

DR121.1 Tracking #226-25 Draft #1 Approved

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Proponent
Rule Clarification	4/15/2026	Dressage
Intent		

Change wording on safety stirrups in DR rules to be compliant with USEF rule change on safety stirrups.

Proposed Change

DR121. Saddlery and Equipment. Change to read:

1.a. Stirrups. English-style stirrups without attachments or safety stirrups shall be used. Safety stirrups must have closed branches of metal or other breakaway material or mechanism. The foot must not be fully or partially enclosed and must in no way be attached to the stirrups (for example with magnets); however, a safety stirrup may have a magnetic mechanism that closes the breakaway branch. ***The closing mechanism for safety stirrups must not have an upward projecting hook or similar closure and must be in compliance with GR801.11.*** The stirrup leathers must hang freely from their anchor point without additional attachments to the saddle or girth.

DR121.2 Tracking #227-25 Draft #1 Approved

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Proponent
Rule Clarification	4/15/2026	Dressage
Intent		

Bits containing “slots” in the rings have never been pictured in the Rulebook or Annex A, however some models of otherwise legal bits are marketed with or without slots. This change would make it clear that no bit with slots in the rings is permitted.

Proposed Change

DR121. Saddlery and Equipment. Add new:

2. Bits

Only those bits listed in Figure 121.1, Figure 121.3, Figure 121.4, and Annex A are permitted. Bits must be used in a conventional manner and attached only as illustrated in the diagrams. **Bits must be attached to the bridle only as intended by design, in accordance with the manufacturer’s guidelines.** The type of bit should not vary from those pictured below except where specified. All bits must be smooth with a solid surface. Twisted bits, bits with “bumps”, bits with uncovered wire or cable, and bits that place mechanical restraint upon the tongue are prohibited. Joints that could trap or pinch the oral tissues are not permitted. ***Bits containing “slots” in the rings for attachment to the cheeks or reins are not permitted and no part of a rein or cheekpiece may be fixed using any similar design or mechanism.***

DR121.21 Tracking #228-25 Draft #1 Approved

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Proponent
Rule Clarification	4/15/2026	Dressage

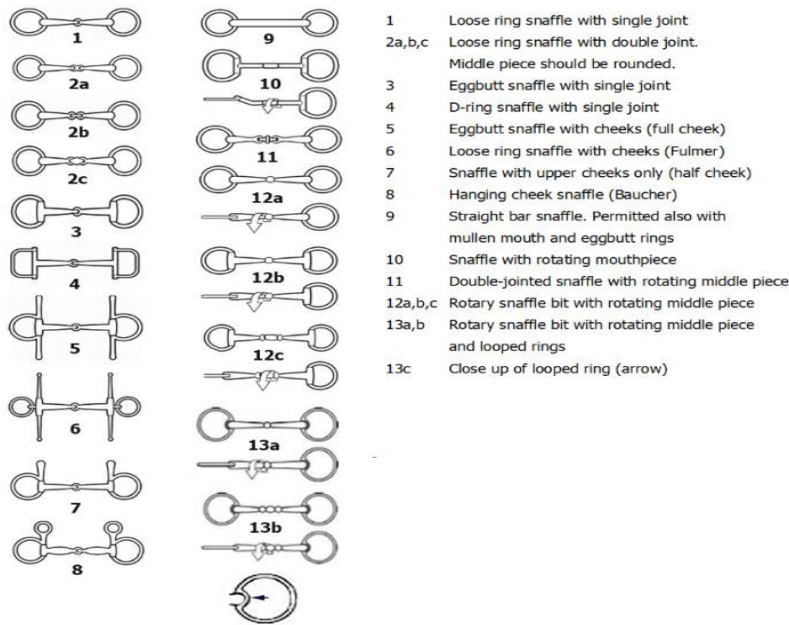
Correct illustration to match rule change that took effect in 2024 allowing half cheek bits with either an upper cheek or lower cheek.

Proposed Change

DR121. Saddlery and Equipment. Change to read:

Figure 121.1: Permitted snaffle bits. The snaffles pictured and described here are permitted at any level (national and FEI) in which it is permitted to use a snaffle. However, keepers are only permitted in national level tests for full cheek, half cheek (*upper cheek only*), and fulmer snaffles pictured above (bits numbered 5, 6 and 7) See also Annex A posted on the Federation website for additional information on permitted and prohibited snaffle bits.

SNAFFLE BITS



Change:
 7. Snaffle with upper *or* lower cheeks ~~only~~
 (half cheek)

Proposed Effective Date: **Clarification. 12.1.25**

Intent: Correct illustration to match rule change that took effect in 2024 allowing half cheek bits with either an upper cheek or lower cheek.

DR123.3 Tracking #230-25 Draft #1 Approved

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Proponent
Rule Clarification	4/15/2026	Dressage
Intent		

Correct terminology to reflect current information on dressage tests and in DR122.

Proposed Change

DR123 Scoring, Classification and Prize-Giving. Change to read:

3. Individual Classification. In all competitions the *highest ranked* winner is the competitor *is the one* having the

highest percentage, the second placed competitor is the one with the next highest percentage, and so on. In case of equality of ~~points~~ *percentages* the competitor with the highest *total* marks received under *Collective Marks General Impressions* shall be declared the *highest ranked* winner. When the scores for *Collective Marks General Impressions* are equal after coefficients have been applied... the horses must remain tied. Exceptions: (1) For Young Horse classes, the marks for “Submission” and “Perspective”/”General Impression” must be combined and divided by two in order to break the tie. If still equal, the “Submission” mark would decide. (2) For FEI Children classes: In case of equality of percentages, the competitor with the higher “technical” mark will be ranked highest. If still tied, the highest total median score of the Technical Judges will decide the placing. Errors on a test may not be used to break ties....

DR121.6 Tracking #233-25 Draft #1 Approved

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Proponent
Rule Clarification	4/15/2026	Dressage
Intent		

Curb bits with mouthpieces that have the effect of a tongue plate should not be permitted for the welfare of horses.

Proposed Change

DR121 Saddlery and Equipment. Add new:

2.c.6. 5. The mouthpiece of a curb with a shaped mouthpiece may tilt forward no more than 45 degrees.