

Association Internationale des Etudiantes Cavaliers

World University Equestrian Federation



AIEC SRNC GENERAL & TECHNICAL REGULATIONS

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AIEC SRNC General & Technical Regulations

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1. Introduction

- 1.1. The following *AIEC SRNC General & Technical Regulations* must be adhered to during the participation in and the judging of all *Association Internationale des Etudiants Cavaliers* (AIEC) Competitions, by all parties.
- 1.2. These regulations have been and are established by the members of the AIEC Board, based on the technical regulations of the FEI, and in cooperation with the members of the AIEC General Assembly.
- 1.3. In the event that a situation arises which is not covered under these regulations, reference is made, in accordance with AIEC, to the appropriate regulations of the *Fédération Equestre Internationale* (FEI), the international governing body for horse sport.
- 1.4. The competition organisers are obliged to make known, in a timely manner and to all involved parties, if and when there are unforeseeable over-riding local laws or regulations which must be adhered to in the judging and/or general management of the competition.
- 1.5. Abbreviations and terms of use within this and all other AIEC documents:
AIEC = Association Internationale des Etudiants Cavalier
FEI = Fédération Equestre International
SRNC = Student Riding Nations Cup
OC = Organising Committee
TD = Technical Delegate
ATD = Assistant Technical Delegate
TC = Technical Commission
HC = Hearing Committee
AC = Appeals Committee
NR = National Responsible
CE = Chef d'Equipe
DEL = Delegation
DOC = Director of Competitions
GA = General Assembly
WF = World Finals
- 1.6. Terms referring to the male gender shall include the female gender of the same terms in the entire text.
- 1.7. For the purpose of this and all other AIEC documents, the terms SRNC and competition are interchangeable.
- 1.8. Please note the following:
 - i. Team = riders and supporters,
 - ii. Event = competition and entertainment.

2. General Regulations

2.1. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Art. 2.1.1.

All Student Riding Nations Cups (SRNCs) must be organised under the auspices of AIEC, and in association with the respective national student riding governing body.

Art. 2.1.2.

Each nation may only organise one (1) SRNC each year.

Art. 2.1.3.

Only one (1) SRNC can take place on the same date(s). Any additional competition, be it national or international, held at the same location during an SRNC, must not interfere with the SRNC program.

Art. 2.1.4.

The competition organisers and the competitors must respect these regulations in all points, or be subject to penalties and/or fines as decided by the Hearing Committee (HC). During a Competition, the HC will consist of the Technical Commission (TC), and an Appeals Committee (AC) thereafter. The AC consists of the AIEC Board and two (2) persons elected annually at the GA.

Art. 2.1.5.

The official language of AIEC is English. All papers, signs, and information must be written in English. All vocal information must be spoken in English.

2.2. TECHNICAL COMMISSION

Art. 2.2.1.

The Technical Commission (TC) is the Appeals & Control Commission of the competition. The TC is composed of five (5) persons, not riding in the competition:

- i. The Technical Delegate (TD), who shall be Chairman,
- ii. One (1) representative of the Organising Committee (OC),
- iii. One (1) Judge, determined by the TD,
- iv. Two (2) Chefs d'Equipe (CEs), other than the hosting nation, elected during the first CE meeting, hereafter referred to as *AIEC Experts*.

No country except the host nation may have more than one (1) member on the TC, and must not have more than two (2) members. The nationalities of the TD and Judge are not taken into account.

Art. 2.2.2.

The TC is responsible for:

- i. Settling any dispute which does not concern any other committee or jury,
- ii. Examining and dealing with any complaint and/or protest,
- iii. Taking emergency sanctions against teams or Individuals who violate the regulations of the competition,
- iv. Deciding any other matters not covered by these regulations.

Art. 2.2.3.

The TC supervises the following in terms of participation:

- i. The authenticity of the national entries,
- ii. The academic status of the competitors,
- iii. The nationality and age of the competitors,
- iv. The payment of all AIEC-related fees, i.e. *AIEC Membership Fee* and the SRNC fees.

Art. 2.2.4.

All decisions taken by the TC during the competition are final and are made by a simple majority.

Art. 2.2.5.

In the case of a dispute within the TC, the matter will be referred to:

- i. The *AIEC SRNC General & Technical Regulations*,
- ii. Common sense.

Art. 2.2.6.

The TD will convene the first Chef d'Equipe (CE) meeting, to which he/she must invite the following:

- i. The members enumerated under *Art. 2.2.1. ii., iii., and iv.*,
- ii. A representative of each country participating in the event, i.e. CE,
- iii. A representative of the OC.

The first CE meeting must:

- i. Nominate two (2) *AIEC Experts* according to *Art. 2.2.1. iv.*,
- ii. Inform the CEs about the competition,
- iii. Check the riders' eligibility.

Art. 2.2.7.

At the end of the event, the TD will make recommendations to the OC for the organisation of future events. He/she will finish with a conclusion as to whether or not he/she recommends that this OC should organise another event.

2.3. PROTESTS

Art. 2.3.1.

Protests must be forwarded to the TD by the CE in writing by completing the *AIEC SRNC Protest Form* within thirty (30) minutes after the subject of the protest has been identified. A protest which is forwarded after this time cannot be taken into consideration, unless the TC decides to do so. Each protest must be accompanied by a €50 deposit, which will only be returned if the protest is considered to be reasonable. All technical protests or complaints must first be presented to the TD. All technical protests are decided by the TC.

