<b>1 FEI Official Veterinary Delegate</b> From the FEI list of Reining Veterinarians			

**2. Championships**

	<b>World Championships</b>	<b>Continental Championships</b>
<b>Prize-money</b>	Open	Open
<b>Ground Jury</b>	<b>1 PGJ</b> from FEI 4* List	<b>1 PGJ</b> from FEI 4* List
	<b>4 Members</b> from FEI 4* list all should in principle be from different nationalities	<b>4 Members</b> from FEI 4* list all should in principle be from different nationalities
<b>Equipment Judge</b>	<b>1</b> From the FEI 4* list	<b>1</b> From the FEI 4* list
<b>Technical Delegate</b>	<b>1 TD</b> from the FEI list	<b>1 TD</b> from the FEI list
<b>Chief Steward</b>	<b>1 CS</b> From FEI level 3 list	<b>1 CS</b> From FEI level 3 list
<b>Appeal Committee</b>	<del><b>3 Members</b></del> see General Regulations	<del><b>3 Members</b></del> see General Regulations
<b>Veterinary Commission</b>	A Veterinary Commission with <b>three Members</b> is required See Veterinary Regulations	A Veterinary Commission with <b>three Members</b> is required See Veterinary Regulations

- 2.1 The Ground Jury Members, the Technical Delegate, the Chief Steward, ~~the President of the Appeal Committee~~ and the Veterinary Commission are appointed by the FEI for Championships.

### Article 323 General

1. A President or a Member of a Ground Jury is considered to be a Foreign Judge if his nationality is not from the country where the Event is taking place.
2. The marks of all five Judges are taken into consideration with the top and bottom scores dropped. When two or three Judges are used all count.
3. Each Judge must be assisted by a secretary/scribe speaking the same language.
4. FEI Reining Officials ~~including Appeal Committee Members~~ are not permitted to compete in non-FEI classes at the same Event or at National Events where they officiate in case of possible conflict of interest.
5. At CRIs combined with a National Championships, at least two FEI Judges will have to be appointed.
6. **Foreign Judge.** Where a Foreign Judge is required the President or a Member of the Ground Jury will act as Foreign Judge and will be required to complete a Foreign Judge's Report. The Foreign Judge must be identified in the schedule.
7. **Technical Delegate.** The FEI will appoint a Technical Delegate in addition to the Ground Jury for FEI Championships.
8. **Veterinary Delegate.** At all FEI Reining Events, a FEI Veterinary Delegate is required as per the Veterinary Regulations. For CRIOs and Championships, a Veterinary Commission will be appointed as per the Veterinary Regulations.
9. **Chief Steward.** For each Event a Chief Steward must be chosen from the FEI list of Stewards (minimum Level 2) and appointed by the OC to be responsible for all Stewarding matters related to that Event.
  - 9.1. **Stewards.** According to the size (number of overall competitors at the Event) and type of Event, a sufficient number of Stewards must be appointed by the OC in consultation with the Chief Steward.

All Stewards at International Events should preferably hold at least a Level 1 status. If this is not the case they must have received formal instruction in their specific responsibility at the relevant Event from the Chief Steward.
  - 9.2. The Chief Steward is responsible for the organisation of stewarding throughout the Event.
  - 9.3. The Chief Steward must ensure that stable security is adequate for the level of Event.
  - 9.4. The Chief Steward assists the OC and Ground Jury, conducts all defined functions during a Competition such as Veterinary Inspections and Examinations, opening and closing ceremonies or any required organised function within the Competition.

9.5. The Chief Steward is responsible for the overall security and welfare of participants at the Event. He must liaise closely with the President of the Ground Jury, and the President of the Veterinary Commission/Veterinary Delegate.

10. **Equipment Judge.** An Equipment Judge may be appointed in addition to the number of Judges as per 321 at CRIs. The appointment of an Equipment Judge is mandatory for Championships.

