



★ NEWSFLASH ★

17 January 2018

DSA Rule Changes Summary Effective January 2018

Please see DSA website www.dressagesa.com for latest version of DSA Dressage Rules effective 1 January 2018

These Rule Changes are Applicable to Judges, Riders and Trainers

NEW FEI INTERMEDIATE A/B FREESTYLE 2018

Can be downloaded from the FEI Website

FREESTYLE TIMING

Note that the DSA Junior/Adult Elementary/Medium Freestyle and the DSA Junior/Adult Medium Freestyle durations are now 5 minutes (not 5 ½ minutes) from 2018 onwards.

SECTION 32 : TESTS, ARENAS AND OFFICIALS

Removal of the Collective Marks for Paces, Impulsion and Submission Refer Rule 32.7.6.

'Collective mark is awarded after the athlete has completed his performance for the athlete's position and seat, correctness and effect of the aids'.

Notes : Guidelines for Judges as per communication from Stephen Clarke, FEI Dressage Judge General :

The rule and the directive for awarding the 'Rider Mark' remains unaltered. Therefore, this score will be awarded as it was before, taking into account the rider's position and seat, and the way in which they are able to influence the horse in order to produce an expressive, harmonious and fault free performance. If they are successful in producing such a performance they will be awarded a high mark. However, if the test is shown with several faults, or there is discord between rider and horse with obvious tension and resistance, the score will obviously be diminished, as it was previously.

Lameness. Refer Rule 32.10.7.

'In the case of marked irregularity or unevenness as decided by the President of the Ground Jury, the President of the Jury informs the Athlete that he is eliminated. There is no Appeal against this decision. If, however, the horse shows intermittent irregularity or unevenness, the Athlete, will be allowed by the President of the Jury (ie the Judge positioned at C) to complete the test, provided no distress is seen in the horse by the President of the Jury. The intermittent irregularity or unevenness will be penalized with a mark of 4 for each movement in which the intermittent irregularity or unevenness is observed by the President of the Ground Jury. (Refer also to 32.7.11).'

Notes: This Rule is virtually the same as the previous rule, except there is the introduction of the specific mark of 4 (insufficient) where intermittent irregularity or unevenness is observed. Rule 32.7.11 as a cross reference is a summary of reasons for elimination.

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SECTION 34 : GRADING

Rule 34.1.3.

'The classification of the horse may at any time be changed by the owner in writing provided that the horse is only allowed to compete in one South African Championship in any calendar year'

Rule 34.1.5. (iii)

'In all championship competitions, horses may only compete in the grade in which they are currently registered. An 'O' athlete may ride the horse in a higher grade than the horse's grade subject to rules 34.9.0 and 34.11.6.

Note: This is virtually the same except that rule 34.11.6 which has been added as a reference, has been revised as follows:

34.11.6.

'An 'O' athlete may ride any horse at the level of the horse's grade or higher provided that the show schedule specifically allows for this by a declaration in each applicable class stating 'this class allows for 'O' riders to compete on horses at a level higher than the horse's present grade' and provided that the horse is not ridden by both the 'S' and the 'O' athlete at the same show. This rule is applicable for CN status shows.'

Rule 34.4.2.

'A horse will be downgraded from Big Tour to Medium Tour with no points and from Medium Tour to Small Tour with no points, if the horse gains 54% or less in three competitions within one registration year. Should the horse gain 54% or less in a competition where the horse is the only competitor, no prize money, rosettes or any associated sponsor's gifts will be awarded.'

Rule 34.11.3 (this has been deleted)

'An athlete will be upgraded to the next level when they have accumulated sufficient points to the next level.'

SECTION 37 : THE ADULT, YOUNG RIDER, JUNIOR, CHILDREN AND PONY RIDER INDIVIDUAL DRESSAGE CHAMPIONSHIPS OF SOUTH AFRICA

Rule 37.12.0 : Ties For First Place

'In the event of equality of total marks for first place in the Adult, Young Rider, Junior, Children and Pony Rider Championships, the horse with the higher collective mark shall be placed first. If the total collective marks are also equal, the horses concerned shall be given first place.'

Note: This has been amended due to the fact that there is now only one collective mark.

APPENDIX DS/3 SADDLERY

Has been updated with numerous new permitted items and photographs.

APPENDIX DS/6 : FREESTYLE RULES

Has been updated with the inclusion of three Directives from FEI.

Note: Vybrant Dressage Club is seeking further clarification of some of the rules and will keep members updated.

From your Vybrant Team