Art. 2.3.2.

In the case of an issue regarding a technical protest, reference should be made to:

- i. The *AIEC SRNC General & Technical Regulations*,
- ii. The *FEI General Regulations*, the *FEI Show Jumping Rules*, and the *FEI Dressage Rules*,
- iii. Common sense.

Art. 2.3.3.

If the subject matter of the protest relates directly to the health and safety, suitability, soundness, or wellbeing of one (1) or more horses, the TD is obliged to pause the competition until the protest has been resolved. However, if the subject matter of the protest is of a singularly technical nature, the competition should continue until the end of the current round, in order to prevent a detrimental interruption affecting the horses.

Art. 2.3.4.

Per the *FEI General Regulations*, there is no protest against:

- i. Decisions of the Ground Jury arising from the field of play, which are final and binding,
- ii. The elimination of a rider for medical reasons/fitness to compete.

2.4. ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Art. 2.4.1.

The OC organises the competition and is responsible for following and implementing the current rules and regulations.

Art. 2.4.2. Nomination of Judges

The OC, in accordance with *AIEC*, appoints judges for the competition.

Art. 2.4.3.

The OC undertakes to present the rules and regulations to the judges, the course builder, and all other competition officials at least four (4) weeks prior to the start of the competition.

2.5. PARTICIPATION

Art. 2.5.1. Delegation

An SRNC is a team event. Only complete teams, with three (3) riders per team, are authorised to take part in the competition. A Delegation (DEL) is composed of the registered riders and the CE, which can be one of said riders. The competition is composed of two (2) parts: dressage and show jumping, in which the same riders must participate. No rider is allowed to participate in two (2) different teams at the same competition.

Art. 2.5.2. Reserve Riders

The reserve rider may complete the team only in the case of a physical inability certified by the official doctor of the competition. The reserve rider can only substitute a rider in one (1) of the two (2) parts before the beginning of the first round.

Art. 2.5.3. Chef d'Equipe (CE)

The CE must know the rules and regulations and has to keep his/her team informed. The CE must be present at all CE meetings.

Art. 2.5.4. Conditions of Participation

Sub. a.

Participants in an Official Team must:

- i. Be either a national of the country which they represent, or be both living and studying in the country which they represent for the entirety of their course per *Sub. iii.*,

and

- ii. Be at least eighteen (18) years of age on the start date of the competition and less than twenty eight (28) years of age on the 1st of January of the year of the competition, or under thirty eight (38) years of age and still a full time registered student in a third level institution,

and one of

- iii. Be a student who is fully registered in a full time course at a third level institution whose status is recognised by the relevant academic authority of that country,

or

- iv. Be a former student of a third level institution and have competed in at least one (1) SRNC during their period of study,

or

- v. Be a former student of a third level institution who has graduated in the year of the event.

Sub. b.

Participants in an Additional Rider Team must:

- i. Be at least eighteen (18) years of age on the start date of the competition, and less than twenty eight (28) years of age on the 1st of January of the year of the competition, or under thirty eight (38) years of age and still a full time registered student in a third level institution,

and one of

- ii. Be a student who is fully registered in a full time course at a third level institution whose status is recognised by the relevant academic authority of that country,

or

- iii. Be a former student of a third level institution and have participated in at least one (1) SRNC during their period of study,

or

- iv. Be a former student of a third level institution who has graduated in the year of the competition.

For students who have the option of choosing more than one country to represent, the first country that a rider chooses becomes their *AIEC Nationality*. If a student wishes to change their *AIEC Nationality* to another for which they qualify, in accordance with *Art. 2.5.4.*, they must first apply in writing to AIEC via email to board@aiecworld.com, for the attention of the AIEC DOC, requesting such a change and stating the reason(s). The AIEC Board will then make a decision on the matter and will notify the individual in question.

Sub. c.

Participants in an Oldies Team (i.e. Unofficial Non-Member Team) must:

- i. Be at least twenty eight (28) years of age on the 1st of January of the year of the competition and less than thirty eight (38) years of age on the start date of the competition,

and

- ii. Be a former student who has competed in at least one SRNC during their period of study.

Those wishing to participate on an Oldies Team must first apply in writing to AIEC via email to board@aiecworld.com, for the attention of the AIEC DOC, and provide both proof of nationality (copy of passport) and proof of previous competition in either an Official or Additional Rider Team (i.e. most recent SRNC results).

Once the decision to become an Oldie has been made, it cannot be reversed.

Sub. d.

Participants attending as Supporters must:

- i. Be at least eighteen (18) years of age and less than thirty eight (38) years of age on the start date of the competition,

or

- ii. Have been granted permission by the NRs prior to attendance if over thirty eight (38) years of age.

Sub. e.

Participants attending as Guests must:

- i. Be at least eighteen (18) years of age on the start date of the competition,

and

- ii. Have received an invitation directly from the AIEC Board and the OC.

Art. 2.5.5. Incomplete Teams

In the case of incomplete teams, AIEC will draw participant(s) to form additional rider teams, i.e. mixed international teams, from the list of additional riders. Refer to *Section 4* of the *AIEC Rules of Registration*.

Art. 2.5.6. Official Teams

If a nation is represented by more than one (1) team, the CE must declare which team has been selected to officially represent the country for the *AIEC SRNC Ranking List*, before the horse draw for the first round of the competition.

Art. 2.5.7.

