



May 6, 2026

Lauren Moore, Director of Team Coordination & Administration
US Equestrian Federation
4001 Wing Commander Way
Lexington, KY 40511
Sent via email: lmoore@usef.org

Dear Ms. Moore:

Thank you for submitting your request for a Presidential Modification to the application of DR121.3.a on behalf of the USEF Dressage Sport Committee. A Presidential Modification is granted in cases of extraordinary, special circumstances. When measured against that criterion, it has been determined that your request meets the standard for a Presidential Modification and therefore is approved.

As a result, the rule will be modified as outlined below effective for the 2026 competition year until the approved standard rule change goes into effect 12/1/2026. As a condition of this approval, you must immediately send communication to the entire community of equestrians, organizers, and officials affected by this modification.

DR121 Saddlery and Equipment

3. Bridle

- a. Crownpiece.** The crownpiece of the bridle must lie immediately behind the poll and may extend forward onto the poll, but it may not be fitted to lie on the vertebrae behind the skull (Figure 121.6). The crownpiece may be padded and it may have elastic inserts. ~~Any padding must be smooth and continuous across the poll while on the horse, and rectangular or in the same shape as the crownpiece. Padding may extend no more than 1.5 centimeters beyond the dimensions for the crownpiece as indicated in Figure 121.6.~~ The only material contacting the horse's head must be the leather, **or** leather-like material, ~~or elastic~~, of the crownpiece or the additional padding material. Any piece of tack or equipment that impairs the ears to move freely is not permitted.

Please feel free to contact the Federation office if you need further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas F. X. O'Mara".

Thomas F. X. O'Mara
President

cc: William J. Moroney, Chief Executive Officer
Laura Roberts, Managing Director of Dressage