**The duties of the Equipment Judge are:**

- 10.1. To inspect the Horse and Equipment prior to and/or following each run.
- 10.2. Notify the Ground Jury scoring the Event of possible No-Score penalty infractions.
- 10.3. Call only those infractions which are obvious. Unclear or borderline calls should receive the benefit of doubt.
- 10.4. The Ground Jury should be notified and shown the infraction as soon as practical (when the next Horse finishes its run). In the case of illegal equipment, the Equipment Judge may wait until the next drag to involve the other Judges, provided the Athlete is willing to leave the equipment with the Equipment Judge. If Athletes fail to do so they are immediately eliminated. If the Equipment Judge calls no score infraction and the Athlete accepts his call, the Chair Judges do not need to be consulted.
- 10.5. To serve as the Reserve Judge when needed (Provision: see Art. 323.10.8). When the Equipment Judge is called to replace a Member of the Ground Jury, the Chief Steward or qualified FEI Steward will replace the Equipment Judge.
- 10.6. The OC may choose to replace the Equipment Judge or have the Horse and equipment inspected in the arena by a Ground Jury Member.
- 10.7. Situations that may result in the OC choosing to replace a Chair Judge may include but are not limited to the following:
  - Late arrival or being unable to get to the Event
  - Illness or impairment either before or during the Event
  - Conflicts of interest between a Judge and an Athlete or Owner.
- 10.8. It must be noted that Events using National Officials/non FEI Judges as Equipment Judges cannot use them as an alternate Chair Judge.
- 10.9. To work with the OC to control the gate area and to assist Athletes.
- 10.10. Athletes may choose to have their equipment inspected prior to Competition. However, this does not preclude the requirement of the Equipment Judge to inspect the Horse and equipment following the run.
- 10.11. To assist in keeping the gate area clear and in safe order.
- 10.12. Prevent and report any Abuse of Horse or unsportsmanlike behaviour by an Athlete, Owner, assistant or spectator.

## 11. Conflict of interest

A substantial appearance of a conflict of interest exists whenever an individual involved in any capacity with the FEI is involved in or perceived to be involved in multiple interests, one of which could possibly influence, or is perceived to influence the motivation for an act in the other (ref. Article 158 FEI General Regulations and the FEI Officials' Code of eConduct – Annex H of the FEI General Regulations.).

A conflict of interest is defined as any personal, professional or financial relationship, including relationships of family members that could influence or be perceived to influence objectivity when representing or conducting business or other dealings for or on behalf of the FEI.

Conflicts must be avoided whenever practicable. However, conflicts may be linked to experience and expertise that is necessary to qualify Officials. The specific balance between conflict and expertise shall be regulated by the relevant Sport Rules.

### ~~Article 324 Appeal Committee~~

- ~~1. The General Regulations apply. An Appeal Committee is only required for CRIOs and FEI Championships.~~

### Article 325 Expenses

1. The OC is responsible for the travel, meals and accommodations expenses for the Ground Jury, ~~the Appeal Committee,~~ the Veterinary Commission or FEI Veterinary Delegate, the Technical Delegate and the FEI Chief Steward (see Article 131 General Regulations).
2. A per diem allowance must be offered to the FEI Officials mentioned in Art. 324.1 at Events (recommended minimum amount one hundred (100) Euros per day). This remuneration for miscellaneous costs is to be provided net after relevant taxes being borne by the OC. For the FEI Veterinary Commission/Delegate, see FEI Veterinary Regulations.



## CHAPTER VIII Competition and Scoring

### Article 326 Scoring and Ties

1. Scoring will be on a basis of 0-Infinity, with 70 denoting an average performance. The individual manoeuvres are scored in ½ point increments from a low of -1 ½ to a high of +1 ½ with a score of 0 denoting a manoeuvre that is correct with no degree of difficulty. Scores will be announced after each Horse works.
2. All ties for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place will be worked off in FEI Championships, CRIOs and Finals, using the same pattern and order of go as was used during the Event, however, there will not be more than one run off.
3. Working off ties is optional for all other CRIs. Ties for 1<sup>st</sup> place will be worked off, except in the instance where both entrants have agreed to satisfactorily break the tie without the use of a run off. (Ties will be worked off if a CRI is combined with a National Championship involving National Gold, Silver and Bronze medals).
4. A Horse not returning for a run off without such an agreement will forfeit 1<sup>st</sup> place money and be awarded 2<sup>nd</sup> place money regardless of the added monies. Athletes eliminated in a runoff cannot be placed any lower than the lowest position for which he was tied, i.e., 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup>, in case of disqualification; the Horse would be placed 3<sup>rd</sup>. All other ties are not run off and will involve, as many places as there are Horses tied, e.g., 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup>. The prize money for the divided placing is split equally between the dividing Athletes.
5. In the event of a tie at a Five-Judges Event, the following tie breaking procedures will apply:
  - If the Athletes are still tied, all five Judges scores from the runoff will be tallied to determine the winner;
  - If there is still a tie, all five Judges scores from the Finals will be tallied to determine the winner;
  - If there is still a tie, all five) Judges scores from the go rounds will be tallied to determine the winner;
  - If a tie still exists, the tied Athletes will be placed equally.
  - If there is only one Judge and the Athletes are still tied after the run off the prize money will be split equally.
  - When a CRI is combined with a National Championship and the CRI is run with two Judges, a tie-breaking judge will be designated before the class commences.
  - A tie-breaking Judge will be designated by draw under the supervision of the Chief Steward or the Technical Delegate if appointed. The tie-breaking Judge's name will not be communicated.
  - The score of the designated tie-breaking Judge will decide.