An SRNC must be organised for at least twelve (12) teams.

2.6. INVITATIONS & ENTRIES

Art. 2.6.1.

The host nation must submit its *AIEC SRNC Application Form* to AIEC at least three (3) months before the proposed competition start date. The SRNC calendar will be coordinated by AIEC on a first come, first served basis within the limitations of the *AIEC Block System* used to evenly distribute the competitions throughout the calendar year.

Art. 2.6.2.

All information, as referred to in *Art. 2.6.6.*, must be sent to the AIEC Board, for the attention of the DOC.

Art. 2.6.3.

The invitations to the official teams must be sent out by the DOC to all members and made public on the AIEC website at least nine (9) weeks before the competition start date.

Art. 2.6.4. Registrations

All registrations must be made according to and following the *AIEC SRNC Rules of Registration*. Registrations must end no later than six (6) weeks before the competition start date.

Art. 2.6.5. Inscription Fees

The OC are not allowed to ask the teams for any further fees except the *Basic Staying Costs*. If any registered team does not show up, or otherwise withdraws irregularly, penalties according to the *AIEC SRNC Rules of Registration* will apply.

Art. 2.6.6. SRNC Invitations

The official invitation for an AIEC SRNC must include the following:

- i. Date and location of the competition,
- ii. Contact details for three (3) members of the OC in accordance with the *AIEC SRNC Application Form*,
- iii. Preliminary program for the event (including the extra-curricular activities),
- iv. Rider and supporter fees,
- v. Payment details, for both Bank Transfer (Revolut / Wise) and PayPal.

Art. 2.6.7.

All further details and information regarding the SRNC must reach the participants no later than four (4) weeks before the competition start date. The final information must be sent to AIEC directly, who is then responsible for publishing it on the AIEC website.

Art. 2.6.8.

The final information, referred to in *Art. 2.6.7.*, must include the following:

- i. Specific dressage tests for each round,
- ii. Definitive program,
- iii. Exact costs per rider and supporter (indicating what is included),
- iv. Address(es) of the different meeting points throughout the competition,
- v. Detailed map and/or description as to how to reach said places,
- vi. Details of the extra-curricular activities,
- vii. Necessary equipment for the competition and extra-curricular activities (e.g. sleeping bag, pillow, specific clothing etc.)

The amount referred to in *Sub. iii.* must not be raised under any circumstances after the final information has been made official and is announced on the AIEC website.

If the costs given in the first invitation, as referred to in *Art. 2.6.6.*, are raised in the final information by more than ten percent (10%), the registered countries are allowed to withdraw participation without incurring penalties, under the condition that their intention to withdraw reaches AIEC in written form no later than four (4) weeks before the start date of the competition. In such instances, AIEC must inform the OC immediately.

2.7. FINANCIAL CONDITIONS

Art. 2.7.1. Basic Staying Costs

The OC must provide both Bank Transfer (including Wise / Revolut) and PayPal payment options. Only non-EU countries are permitted to pay via PayPal. All payments must be made before the payment deadline. Transaction fees are incurred by the sender, not the OC.

The *AIEC SRNC Team Fee* (€90) for a full team must be paid together with the *Basic Staying Costs*. For each individual rider, $\frac{1}{3}$ of the *AIEC SRNC Team Fee* (€30) must be paid.

The Treasurer of the OC must stay in close contact with the DOC to confirm as payments are received.

For the *Basic Staying Costs*, the OC must provide the following:

- i. All accommodation,
- ii. All meals,
- iii. All receptions,
- iv. Transportation to/from all points listed in the event's official program,
- v. Entries to all parties and events,
- vi. Basic emergency medical care.

Art. 2.7.2. Participation Fees

There may not be any additional fees collected from participants at an SRNC, other than the amounts listed in *Art. 2.6.5.* and *Art. 2.7.1.* Should the OC choose to offer extra activities requiring additional payment and/or separate entry and admission fees, participation in such activities must remain optional, and there should be an alternative activity planned at no extra cost. The alternative and free option, must be mentioned in the official event program and included in *Art. 2.6.8.*, while mentioning the extra activity and indicating the associated additional cost.

Art. 2.7.3. Maximum Basic Staying Costs

The rider and supporter fees must be kept as low as possible.

The maximum permitted fees are:

- i. Rider = €190
- ii. Supporter = €160
- iii. Extra Night = €30

2.8. INSURANCE & MEDIAL SUPPORT

Art. 2.8.1.

The OC must undertake all security measures required by the government of their country. The insurance of the horses is to be settled between the horse owner(s) and the OC, the terms of which to be established before the competition.

Art. 2.8.2.

An Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) must be present on the competition grounds. A Veterinary Surgeon must be notified about the competition and must be on call.

Art. 2.8.3.

Only authorised persons are to be allowed on the competition grounds and in the warm-up arena. Both the competition grounds and the warm-up arena must be fenced.

Art. 2.8.4.

Under no circumstances shall the OC be held responsible for any claims regarding losses, injuries, or damages resulting from the organising of such a competition.

Art. 2.8.5. Personal Data

All personal data submitted by riders, supporters, and CEs and/or other personal participating in the event under these *AIEC SRNC General & Technical Regulations*, will be processed in accordance with applicable data protection laws. All persons bound by these *AIEC SRNC General & Technical Regulations* acknowledge and agree that personal data is processed by AIEC for the purposes of administrating events, enforcing these *AIEC SRNC General & Technical Regulations*, and maintaining the integrity of the sport.

