



## Summary of 2018 USEF rule changes for Combined Driving

Chapter	Article Number	Rule Change in <b>BOLD</b>
DC-5 ATHLETES	DC 913.2.4	<p>2.2 Athletes and Grooms must wear securely fastened Protective Headgear which meets or exceeds ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials)/SEI (Safety Equipment Institute) standards for equestrian use and carries the SEI tag, and a back protector in the Marathon. Infringement will incur Elimination.</p> <p>2.3 Medical Armbands are strongly recommended</p> <p><b>2.4 When a body/back protector is required, air protector can be used combined with a real back or body protector but never without.</b></p>
DC-11 ATHLETES	DC 913.4.2 & 4.3 <i>Also affects penalty charts in Dressage &amp; Cones chapters</i>	<p>4. Whip for Dressage and Cones</p> <p>4.1 The Athlete must carry a whip of traditional style. The lash, which may be tied to the stick, must be capable of release, and must be long enough to reach all the Horses.</p> <p>4.2 An Athlete must enter the arena with a whip in hand or incur <del>40</del> <b>5</b> penalty points.</p> <p>4.3 If an Athlete drops or puts down his whip, when in the arena, or if it is not held in the hand, he will incur <del>40</del> <b>5</b> penalty points.</p>
DC-6 HORSES	DC 918.2.2	<p>2. Wounds and Lacerations</p> <p>2.1 Blood on Horses may be an indication of abuse of Horse and must be investigated case by case by any member of the Ground Jury.</p> <p><b>2.2 Such horses may be eliminated from the Competition. In extreme cases where abuse is evident, further sanctions will be taken against the Athlete, such as a Yellow Warning Card.</b></p> <p><del>2.2</del> 2.3 In minor cases of blood in the mouth, such as where a Horse appears to have bitten its tongue or lip, or minor bleeding on limbs, after investigation the Athlete may be authorized to continue.</p>
DC-6 HORSES	DC 920.3.1	<p>3. In-Harness Horse Inspection</p> <p>3.1 This must take place at all Events during, and at the site of, the 10-minute Compulsory Rest prior to the start of Section B of Marathon. <del>One member of the Ground Jury and a Veterinarian are</del> <b>is</b> responsible for this Inspection. It must be performed carefully but rapidly so that the Athlete has time to care for his horses before the start of Section B.</p>
DC-6 HORSES	DC 920.2.9	<p>2.9 A re-inspection on the following day is only possible if the no decision (accepted or not accepted) is made on the day of the Horse Inspection. The horse must be presented by the same person as before. In all cases of further inspection or re-inspection, <b>the opinion of the VD must be made clear to the panel.</b> Each Member of the Ground Jury and the Veterinary Delegate will be issued with a Voting Slip on which they must check either a Yes or No box to indicate whether they consider the Horse fit to compete. After consideration of the veterinary opinion from both VD/Commission and holding box veterinarian these forms will be handed to the President of Jury who will announce the majority decision as to whether the Horse may compete. When there are two lanes of Horses of a same class being inspected the whole Ground Jury will come together along with chief Veterinary officer from each lane. If there is an even number of Ground Jury members and Veterinary Delegates, then the Veterinary Delegate's vote will be counted twice. President of the Ground Jury, the Foreign Judge and either the Veterinary Delegate of the President of the Veterinary Commission will be the sole voters. There is no appeal against this decision. It is compulsory to have a Veterinarian available in the holding box.</p>
DC-8 CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATION	DC 930.2.1.2  <i>To clarify: this rule change removes the penalty when grooms speak to the Athlete during a CONES course. (Speaking during Dressage still incurs a penalty) Also changes rule in DC 959.2.g</i>	<p>2. Prohibited outside assistance</p> <p>2.1 Dressage and Cones:</p> <p>2.1.1 Any intervention by a third party, not riding on the carriage, whether solicited or not, with the object of facilitating the task of the Athlete or helping his horses, is considered to be outside assistance. Any Athlete who has received physical outside assistance may be eliminated by the Ground Jury.</p> <p>2.1.2 In Dressage and Cones, Grooms must remain seated in their proper positions between entering and leaving the Arena They are not permitted to handle the reins or the whip (will incur 20 penalties). <b>For Dressage, Grooms are not allowed to</b> <del>not</del> speak or indicate the course to the Athlete (will incur 10 penalties). However the Groom may handle the reins, whip and brake without penalty provided the carriage remains stationary.</p> <p>2.1.3 Exception: If the bell has been rung by the President of the Jury and the Athlete has failed to hear the bell; the Groom may advise the Athlete that the bell has been rung.</p> <p>2.1.4 Athletes and Grooms may not use any form of electronic communication equipment during Dressage and Cones, subject to elimination.</p>
	DC 959.2.g in CONES chapter	<p>g. Grooms must be seated in their proper places between the start and finish lines. <del>They are not allowed to indicate the course or to speak unless they are dismounted.</del> For penalties, see DC 981. The groom may advise the Athlete a whistle/bell has sounded.</p>



