



## **CIEF National Dressage & Dressage Championship Rules (the “Rules”)** **(Oct 2025 Revision)**

### **The Competition**

The National Dressage Championship will be determined using the results of the CIEF's Dressage shows held from October to June (the “Season”). These shows (the “Shows” and each “Show”) consist of National Dressage Shows, the CEA Dressage Challenge and on the years that it is held, the FEI Dressage World Challenge.

1. Championship categories (the “Categories”) are as follows:
  - a. Equitation: This will include Leadline- Walk Trot, Off Leadline-Walk Trot and Walk Trot Canter
  - b. Introductory: This will include the USDF Introductory A, B and C Tests
  - c. Training: This will include all Tests in the USEF Training Level and FEI Preliminary A Test
  - d. First Level: This will include all Tests in the USEF First Level and FEI Preliminary B Test
  - e. Second Level: This will include the FEI WDC Elementary Test, all Tests in the USEF Second Level and FEI Children’s Team Test
  - f. Third Level: This will include the FEI WDC Medium Test and all Tests in the USEF Third Level
  - g. Forth Level: This will include the FEI WDC Advanced Test and all Tests in the USEF Fourth Level.
  - h. Prix St. Georges: This will include the FEI Prix St. Georges Test
2. Adults and juniors will be judged separately in the Introductory, Training, First level and Second level Categories.
3. Third level, Forth level and Prix St. Georges will be open Categories.
4. A rider is considered an adult if they are aged sixteen or over at the date of the first Show in the Season.

### **Championship Awards**

5. A Champion Award (the “Champion Award”) and a Reserve Champion Award will be awarded at the end of the Season in each Category (the “Awards”).
6. Riders in each Equitation Class will be awarded Rosettes from 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> place.
7. Introductory riders will be awarded a Champions Award; a Reserve Champion Award; and Rosettes will be awarded for 3<sup>rd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> place.
8. Awards will be awarded on the basis of the horse and rider combination. Except for Training level where riders will be awarded to the rider on any horse combination.

9. Subject to these Rules, a rider may compete on more than one horse in any Show during the Season and each horse and rider combination will be eligible for Awards (except for training level which will be awarded on any horse combination).
10. Subject to these Rules, a horse and rider combination is eligible for Awards in a maximum of two consecutive Categories.
11. To be eligible for Awards in a Category, a horse and rider combination must have competed in the Category at no less than two Shows within the Season.
12. To be eligible for Awards, a horse and rider combination must have the following minimum average score within a Category:

a.	Equitation		NA
b.	Introductory		62%
c.	Training		60%
d.	First Level	FEI A (equiv. To 1LT1)	58%
e.	Second Level	FEI B / FEI Childrens Team (equiv. to 2LT2 / 2LT3)	55%
f.	Third Level		55%
g.	Forth Level		55%
h.	Prix St. Georges		55%
i.	FEI Junior TOC	Speak to your coaches	

13. Notwithstanding paragraph 4 above, a junior rider who has won the Champion Award in a junior Category twice may compete for Awards in that same Category as an adult in a subsequent Season regardless of their age.
14. A rider that has competed in the Prix St. Georges Category is only eligible for Awards in the Third level Category or below, on a green or Third level horse.
15. A horse and rider combination can only win the Champion Award in each of the Introductory, Training, First level and Second level Categories a maximum of two times. However, if a horse and rider's average score exceeds 74% in the Introductory Category or 72% in the Training Category the horse and rider combination is not eligible for Awards in that Category in any subsequent Season.
16. The average score for purposes of paragraph 12 and 15 above is the average of the scores used to calculate the horse and rider's cumulative score referred to at paragraphs 21 through 25 inclusive of these Rules.
17. If a horse and rider combination has been absent from the CIEF National Dressage Championship for one or more Seasons and they wish to compete together in Categories lower than those they have previously competed in, they will be permitted to compete for Awards in Categories deemed suitable by the CIEF Board, in consultation with the rider and their coach.
18. The Champion Award for each Category will be given to the horse and rider combination with the highest cumulative score in that Category and the Reserve Champion Award for each Category will be given to the horse and rider combination with the second highest cumulative score in that Category, in each case, calculated in accordance with these Rules at paragraphs 21 through 25 inclusive.
19. Should a horse and rider combination compete in more than one class (and obtain more than one score) within a Category at a Show, only the highest score obtained in that Category may be included in the calculation of a horse and rider's cumulative score at paragraphs 21 through 25 inclusive, of these Rules.
20. Each score included in the calculation of a horse and rider's cumulative score at paragraphs 21 through 25 inclusive, of these Rules, must be from a different Show. For the avoidance of doubt, this means that in calculating a horse and rider's cumulative score the score used from each show will be the score that