2.9. AWARDS

Art. 2.9.1.

No financial prizes can be awarded to the participants.

Art. 2.9.2.

Each participant should receive a souvenir certificate, ribbon, medal, or prize in kind for his/her participation.

3. Technical Regulations

3.1. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Art. 3.1.1 Abuse of Horses

All teams must treat the horses in a fair and sporting manner. Any abuse or violence will lead to elimination of the rider, as decided by either the TD or the Judges. This is applicable both inside and outside the ring.

No person may abuse a horse during an event or at any other time. The term “abuse” means any action or omission which causes or is likely to cause pain or unnecessary discomfort to a horse, including, but not limited to:

- i. To whip or beat a horse excessively,
- ii. To subject a horse to any kind of electric shock device,
- iii. To use spurs excessively or persistently,
- iv. To jab the horse in the mouth with the bit or any other device,
- v. To compete using an exhausted, lame, or injured horse,
- vi. To “rap” a horse,
- vii. To abnormally sensitise or desensitise any part of a horse,
- viii. To leave a horse without adequate food, drink, or exercise,
- ix. To use any device or equipment which causes excessive pain to the horse upon knocking down an obstacle.

Any person witnessing an abuse must report it in the form of a protest.

Art. 3.1.2. Elimination

The President of the Ground Jury may, in their sole discretion, ring the bell to eliminate a horse/rider combination while a round is ongoing if he/she decides that this would be in the best interest of the wellbeing and/or safety of the horse and/or rider. The decision to eliminate is final and not subject to appeal or protest.

Art. 3.1.3. Fall from Horse

In all cases of a fall of a rider and/or horse in the competition arena prior to starting the test/round, during the test/round, after ending the test/crossing the finish line, in the warm-up arena, or anywhere within the grounds of the event, the Ground Jury reserves the right to exclude the rider from participating further in the competition and/or event.

In the event of a fall of rider and/or horse, the rider must be checked by the event’s *Emergency Medical Technician* (EMT) before they may be permitted to take part in the current round or progress to the next round of the competition. Likewise, the horse must be cleared by the event’s on call Veterinary Surgeon.

Art. 3.1.4. Riding Dress

All riders must be correctly dressed while mounted, as per the FEI rules in the respective discipline. Correct dress featuring the national colours, flag, or emblem of the rider’s country is permitted. No other clothing, fancy dress costume, or accessory items may be worn while mounted.

Art. 3.1.5.

The competition will consist of two (2) different parts: dressage and show jumping. The OC provides the horses.

Art. 3.1.6. The Knock-Out System

Riders draw lots for each round to establish which horses they will ride. Each round/test will be judged according to the Knock-Out System.

The Knock-Out System consists of the following:

- i. Each horse is ridden by either two (2) or three (3) riders,
- ii. The rider with the best result on the horse will qualify for the next round,
- iii. When the number of competitors is not a multiple of two (2) or three (3), and it is necessary to qualify more riders, the non-qualified rider(s) with the lowest score difference to the best rider on the same horse will qualify, i.e. "lucky loser".
- iv. In the case of an equality of results, refer to *Art. 4.5.1.*, *Art. 4.5.2.*, and *Art. 4.5.3.*

Art. 3.1.7. Horse Warm-Up

Throughout the entire competition, horses may only be warmed-up by either designated warm-up riders provided by the OC who are not participating in the competition or riders who have already been knocked out of the competition. If all the CEs of the teams riding the same horse(s) find the warming-up of the horse(s) inappropriate, they must inform the TD immediately.

The final warm-up presentation of all horses must be carried out using the same tack and equipment in which they are to be ridden by the participants.

Art. 3.1.8. Presentation of Horses

The horses must be presented at an equivalent level to the test/round for which they will be used. The horses must be presented in the arena in which they will compete.

Art. 3.1.9. Preparation Time

The OC are permitted to adjust the preparation time per rider. This preparation time must be the same for all riders across the same level and discipline. The riders must respect the orders of the warm-up steward. See also *Art. 3.3.6.* and *Art. 3.4.5.*

Art. 3.1.10. Lamé Horse

If the CEs of all the teams riding the same horse consider this horse to be lame, they must inform the TD immediately. It is the responsibility of the TD to find a solution.

Art. 3.1.11. Prize Giving Ceremony

All riders are expected to be present for the duration of the prize giving ceremony, and must be dressed in full and correct riding attire. Supporters should respect the prize giving ceremony, and must not interfere with, interrupt, or distract from it. Riders may only be absent from the prize giving ceremony provided they have due cause. NRs must email the TD, AIEC Board, and OC jointly about their absentee riders before the competition, stating the reason(s), or the entire country will face penalties. Last minute or unforeseen circumstances outside the rider's(s') control must still be communicated by the NR.

3.2. HORSE DRAW

Art. 3.2.1. General Principles

Before each round, the horses will be drawn. Each horse will be given a number, and this number is declared on the draw slips. The drawing will assign one (1) horse to each rider in the competition.

International teams are considered as “separate” countries. Therefore, riders on these teams can compete against their own nationality, both on a team and on an individual level. This is applicable across all rounds in both disciplines.

Art. 3.2.2. Horse Draw – First Round Dressage

The horses for the first round of dressage will be divided into groups of three (3) horses. The horses will be drawn team by team, one (1) group of three (3) horses being assigned to each team.