### Article 327 Ties at Continental and World Championships.

1. **Teams:** In case of equality of scores for the teams in the Team classification it is decided to break ties as follows for Gold, Silver and Bronze team medals;

- 1.1. The scores from all five Judges are added for the three counting Team Members.
- 1.2. If still tied: the scores are added from the three counting Judges for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Horses.
- 1.3. If still tied: the scores are added from the three counting Judges for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Horse.
- 1.4. If still tied: the scores are added from the three counting Judges for the 1<sup>st</sup> Horse.
2. **Individuals:** In case of equality of scores in the Individual Competition it is decided to break ties in the following manner for the Gold, Silver and Bronze medals.
  - 2.1. There will be a run off for ties, using the same pattern and order of go as was used during the Competition, however there will not be more than one run off. The run off starts from afresh on score.
  - 2.2. Two tie-breaking Judges will be designated by draw under the supervision of the Technical Delegate. The tie-breaking Judge's name will not be communicated.
  - 2.3. If still tied after the run off: The score of the first designated tie-breaking Judge will decide. If still tied: The score of the second designated tie-breaking Judge will decide.

### **Article 328 No score**

The following will result in "no score", in addition to any other penalty, which may be imposed under the FEI General Regulations:

1. Abuse of Horse in show arena and/or evidence that an act of abuse has occurred prior to or during the exhibition of a Horse in Competition.
2. Use of illegal equipment, including wire on bits, or curb chains.
3. Use of illegal bits or curb chains.
4. Use of tack collars, tie downs or nose bands.
5. Use of whips or bats.
6. Use of any attachment, or any act, which alters the movement of or circulation to the tail.
7. If the judge(s) determines paint or other substance has been applied to a Horse to disguise abuse he may call a no score. Excessive use of paint or colour substance may result in a no score.
8. Failure to dismount and/or present Horse and equipment to the appropriate Judge for inspection.
9. Disrespect or misconduct by the Athlete.
10. The Judge(s) may exclude a Horse at any time while in the arena for unsafe conditions or improper exhibition pertaining to either the Horse and/or Athlete.
11. A No Score does not count for any qualifications (star rating and/or Championships).

12. Reins: Closed reins are not allowed except as standard romal reins or when a bosal is used. A mecate is permitted. When using a romal, no fingers between the reins are allowed. The free hand may be used to hold the romal, provided it is held at least 40 centimetres from the reining hand and in a relaxed position. Use of the free hand while holding the romal, to alter the tension or length of the reins from the bridle to the reining hand, is considered to be use of two hands, and a score of 0 will be applied, with the exception of any place a Horse is allowed to be completely stopped during the pattern.
13. [Use of belly bands, belly wraps or other materials wrapped around the belly.](#)

### **Article 329 0 score**

The following will result in a score of 0:

1. Use of more than index or first finger between reins.
2. Use of two hands (except in 1\*Competitions with the use of snaffle bit or bosal) or changing hands.
3. Use of romal other than as outlined in Article 304 of the Rules.
4. Failure to complete pattern as written.
5. Performing the manoeuvres other than in specified order.
6. The inclusion of manoeuvres not specified including but not limited to:
  7. Backing more than two strides;
  8. A turn of more than 90 degrees;
9. Exception. A complete stop in the first quarter of a circle after a canter departure is not to be considered an inclusion of manoeuvre; two points break of gait penalty would apply;
10. Equipment failure that delays completion of pattern.
11. Balking or refusal of command where performance is delayed.
12. Running away or failing to guide where it becomes impossible to discern whether the entry is on pattern.
13. Jogging in excess of one-half circle or one-half the length of the arena while starting a circle, circling or exiting a rollback.
14. Over spins of more than 1/4 turn.
15. Fall to the ground by Horse or Athlete. A Horse is deemed to have fallen when its shoulder and/or hip and/or underline touches the ground.
16. Dropping a rein that contacts the ground while the Horse is in motion.
17. When going to and coming out of a rollback in a pattern requiring a run-around, a rollback that crosses the centre line.

