Under the current version of DR 124, elimination for certain dress code violations of DR 120 inside the competition arena is mandatory by the judge at C, while elimination for other violations is discretionary. This is problematic for competitors, judges, and technical delegates, as what will result in elimination under one judge might not have the same outcome under another. This makes it difficult for competitors to know what is legal attire, for technical delegates to provide clear advice and often, leads to the perception by competitors of unequal treatment or inconsistent enforcement. There is a related rule change proposal to DR 120 that would significantly expand the acceptable options for show attire, giving competitors far more flexibility. It is believed that, once the revision is adopted, there will be very few violations of the dress code and therefore, the fairest approach would be to remove the discretionary aspect of the rule and make elimination mandatory for all dress code violations.
DR124 Elimination. Change to read:

1. In the Dressage division “disqualification”, as defined in GR117, includes elimination, except for designated qualifying classes for regional or national championships where scores may be disqualified for championship qualifying purposes and the entry may retain the scores for class ranking and reporting purposes.

2. Horse and rider combinations shall be eliminated from the competition (for .a, .f and .i, below) or from the current or next class depending on which is closest to the time the incident occurred (for all others), under the following circumstances:

   a. Misrepresentation of entry or inappropriate entry (GR907 and DR119);

   b. Elimination by the judge at “C” for dress code violations inside the competition ring is mandatory listed under DR-120.1-5 at the discretion of the Judge at “C” except elimination is mandatory for failure to wear property secured protective headgear. Elimination is mandatory for violations listed under DR-120.6-16. (DR120).