Complete teams from the same country may not compete against each other, unless it is not possible to do otherwise.

The OC must decide the starting order within each group of three (3) horses and announce it during the horse presentation. Teams must follow this starting order and are not allowed to change it.

Art. 3.2.3 Horse Draw – First Round Show Jumping

The horses for the first round of show jumping will be divided into groups of three (3) horses as follows:

- i. Horse A = 1st starter – the horse being ridden for the first time,
- ii. Horse B = 2nd starter – the horse being ridden for the second time,
- iii. Horse C = 3rd starter – the horse being ridden for the third time.

Complete teams from the same country may not compete against each other, unless it is not possible to do otherwise.

The OC must decide the starting order within each group of three (3) horses and announce it during the horse presentation. Teams must follow this starting order and are not allowed to change it.

Art. 3.2.4.

Each CE will draw a piece of paper – draw slip – indicating the number and the starting order of the horses their team must ride. The CE must then decide which team member will ride which horse, and must inform the OC of such by return of the draw slip, after the horse presentation and before any rider starts their preparation time on these horses.

The starting order is fixed by the OC according to *Art. 3.2.2.* These details cannot be changed once the first rider(s) have begun their preparation time. Failure to respect the starting order will lead to a team mark of zero (0) points for each single movement which is not performed in the starting order.

Art. 3.2.5. Horse Draw – Subsequent Rounds

For the second round and higher, riders from the same team may not draw the same horse except for cases in which there are more qualified riders from the same team than there are horses in the round. This includes both Complete and Incomplete/International Teams.

Teams with multiple riders in the same round will draw first, beginning with the team with most riders in said round. If these riders draw the same horse, the last rider to draw that horse will draw again until he/she draws a horse that has not yet been drawn by any other rider from their team in that round. Each CE must declare for which rider they are drawing prior to pulling the *Draw Slip*.

Art. 3.2.6. Horse Draw – Final Rounds

There will be two (2) horses for the final rounds of each discipline. Each rider will ride one (1) horse as the first (1st) starter and one (1) horse as the second (2nd) starter.

Art. 3.2.7. Same Horse

Riders are not permitted to ride a horse that they have already ridden earlier in the competition, unless it is impossible to avoid doing so. It is the responsibility of the CE to notify the TD if one of their riders draws a horse they have already ridden. Failing to do so will lead to the elimination of said rider. This also applies in an inter-disciplinary fashion, between dressage and show jumping.

3.3. DRESSAGE

Art. 3.3.1.

All dressage tests may be read aloud except for the final round *Freestyle Test*.

Art. 3.3.2.

All dressage tests must start within the boundary of either the 20m x 40m or 20m x 60m dressage arena, depending on the specific test/round.

Art. 3.3.3.

Two (2) or three (3) judges will judge each dressage test. At least one (1) of these judges must be a qualified FEI Judge and at least one (1) must be a Foreign Licensed Judge from a country other than that of the host nation. All judges must be qualified to judge at the relevant level of the test. For the second (2nd) and third (3rd) rounds, it is permitted to only have two (2) judges; however, three (3) is preferred.

Art. 3.3.4. Judges – First Round Dressage

Four (4) judges are required to judge the first (1st) round of dressage. Three (3) judges will judge each of the three (3) riders of the team individually. The same horse is judged by one and the same judge for the entire round. The fourth (4th) judge will judge the team as a whole and provide a team mark.

Art. 3.3.5. First Round Dressage

The first (1st) round of dressage is a team test. Rising trot is only permitted during the first round of dressage, unless otherwise stipulated by the horse owner. If rising trot is chosen, it must be performed by each member of the team for the duration of the test. If sitting trot is chosen, it must be performed by each member of the team for the duration of the test. However, riders are permitted to use rising trot for medium trot movements. If chosen, it must be performed by each member of the team for all medium trot movements. Riders cannot switch between sitting and rising trot for any other reason.

Art. 3.3.6. Demonstration – First Round Dressage

The OC may organise a demonstration of the first (1st) round of dressage, without the involvement of competitors. This demonstration may be judged and the marks commented upon.

Art. 3.3.7. Dressage Preparation Time

Each rider has a standard five (5) minute preparation time for each round of dressage in order to familiarise themselves with their horse. Each rider's preparation time is timed by the warm-up steward.

3.4. SHOW JUMPING

Art. 3.4.1. Judges

Two (2) judges will judge each round of show jumping. At least one (1) of these judges must be a qualified FEI Judge and at least one (1) must be a Foreign Licensed Judge from a country other than that of the host nation. All judges must be qualified to judge at the relevant level of the test.

Art. 3.4.2.

The show jumping rounds can be judged based on the following criteria:

- i. Style,
- ii. Faults & Style,
- iii. Faults & Time.

An electrical chronometer is compulsory for all rounds.

For each and every show jumping round, the course must be set with a minimum of nine (9) fences.

Art. 3.4.3

Each show jumping round will be judged as follows, unless otherwise dictated by the TD, in consultation with the judges, OC, and horse owners:

- i. First Round = Style,
- ii. Second Round = Faults & Style,
- iii. Semi-Final = Faults & Time,
- iv. Finals = Faults & Time.

Art. 3.4.4. Fence Height

In all show jumping rounds, the difficulty must increase from one round to the next. For the first (1st) round, the fence height must be at least 90cm. For the final round, the fence height must be no less than 1.20m, unless otherwise dictated by the TD, in consultation with the judges, OC, and horse owners.