achieves the highest average even if that means not taking the highest Test 3 score for the Training, First level and Second level Categories or the highest USDF Introductory C Test for the Introductory Category.

21. In the Introductory Category, a horse and rider's cumulative score will be calculated by totaling the four highest scores (or, if four scores are not available, the two highest scores) obtained during the Season. Notwithstanding the foregoing and subject to paragraphs 19 and 20 above, at least one of these scores must be from a USDF Introductory C Test, even if such score is not among the horse and rider's four (or three, as the case may be) highest scores.
22. In the Training Category, a horse and rider's cumulative score in the Training Category will be calculated by totaling the four highest scores (or, if four scores are not available, the two highest scores) obtained during the Season. Notwithstanding the foregoing and subject to paragraphs 19 and 20 above, at least one of these scores must be from USEF Training Level Test 3, even if such score is not among the horse and rider's four (or three as the case may be) highest scores.
23. In the First level Category, a horse and rider's cumulative score will be calculated by totaling the four highest scores (or if four scores are not available, the two highest scores) obtained during the Season. Notwithstanding the foregoing and subject to paragraphs 19 and 20 above, at least one of these scores must be from USEF First Level Test 3, even if such score is not among the horse and rider's four (or three, as the case may be) highest scores.
24. In the Second level Category, a horse and rider's cumulative score will be calculated by totaling the four highest scores (or if four scores are not available, the two highest scores) obtained during the Season. Notwithstanding the foregoing and subject to paragraphs 19 and 20 above, at least one of these scores must be from USEF Second Level Test 3, even if such score is not among the horse and rider's four (or three, as the case may be) highest scores.
25. In the Third level, Forth level and Prix St. Georges Categories, a horse and rider's cumulative score will be calculated by totaling the four highest scores (or if four scores are not available, the three highest scores) obtained during the Season for any tests ridden within the respective Category, subject to paragraphs 19 and 20 above.
26. Only scores obtained in the current Season accumulate and no scores may be carried over from one Season to the next.

### **National Dressage Rules**

27. Applicable Rules. At CIEF National Dressage Shows, FEI Rules shall apply only to FEI Tests and USEF Rules shall apply to all USEF and USDF Tests. Exceptions to FEI and USEF rules are noted in paragraphs 28 through 35 below
28. Protective Headgear. All competitors at CIEF horse shows must wear protective headgear (as defined under FEI rules) at all times when mounted. Any rider found mounted on a horse without protective headgear will be eliminated from the show.
29. Equipment and Apparel. At CIEF National Dressage Shows, FEI rules regarding equipment and apparel apply to competitors riding FEI tests and USEF rules regarding equipment and apparel apply to competitors riding USEF and USDF tests. Notwithstanding the foregoing, at CIEF National Dressage Shows, jackets are always waived, although competitors may choose to wear them and will not be penalized for doing so.