18. Neither a "no score" nor a 0 is eligible to place in a go round or class, but a 0 (zero) may advance in a multi-go Event while a "no score" may not.

### **Article 330 Penalty of five points**

The following will result in a penalty of five points:

1. Spurring in front of cinch;
2. Use of either hand to instil fear or praise;
3. Holding saddle with either hand;
4. Blatant disobedience including kicking, biting, bucking, rearing and striking.
5. The act of a horse dropping to its knees or hocks will result in a 5-point penalty.

### **Article 331 Penalty of two points**

The following will result in a penalty of two points:

1. Break of gait;
2. Freezing up in spins or rollbacks;
3. On walk in patterns, cantering prior to reaching the centre of the arena and/or failure to stop or walk before executing a canter departure;
4. On run in patterns, failure to be in a canter prior to reaching the first marker;
5. If a Horse does not completely pass the specified marker before initiating a stop position.

### **Article 332 Other Penalties and Judging requirements**

1. Starting or performing circles or eights out of lead will be judged as follows: Each time a Horse is out of lead, a Judge is required to penalise by one point. The penalty for being out of lead is cumulative, and the Judge will add one penalty point for each 1/4 of the circumference of a circle or any part thereof that a Horse is out of lead.
2. A Judge is required to penalise a Horse 1/2 of a point for a delayed change of lead by one stride, where the lead change is required by the pattern description.
3. Deduct 1/2 point for starting circle at a jog or executing rollbacks at a jog up to two strides. Jogging beyond two strides but less than 1/2 circle or 1/2 the length of the arena, deduct two points.
4. Deduct 1/2 point for over or under spinning up to 1/8 of a turn; deduct one point for over or under spinning up to 1/4 of a turn.
5. In patterns requiring a run-around, failure to be on the correct lead when rounding the end of the arena will be penalised as follows: For 1/2 the turn or less, one point; for more than 1/2 the turn, two points.

6. There will be a half-point penalty for failure to remain a minimum of 20 feet from wall or fence when approaching a stop and/or rollback.
7. In a pattern requiring a run-around, there will be a one half (½) point penalty for failure to remain a minimum of 10 feet either side of the centre of the arena; for small arenas it will be at the judge's discretion.
8. Excess rein may be straightened anytime during the pattern, provided the Athlete's free hand ~~remains only makes contact with that part of the rein ordinarily~~ behind the rein hand. Any attempt to alter tension or length of the reins from the bridle to the rein hand is to be considered use of two hands a penalty score of zero will be applied. In addition, should the judge determine the free hand is being used to instil fear or praise, a penalty of five will be applied and a reduction in the manoeuvre score. An Athlete must be allowed to untangle or straighten the horse's mane at any place wherever a horse is allowed to be completely stopped during a pattern.
9. The Ground Jury may not confer as to any penalty or manoeuvre score prior to submitting a score. If a major penalty (a penalty which results in a no score, a 0, or a five point penalty) is unclear, Ground Jury Members will submit his score and ask that the score be held, pending a conference and/or review of the official video at the next drag or as soon as practical. Should the Ground Jury determine via conference or official video replay that a penalty was incurred, it should be applied. If, however, no penalty occurred, the score will be announced as originally submitted. No Ground Jury Member shall be required to change his score following a conference or official video replay. Each Ground Jury Member's decision is an individual call and based on individual decision from a conference or official video replay.
10. For Championships and CRIOs, two points penalty may be reviewed.
11. The Ground Jury shall have the authority to disqualify any Athlete from an Event he is judging, should said Athlete show any disrespect or misconduct as to render himself or the Event in an unprofessional manner.
12. The Ground Jury shall be the sole persons responsible to determine if an Athlete has correctly completed the pattern as written.
13. The Ground Jury has the option of awarding a re-ride to any Athletes who, in the Ground Jury's opinion, are unable to complete a pattern for reasons that are out of the Athlete's control. In the instance where a re-ride is warranted in the Ground Jury's opinion, the President of the Ground Jury should advise the OC of such decision as soon as is possible.
14. Copies of the score sheets should be posted within one hour of class completion. Original Judges Score Sheets must be returned to the FEI with the show results for Championships.
15. The Ground Jury may disqualify a Horse that is lame and/or in unhealthy condition at any time.