Art. 3.4.5 Show Jumping Preparation Time

Each rider has a standard two plus two (2+2) minute preparation time for each round of show jumping in order to familiarise themselves with their horse. This means two (2) minutes to warm-up on the flat and two (2) warm-up fences, at the pre-set average height of the course, to be jumped within a two (2) minute window. Each rider's preparation time is timed by the warm-up steward.

In the case that a horse refuses a fence in the warm-up, a rider is permitted to reapproach the fence in question, for two (2) more attempts provided they are within the two (2) minute timeframe for jumping their two (2) warm-up fences. Only once the horse passes through the flagged warm-up fence does the attempt count as a warm-up jump.

Jumping more than the allowed number of warm-up fences will result in the immediate elimination of the rider.

Art. 3.4.6. Time Allowed

The time allowed for each show jumping round is taken for the whole course.

3.5. RIDING EQUIPMENT

Art. 3.5.1. Riding Hat

As soon as a rider prepares to mount a horse, he/she must be wearing a riding hat. A dressage top hat is tolerated under the rider's own liability, in accordance with their personal insurance. Local regulations prevail with regards to the insurance requirements and to the safety standard required of the riding hats worn during each phase of the competition. These regulations should be closely adhered to.

Art. 3.5.2. Whip

The use of a whip is allowed for dressage with the agreement of the horse owner. Riders may use it during the test only on the express verbal permission of the owner.

For dressage, whips must measure less than 1m, including tassel. For show jumping, whips must measure less than 70cm.

It is forbidden to use a whip in the "violin stick" position.

Failure to obey this rule will lead to the immediate elimination of the rider in question in the specific discipline.

Art. 3.5.3 Spurs

Only blunt spurs are allowed, unless the OC and horse owner acknowledge another type of spur for an individual horse. This must be declared before the first rider mounts the horse in question. Plastic spurs are not permitted.

Failure to obey this rule will lead to the immediate elimination of the rider in question in the specific discipline.

Art. 3.5.4. Tack Malfunction

In the event of a tack malfunction, the rider may request a restart unless he/she shows the intention to continue the specific test or round.

Art. 3.5.5. Stirrup Leathers

Riders are permitted to bring and use their own stirrup leathers in the event that the standard size available is not appropriate for the individual in question.

Art. 3.5.6. Gloves

Gloves are compulsory for all rounds of dressage and should be either white, off-white, or the same colour as the coat.

Art. 3.5.7. Earphones

Earphones and/or other electronic communication devices are strictly prohibited while competing, and such usage is penalised by elimination. They are, however, permitted during the preparation time.

Those riders who are deaf or hearing-impaired may use headsets.

3.6. TACK

Art. 3.6.1. Stirrups

The OC must check the tack of all the horses before they are warmed-up and presented. Only the person responsible for the horses may alter the horse's(s') tack.

The tack of a horse must not be changed after the first (1st) rider has mounted the horse. The only exception being when the length of the stirrup leathers needs to be altered to fit the length of the rider's leg or if the stirrup iron is too narrow to allow the rider's boot to fit safely. The need to replace stirrup leathers or irons should be brought to the attention of the TD.

In the event of tack breakage, the rider may request a restart unless he/she shows the intention to continue the specific test or round.

Art. 3.6.2. Martingale

Only a running martingale is permitted for show jumping.

3.7. JUDGING CRITERIA – DRESSAGE

Art. 3.7.1. Error of Course

If and when a competitor makes an Error of Course (e.g. wrong turn, omitting a movement), the President of the Ground Jury alerts the rider by sounding the bell. If necessary, the President of the Ground Jury shows the rider the point from which the test should be resumed and the next movement be executed. The rider must then continue the test unassisted.

In some cases, when, although the competitor has made an Error of Course, the sounding of the bell would otherwise and unnecessarily impede the fluency of the test, it is up to the President of the Ground Jury to decide whether or not to do so. However, if the bell is not sounded at an Error of Course and the test requires the same movement to be repeated, and the competitor makes the same mistake again, the rider is only penalised once.

The decision as to whether or not an Error of Course has been made will be at the discretion of the President of the Ground Jury, and the other judges' scores will be adjusted accordingly.

Art. 3.7.2. Penalisation

The following penalty points will apply to every Error of Course, irrespective of whether or not the bell is sounded, excluding those outlined under *Art. 3.7.1.*:

- i. First error = -2 penalty points,
- ii. Second error = -4 penalty points,
- iii. Third error = Elimination.

Art. 3.7.3. Error of Test

If and when a competitor makes an error of test (e.g. rising trot instead of sitting, salute without reins in one hand), the rider is penalised as for an Error of Course.

In theory, a competitor is not allowed to repeat a movement of the test unless the President of the Ground Jury determines an Error of Course to have been made (i.e. by sounding the bell). However, if the rider has begun the execution of a movement and attempts to perform the same movement again, the Judges must only consider the first movement shown, and, at the same time, penalise for an Error of Course.

Art. 3.7.4. Unseen Error

If the Ground Jury has failed to notice an error, either Error of Course or Error of Test, the competitor is given the benefit of the doubt.

Art. 3.7.5. Penalty Points

Penalty points are deducted, on each judge's marking sheet, from the total points obtained by the competitor.