DC-10 ORDER OF STARTING	DC 932.1.1.2	<p>DC 932 Starting Order</p> <p>The method of determining the order of starting for Driven Dressage for Advanced division athletes will be at a time determined by the Organizer and published in the Prize List/Omnibus:</p> <p>a) Random computer generation used in the electronic scoring program.</p> <p>b) A draw wherein Athletes will pull a number from a receptacle containing time for the starting positions. This may be done at the either the time of Registration or at the First Horse Inspection.</p> <p>1.1.2 Starting Order for the <del>second</del> <b>Marathon</b> and <del>third</del> <b>Cones</b> competition:</p> <p>The Athletes will go in reverse order of the results in the previous competition(s) or half split as has been done previously.</p> <p>The starting order will be:</p> <p>a) Retired Athletes, followed by</p> <p>b) Eliminated Athletes, followed by</p> <p>c) The Athletes competing twice with their turnout in the <del>lowest</del> <b>highest</b> placing, followed by</p> <p>d) The remaining Athletes, commencing with the highest number of penalties, so that Athletes with the least number of penalties achieved without Retirement or Elimination will start last.</p>
DC-11 DRIVEN DRESSAGE	DC 939.5.1	<b>5.1 Para-Equestrian Athletes in able-bodied competitions may salute with a nod of their head only. Hats are not required to be removed at the salute and contact may be maintained on the reins during the halt and salute.</b>
DC-12 MARATHON	DC 944.1.7	<b>1.7 As an alternative option to the Section A, there can be a controlled Warm-up (minimum of 30 minutes before starting time) in a designated warm-up arena of minimum 7000 square meters, properly stewarded, with a judge and veterinarian in attendance. A marathon-type obstacle for preparation purposes should be provided. Horse inspection and bit/harness control 10 minutes before the start in Section B is compulsory.</b>
DC-12 MARATHON	DC 944.3.1	<p>3. Compulsory rests</p> <p>A safety check of the turnout must be made before the start of Marathon and during the 10 minute hold at the end of the Transfer Section (Option 1) or Section A (Option 2). Compulsory rests.</p> <p>3.1 There must be a compulsory rest of not less than 10 minutes in the designated rest area prior to the start of Section B. <b>The rest is not compulsory in the "controlled warm up" option, but horse/bit/harness inspection is still required.</b></p>
DC-12 MARATHON	DC 945.3.2	<p>3. Design and Construction of Obstacles</p> <p>3.1 The number of each Obstacle must be clearly displayed on the post supporting the Red Entry Flag.</p> <p>3.2 The Entry and Exit of each Obstacle must be marked by Red and White Flags (red on the right and white on the left), not less than 20 m from the nearest lettered gate, unless the Technical Delegate grants an exception. <b>After the finish line of each obstacle, a 30m sign must be established. A dismounted groom in an obstacle must be back on the carriage before the rear axle passes the sign.</b></p>
DC-12 MARATHON	DC 945.6.1	<p>6. Obstacles in a Combined Marathon course.</p> <p>6.1 Width of cones. The following clearances shall apply.</p> <p>Division Class Cones Width</p> <p>Horse Four-In-Hand 1.80m to 1.90m</p> <p>Horse Pair 1.70m to 1.80m</p> <p>Horse Single 1.50m to 1.60m</p> <p>Ponies Four-In-Hand 1.70m to 1.80m</p> <p>Ponies Pair 1.50m to 1.60m</p> <p>Ponies Single 1.40m to 1.50m</p> <p><i>Note: this only affects Combined Marathon, not CDE Marathons.</i></p>
DC-13 CONES	DC 957.1.6	<p><b>1.6 An oxer will be composed of two pairs of cones in a straight line. The distance between the first set of cones and the second set will be between 1.5 and 3 metres, at the option of the Course Designer. The maximum penalties per Oxer is three penalties, for hitting one to four balls. The first set of cones will have the number of the obstacle, the second set will only be marked with red and white flags. Refer to ANNEX 8.</b></p> <p><b>1.6.1 A maximum of five oxers are allowed in a Cones course.</b></p>

**The USEF rule changes reflect all of the 2018 FEI rule changes, except a change to World Championship Starting Order (FEI Article 948.2.1.1&2) which does not apply to USEF rules. Please refer to the published rule books for complete details.**