

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Extraordinary	7/1/2023	5/5/2023	

Extraordinary Change Reason

After the implementation of the Appendix 3 Minimum Eligibility Requirements for national levels, effective December 1, 2022, a discrepancy between the requirements for the Preliminary level and the CCI2\*-S level for FEI categorized athletes has been identified. Since 2019, there are no requirements for horses ridden by FEI categorized athletes at the CCI2\*-S level. With the new MERs for national levels, to be qualified to compete at the Preliminary level, a horse is required to have four MERs at the Training level or higher. Based on this, horses ridden by categorized athletes are eligible to compete at a CCI2\*-S, however, to be qualified for the Preliminary, which is considered a level below CCI2\*-S per Appendix 3.1.4, the horse is required to achieve up to 4 MERs at Training or higher. Often categorized athletes will use Preliminary to prepare for the CCI2\*-S and under the current rules, athletes would not have the opportunity for this preparation option for a CCI2\*-S. As a result, athletes may excessively and unnecessarily run their horse in order to achieve qualification at the Preliminary level. Both instances are a concern for horse welfare and safety.

Rule Change Intent

The intent of this rule change proposal is to align the Minimum Eligibility requirements for the Preliminary level and CCI2\*-S level.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Eventing	Amber Braun abraun@usef.org
Linked Rules	Comments

Committee Actions

Eventing

Draft 1: Recommends Approval

Draft 1: Language must be corrected to: "Athletes with 20 or more MERs..."

3.5 PRELIMINARY (P) - Open to competitors from the beginning of the calendar year of their 14th birthday, on horses five years of age or older. The competitor must have obtained an MER at six Horse Trials at the Training Level or higher. The Horse must have obtained an MER at four Horse Trials at the Training Level or higher: One of the four MERs must be as a combination. Athletes with more than 10 MERs at the Preliminary Level or higher are exempt from one MER in combination. ***Athletes with 20 or more MERs at the Preliminary level or higher: The Horse must have obtained an MER at two Horse Trials at the Training level or higher or one MER at a Horse Trials at the Training level or higher in combination with the Athlete.***