Art. 3.7.6. Sounding of the Bell

The competitor should enter the arena at A as soon as possible after the sounding of the starting bell. Exceeding the forty five (45) second countdown before entering the arena after the bell has sounded will result in elimination. A competitor who enters the arena at A before the starting bell is sounded will also incur elimination.

The judge at C is responsible for the bell and clock/time. A clock/countdown timer, showing forty five (45) seconds, should be clearly visible to the rider.

Art. 3.7.7. Salute

Competitors must take the reins into one hand to salute the Judges.

Art. 3.7.8. Fall During Test

In the event of a fall of a horse and/or rider during a dressage test, the combination will be eliminated. The rider will not be allowed to remount the horse, and should lead the horse out of the competition arena on foot, with reins in hand.

Art. 3.7.9. Arena Exit During Competition

A horse who leaves the arena entirely, with all four feet, during a dressage test between the time of entry and exit at A, will be eliminated.

Art. 3.7.10. Resistance

Any resistance which prevents the continuation of the test for longer than twenty (20) minutes is penalised by elimination. However, resistance that may endanger the horse, rider, judges, and/or spectators will incur elimination for safety reasons before the twenty (20) minutes has elapsed.

Art. 3.7.11. Beginning & End of Test

A test begins with entry at A and ends as soon as the horse moves forward after the final halt and salute to the judges at the conclusion of the test. Any incidents before the beginning or after the end of the test do not affect the judges' marks. The competitor should leave the arena in the manner in which the test prescribes.

Art. 3.7.12. Freestyle Test Details

Competitors must enter the arena within twenty (20) seconds of the start of the music. Exceeding this twenty (20) seconds will incur elimination. The music must cease at the final salute.

At both the beginning and end of a *Freestyle Test*, a halt for the salute is compulsory. The test time will start once the rider moves forward after the initial halt.

3.8. JUDGING CRITERIA – SHOW JUMPING

Art. 3.8.1. Style

Four (4) style marks will be awarded, on a scale from one (1) to ten (10). Judges give their four (4) marks separately to one another. The average of the final style mark of both judges produces the overall final style mark.

The four (4) style marks are as follows:

- i. Mark 1 = Rider's style: position, seat, leg, and hand,
- ii. Mark 2 = Competence and confidence of the rider and efficacy of the aids,
- iii. Mark 3 = Fluency of the round and ability to ride the correct distances,
- iv. Mark 4 = Rider's feeling and effect on the horse's approach, expression over the fence, landing, and get away.

The following penalty points will apply:

- i. Each fence down = -0.5 penalty points,
- ii. First refusal = -4 penalty points,
- iii. Second refusal = -8 penalty points,
- iv. Third refusal = Elimination.

The style points and penalty points are summed up per the *AIEC SRNC Style Protocol Score Sheet*. The resulting mark is the final style mark. The rider with the highest overall final style mark qualifies for the next round.

Art. 3.8.2. Faults & Style and Faults & Time

The following penalty points will apply:

- i. Each fence down = +4 penalty points,
- ii. First refusal = +4 penalty points,
- iii. Second refusal = +8 penalty points,
- iv. Third refusal = Elimination,
- v. Exceeding the time allowed = +0.25 penalty points per second.

The penalty points +/- style points are summed up per the Faults & Style or Fauts & Time Protocol Score Sheet. The resulting mark is the final faults mark. The rider with the lowest overall final faults mark qualifies for the next round.

Art. 3.8.3. Refusals

A rider will be eliminated only after their third (3rd) refusal, and not after their second (2nd) refusal.

Art. 3.8.4. Show Jumping – First Round

In the event of an equality of overall final style marks between riders, and when both Judges' final style marks are equal, the Judges will decide which rider qualifies for the next round, in accordance with *Art. 4.5.1.* and *Art. 4.5.3.*

Art. 3.8.5. Show Jumping – Second Round

In the event of an equality of overall final faults marks between riders, the ranking will be made by the overall final style mark. The rider with the highest overall final style mark qualifies for the next round. In the event of an equality of the overall final style marks, the Judges will decide which rider qualifies for the next round, in accordance with *Art. 4.5.1.* and *Art. 4.5.3.*

Art. 3.8.6. Show Jumping – Semi-Final

In the event of an equality of overall final faults marks between riders, time will be the deciding factor. The rider with the fastest time qualifies for the next round. In the event of an equality of time, the Judges will decide which rider qualifies for the next round, in accordance with *Art. 4.5.1.* and *Art. 4.5.3.*

Art 3.8.7. Time of the Round

The round begins once the horse/rider combination crosses the starting line in the correct direction for the first time after the sounding of the starting bell, and extends to the moment the horse/rider crosses the finish line in the correct direction after having jumped the last obstacle. The time of the round begins either upon crossing the starting line (as mentioned above) or upon expiration of the forty five (45) second countdown, whichever occurs first, and extends to the moment the horse/rider combination crosses the finish line (as mentioned above).

Art. 3.8.8. Fall During Round

In the event of a fall of a horse and/or rider during a show jumping round, the combination will be eliminated. The rider will not be allowed to remount the horse, and should lead the horse out of the competition arena on foot, with reins in hand.

4. Ranking

4.1. INDIVIDUAL RANKING

Art. 4.1.1. Ranking of Non-Qualified Riders

Sub. a.

After each round, the non-qualified riders are ranked according to their point difference with the best rider on the horse. The rider with the least point difference is ranked immediately after the last qualified rider for the next round. The individual ranking on the horse, irrespective of whether the rider was second or third on the horse, does not affect the overall ranking. Riders who are eliminated are ranked after the last non-eliminated rider in the round.