### **Article 333 Pre-Check and/or Post-Check**

1. OCs have the option of using a pre-check or a post-check or both. A pre-check system should not be used in a single judged Event. When a pre-check is used, it is strongly recommended that there be a designated area in close proximity to the pre-check Judge for the checked Horses to remain until they enter the arena. When

a pre-check is used, the presence of blood or any other evidence that any act of abuse has occurred prior to the check will result in a no score. If illegal equipment is presented at the pre-check, the Athlete will not receive a no-score, if he is able to correct the problem without delaying the class. If a checked Horse leaves the field of vision of the pre-check Judge prior to showing, the pre-check Judge is to recheck the Horse before allowing it to enter the arena. In this system the first two Horses should be pre-checked eight-10 minutes before the class begins, with all remaining Horses checked when they are in-the-hole. It is suggested that the pre-check Judge, as soon as the first three Horses have been checked, develop the routine of checking each Horse as it becomes the in-the-hole Horse. This requires the Judge to keep track of only two Horses at any one time, the already examined on-deck and in-the hole Horses. In addition, this allows each Athlete time to regain composure and focus following the check, and it gives an Athlete time to correct an equipment problem should one occur. Before entering the arena each Horse will have a final walk around inspection. When a pre-check system is used, all officiating Judges, including the pre-check Judge, are compelled to call any acts of abuse to a Horse while in the arena. If the situation arises where a Chair Judge calls a no score, the Judge making the call should request that the Athlete presents his Horse to the pre-check Judge for inspection. If a no score is called, the Athlete can accept or contest the call. If contested, the other Judge(s) shall be called as soon as is practical to examine.

2. At post-check, all Athletes must dismount and drop the bridle immediately after the performance. The bridle must be dropped by the Athlete or a designated representative. The bridle must be checked by the designated Judge in the arena or in close proximity to the arena. Failure to comply will result in a no score
3. The Ground Jury will evaluate individual requests from challenged Athletes regarding the use of aids when competing. In the event an Athlete is granted special privileges, the Athlete will be presented said privileges in writing and must provide a copy to the OC each time he competes. The OC is required to present the said privileges to the Ground Jury prior to the Competition in which the Athlete will compete.

## CHAPTER IX Patterns

### Article 334 Definition of Patterns

1. The FEI approved patterns are to be worked as stated, not as drawn. The drawn pattern is just to give the general idea of what the pattern will look like in the arena.
2. Markers will be placed on the wall or fence of the arena as follows:
  - At the centre of the arena.
  - At least 50' (15 metres) from each end wall.
3. Where designated in the Pattern for stops to be beyond a marker, the Horse should begin his stop after he passes the specified marker.
4. Each Pattern is drawn so that the bottom of the page represents the end of the arena entered by Athletes and must be run as such. In the event that an arena has only one gate and it be in the exact middle of the side, that side shall represent the right side of the page the Pattern is drawn on.
5. All Horses will be judged immediately upon entering the arena and judging will cease after the last manoeuvre. Any fault incurred prior to the commencement of a pattern will be scored accordingly.
6. All Judges' decisions are final.

## **Annex 1 Arena**

### Size:

Arena 80m x 40m recommended for CRIOs and Championships.

Arena 60m x 25m minimum recommended for CRIs.

Warm-up arena: the recommended minimum size for the training/warm-up arena at Championships is 25m x 50m

### Footing:

The footing for Reining should be composed of a hard packed clay base with 6 to 10cm of loose and fluffy clean sand on top.



**Annex 2: Badge of honour**

Badges of honour will be awarded to Athletes who complete Senior World or Continental Championships to the following scale:

- a) A Gold badge for six completions
- b) A Silver badge for four completions
- c) A bronze badge for two completions

For full description of privileges, please refer to Article 132 of the FEI General Regulations.

### **Annex 3 Definitions**

**Children:** See General Regulations Appendix A - Definitions

**Competition:** Refers to each individual class in which Athletes are placed in an order of merit and for which prizes may be awarded.

**Event Official:** See General Regulations and Annex 3.

**Junior:** See General Regulations Appendix A - Definitions

**Organising Committee "OC":** See General Regulations.

**Period of an Event:** commences on hour before the beginning of the first Horse Inspection and terminates half an hour after the announcement of the final results.

**Protective headgear:** See General Regulations Appendix A – Definitions

**Schedule:** An official form approved by the FEI outlining the relevant information of an Event, including but not limited to the dates and location of the Event, the dates by which entries must be received, the Disciplines in which Competitions will be held, the programme of Competitions, the categories, nationalities and other relevant details of invited Athletes and Horses, the stabling and accommodation available, the value of the prizes and their distribution, and any other relevant details.

**Showground:** All land used for the Competitions comprising the Event, and arenas for exercising and warm-up and stabling

**Young Riders:** See General Regulations Appendix A - Definitions