30. Entry Fees. All show entry fees must be paid in advance. Competitors who fail to pay their entry fees (or show proof of payment), or who have an outstanding balance owed to the CIEF, shall be disqualified and not allowed to compete until such time as their accounts payable to the CIEF have been paid in full.
31. Percentage Scores. Percentage scores for all National Dressage Shows shall be taken to 3 decimal places.
32. Score Reporting. At all CIEF sponsored dressage shows, the posting of scores in public shall be restricted to the total percentage score. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the scorers at such shows shall maintain a record of each competitor's total score, total percentage score, collective marks (after coefficients have been applied) and marks for Rider's Position, for the sole purpose of placing the class and breaking ties.
33. Breaking Ties. In the event of a tie (equality of points), the total collective marks (after coefficients have been applied) will determine the order of placing among tied competitors, with the rider with the higher collective marks being placed higher. In cases where the total collective marks (after coefficients have been applied) are equal, the marks for the "Rider's Position" will be used to break the tie, with the rider receiving the higher mark being placed higher. In cases where both the collective marks (after coefficients have been applied) and the mark for Rider's Position are equal, the competitors shall remain tied.
34. Clinics with Judges. The CIEF shall not retain any person to act as judge for any of its NDS Shows if it is aware that such person has taught, trained or provided a clinic or lesson to any of its members within 180 days prior to the date of such show. Conversely, once the name of a judge for an NDS Show is published, a rider may not compete for points at such Show if they have taken a clinic or lesson, or otherwise trained with that judge within the 180 days prior to the date of such Show. Subject to the preceding, there shall be nothing in these rules to prevent a member from taking a clinic or lesson with the judge of any of its NDS Shows after the completion of such show.
35. Covid-19 Adjustments to Rules: During Covid-19 or any other restrictions that prevent a dressage judge from coming to the Cayman Islands, the Board of the CIEF has the right to decide to run any of its shows "online". Online competitions are those where the participant's performance is recorded for judging at a future date or filmed and judged live using a camera system over the internet. In either case, all relevant rules of the CIEF, CEA, FEI and USEF, as the case may be, shall apply to Online Competitions, except those rules that contradict the use of recording or video equipment in place of the judge at "C".

Notwithstanding the foregoing, should there be any technical issue with the camera or recording equipment that prevents the horse and rider combination from being judged properly, the combination shall have the right to re-ride their test either from the start or from the point in their test where the technical glitch occurred (at the rider's choice). In any event, any issues that arise from the use of a camera rather than a live judge, shall be resolved, as best as possible, in the horse-rider combination's favor.

#### Code of Conduct

34. All competitors shall comply with the FEI's Code of Conduct for the Welfare of the Horse in force from time to time and the CIEF's Code of Conduct. If any person breaches either of these codes, the Judges may apply any of the penalties set out in the FEI General Regulations.

#### Definitions

35. The following definitions will apply to these Rules:

“CIEF” mean the Cayman Islands Equestrian Federation;

“CIEF’s Code of Conduct” is the code set out in Schedule 1 to these Rules, as amended from time to time;

“FEI General Regulations” means the FEI General Regulations 23<sup>rd</sup> Edition, as amended from time to time.

“Tests” Shall mean the then current version of such dressage test available from the applicable governing body.

“DWC” shall mean the FEI’s Dressage World Challenge for the current year.

Words importing the singular in these Rules shall include the plural and vice versa unless the context requires otherwise.

Any reference to any document or set of rules in these Rules shall be a reference to that document or set of rules as amended from time to time.

Any reference to a ‘horse’ in these Rules shall be deemed to include a pony.

These Rules are subject to amendment at any time.

## **Schedule 1**

### **CIEF'S Code of Conduct**

#### **Application**

1. This Code shall apply to all members of CIEF and, in the case of members under the age of 18, their parents and guardians ("Applicable Persons").

#### **FEI Code of Ethics**

2. The FEI's Code of Ethics set out in Appendix F of the FEI General Regulations shall be incorporated by reference into this Code.

#### **General Principles**

3. No Applicable Person shall violate the common principles of behavior, fairness or accepted standards of sportsmanship at any event organized by CIEF.

#### **Volunteers and Officials**

4. All Applicable Persons:
  - 4.1 must respect coaches, officials and volunteers at CIEF events, their authority and decisions and the rules and regulations under which CIEF events operate and must not dispute any such decisions other than in accordance with applicable rules;
  - 4.2 must not engage in or condone unsportsmanlike behavior such as booing, taunting, using profane language, refusing to congratulate winners etc.
  - 4.3 must not criticize coaches, officials, volunteers or each other on social networking sites; and
  - 4.4 must respect the property and equipment used at any CIEF event, considering safety uppermost in all situations.

#### **Breach of the Code**

5. Breach of this Code may entail the imposition of any of the penalties set out in the FEI General Regulations which may be imposed by a judge at the event where the breach occurs, if it occurs at an event, or by the CIEF after consideration of all the evidence.

#### **Definitions**

"FEI General Regulations" means the FEI General Regulations 23<sup>rd</sup> Edition, as amended from time to time.