Sub. b.

Riders who retire of their own accord during their round are ranked after all other riders in the round, including all eliminated riders.

Sub. c.

If a rider decides to retire during their round, after which it is no longer theoretically possible for them to be the winner of said round and in accordance with *Art. 3.1.1.*, the rider will be ranked equal with all eliminated riders for the round. In the case there are no eliminated riders in said round, they shall be ranked as the last rider of the round. This rule is in place to reward fair treatment of the horse.

Sub. d.

If a rider retires before they start riding, they will get no ranking whatsoever in said discipline. Moreover, they will get no Individual Combined Ranking. Their team will get no ranking in the discipline from which they retired nor a Team Combined Ranking. A ride is considered to have started after the judges have been saluted.

Sub. e.

An exception to *Sub. d.* is made when a rider is forced to retire before they ride due to physical inability, according to *Art. 2.5.2.*, or if the TC decides that there is another valid reason. In this case, the rider will be considered to have retired during their ride, and will be ranked according to *Sub. b.*

Sub. f.

In cases in which *Art. 2.5.5.* applies, the two (2) riders are ranked as normal in their respective disciplines, and the teams are ranked as normal, with the results of the two (2) riders considered as the results of one (1) single rider. If the reserve rider does not meet the conditions of *Art. 2.5.4.*, the team is considered an international team in the discipline in which the reserve rider participated, as well as for the Team Combined Ranking.

Art. 4.1.2. Converting Ranking into Points

Riders receive points according to their ranking, i.e. rank 1 = 1 point, rank 2 = 2 points etc. When riders have the same rank, the Riders receive a number of points equal to the sum of the rankings occupied by the riders divided by the number of riders with the same result.

For example, when 4 riders place 7th:

$$7 + 8 + 9 + 10 = 34 / 4 = 8.5 \text{ points each}$$

Art. 4.1.3. Individual Combined Ranking

The rankings of the rider in dressage and show umping are converted into points according to *Art. 4.1.2*. These points are then summed up. The rider with the least amount of points is declared the winner. If two (2) or more riders have the same amount of points, the rider ranked higher in dressage will be declared the winner. If these two (2) or more riders have the same ranking in dressage, refer to *Art. 4.5.3*.

4.2. TEAM DRESSAGE RANKING

Art. 4.2.1.

The teams are ranked according to the team mark from the first round of dressage. This ranking is converted into points according to *Art. 4.1.2*. These points are multiplied by three (3). The individual ranking of each rider of the team is also converted into points. These four (4) figures are then summed up. The team with the least amount of points is declared the winner.

4.3. TEAM SHOW JUMPING RANKING

Art. 4.3.1.

The individual ranking of each rider of the team is converted into points. These points are summed up. The team with the least amount of points is declared the winner.

4.4. TEAM COMBINED RANKING

Art. 4.4.1.

The points of each rider of the team in dressage (excluding the team mark) and show jumping are summed up. The team with the least amount of points is declared the winner.

Art. 4.4.2.

In the event of an equality of points between teams, calculated according to *Art. 4.4.1.*, the team with the higher ranking in the first round of dressage will be declared the winner.

4.5. BEST AND EQUAL RESULTS

Art. 4.5.1. Dressage

If two (2) or three (3) riders on the same horse in the same round of dressage have the best and equal results, the ranking is made by the overall collective mark (i.e. the sum of all collective marks). If the overall collective marks are equal, the ranking is made by the overall position mark (i.e. the sum of all position marks). If the overall position mark is equal, the riders must re-ride the same test in the same starting order on a horse supplied by the OC. If the OC does not have any horses available for a re-ride, the judges will decide who is qualified for the next round.

The riders who are not qualified after this re-ride are ranked as first of the non-qualified riders in the round.

Art. 4.5.2. Show Jumping

If two (2) or three (3) riders on the same horse in the same round of show jumping have the best and equal results, they will all re-ride the course in the same starting order as originally drawn on a Horse supplied by the OC. If the OC can only supply a horse that has already been ridden in the round, the course may be shortened. If the OC do not have any horses available for a re-ride, the Judges will decide who is qualified for the next round.

The riders who are not qualified after this re-ride are ranked as first of the non-qualified riders in the round.

Art. 4.5.3. Show Jumping Disqualification

If all riders on the same horse in the same round of show jumping are disqualified, they will re-ride the same course in the same starting order on a horse supplied by the OC. If the OC can only supply a horse that has already been ridden in the round, the course may be shortened. If the OC do not have any horses available for a re-ride, the rider who jumped the greatest number of fences will be qualified. If the riders jumped the same number of fences, the judges will decide who is qualified for the next round.

The riders who are not qualified after this re-ride are ranked as first of the non-qualified riders in the round.

4.6. WORLD FINALS

Art. 4.6.1. Rules

The World Finals (WF) competition, which will be the last competition of the year, will have some rules that differ from a regular SRNC competition. These rules are contained within the *AIEC SRNC World Finals Rules* and are to be the rules applied during a WF competition. For any rule not written within said document, the *AIEC SRNC General & Technical Regulations* apply.

Art. 4.6.2. Ranking

The ranking for WF will allow teams to compete in either the Gold or Silver League. The specific rules for the ranking of teams are contained within the *AIEC SRNC World Finals Rules*.

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