Rule	Tracking	Draft	Proposal Type	Effective Date	Proponent	Status
GR 1211.4	041-25	2	Standard	12/1/2026	Arabian	Approved (9/21/2026)

Tracking #041-25 Draft #2 Approved

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2026	2/23/2026	Approved 9/21/2026

Rule Change Intent

The Arabian Committee wants to encourage Arabian Dressage exhibitors to continue competing in high level breed restricted Dressage classes at Arabian competitions; they do not want to lose these exhibitors from the Arabian competitions for Open Dressage competitions. Currently, a C2 Steward is permitted to officiate up to Level Four classes of breed-restricted Dressage; this requires the competition to hire a Technical Delegate when offering breed restricted Dressage classes above fourth level. Hiring a TD for this purpose is taxing on the competition in both time and money. Often, the higher level Dressage classes have less entries than the more entry levels, therefore the need for hiring a TD is a burden to the competition. Competitions want to encourage these high level exhibitors to continue competing at Arabian competitions in breed restricted dressage classes to preserve Dressage in the Arabian breed, but it is difficult to justify hosting these upper level classes, when the burden of hiring a TD to officiate does not weigh out equally. In order to continue offering all levels of Dressage in breed-restricted competitions/classes, the committee feels that an exception is necessary for the allowance of a C2 Steward to officiate the FEI levels of Dressage when the competition had five or less rides in the FEI level classes from the previous year's post competition data or the first year a competition hosts FEI level Dressage classes.

Link with rule DR125.4.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
Arabian	Ashton Street astreet@usef.org

Linked Rules	Comments

Andalusian/Lusitano

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 10/30/2025

Connemara

Draft 1: No Action 10/14/2025

Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 2: Recommends Disapproval 05/26/2026

Draft 2: Upon review, the Council noted that C2 stewards do not receive the same training as TDs, particularly in safety, horse welfare, and the ethical treatment of horses. This raises concerns, especially at the FEI levels. Allowing this exception would also hold smaller dressage competitions to stricter standards, even though many have only a few FEI-level classes. In addition, Arabian qualifications for Regionals and Nationals have been waived, which appears to reduce the need for this proposed rule change.

Council - Member Services

Draft 2: Recommends Approval

Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

Draft 2: Recommends Approval 05/27/2026

Dressage

Draft 1: Recommends Disapproval 11/03/2025
Draft 2: Recommends Disapproval 04/14/2026

Draft 1: The committee felt that the current proposed wording is unclear. Suggested language: The first year that a competition hosts Fourth level and above, a C2 Steward may officiate those classes. If the previous year's post-competition numbers had 8 entries or less, the competition could continue to use a C2 steward, but if there are 9 or more entries, a Dressage TD would be required. Draft 2: Upon further review, the following was noted: C2 stewards are not trained in the same way that TDs are, especially when it comes to the education of safety, welfare, and ethical treatment of horses. This can become of concern, especially at the FEI levels. If we allow this exception, smaller dressage shows are held to stricter standards, many of which have small numbers in FEI level classes. Arabian Qualifications for Regionals and Nationals have been waived, which seems to negate the need for this proposed rule change.

Friesian

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 10/29/2025

Licensed Officials	
Draft 1: Recommends Disapproval 11/17/2025 **Draft 2:** Recommends Approval 04/13/2026	**Draft 1: The Committee agrees with finding a way to help competitors and competition management, but also wants to ensure coverage and knowledge of the classes is sufficient for a fair playing field. The Committee suggested providing data on the number of entries for higher level dressage classes at breed competitions within the last one or two competitions years. The Committee was curious if there was an average number of entries that aligned with the five or less requirement, or the number should be adjusted. Also, would participants, the Federation, and applicable committees be agreeable to allowing a C2 Steward to officiate these classes if the previous year's entries were below five, but when the current year's competition occurs, the entries are more than five?**
Morgan	
Draft 1: Recommends Approval 10/30/2025	
USDF	
Draft 1: Recommends Disapproval 12/11/2025 **Draft 2:** Recommends Disapproval 04/15/2026	**Draft 1: We understand the desire of breed restricted shows to grow entries in dressage classes while keeping show expenses under control. However, the tack and equipment rules for dressage are increasingly complex, especially at the FEI levels. We do not believe that C2 stewards have the required expertise/training to successfully serve in the place of dressage technical delegates at these levels.** **Draft 2: Draft 2 of this RCP clarifies the language of when a competition holding breed restricted classes may use a C2 Steward instead of a TD to officiate FEI classes (in the first year classes at this level are offered or if offered the year prior, there were 8 or less entries in all FEI classes.) This change does not address USDF's concerns. In addition, Arabian Qualifications for Regionals and Nationals have been waived, which seems to negate the need for this proposed rule change.**

Member Comments

SUBCHAPTER 12-C DUTIES OF COMPETITION MANAGEMENT IN GENERAL

GR1211 Appointment of Officials and Employees

(...)

4. Stewards/Technical Delegates.

a. Appoint and identify in the prize list and catalogue one or more licensed Federation Stewards licensed to officiate in the divisions and sections for which the competition is approved who shall be present at each session of the competition. A technical delegate must be appointed for Eventing Competitions, Dressage Competitions and Regular and Local Competitions offering "open" Dressage Division classes (i.e., classes which are not limited to certain breeds) or classes above Third Level. Exceptions:

1. A C2 Steward may officiate through Fourth Level of breed restricted Dressage classes at Licensed Breed Restricted Competitions. ***Exception:*** ***The first year that a competition hosts above Fourth Level, a C2 Steward may officiate all classes. If the previous year's post-competition report had eight entries or less in all classes above Fourth Level, a competition may use a C2 Steward to officiate all classes, but if nine entries or more in classes above Fourth Level are reported on the previous year's post-competition report, a Dressage TD is required.*** ~~***A C2 Steward may officiate all Dressage levels at competitions with five entries or less at FEI levels from the previous year's post-competition numbers or the first year that a competition hosts Dressage FEI levels.***~~

2. C2 Stewards who are also licensed Dressage Technical Delegates may serve in both roles at Licensed Breed Restricted Competitions offering Open Dressage classes. When a dually licensed C2 Steward/Dressage Technical Delegate is officiating, the Open Dressage classes must be their sole responsibility until those classes are complete. If there are additional non-Open Dressage classes occurring at the same time as the Open Dressage classes, a separate Dressage Technical Delegate must officiate for the Open Dressage classes.

SUBCHAPTER DR-1 DRESSAGE GOVERNING REGULATIONS

DR125 Competition Licensing and Officials

(...)

4. A Technical Delegate must be selected from the current Roster of Dressage Technical Delegates to officiate at all Dressage competitions and Regular and Local Competitions offering "open" Dressage Division classes (i.e., classes which are not limited to certain breeds) or classes above Third Level. (Exception: A C2 Steward may officiate through Fourth Level of breed restricted Dressage classes at Licensed Breed Restricted Competitions and a dually licensed C2 Steward/Dressage Technical Delegate may officiate for any level Dressage class, Open or breed restricted, at Licensed Breed Restricted Competition. ***The first year that a competition hosts above Fourth Level, a C2 Steward may officiate all classes. If the previous year's post-competition report had eight entries or less in all classes above Fourth Level, a competition may use a C2 Steward to officiate all classes, but if nine entries or more in classes above Fourth Level are reported on the previous year's post-competition report, a Dressage TD is required.)*** ~~***A C2 Steward may officiate all Dressage levels at competitions with five entries or less above Fourth Level from the previous year's post-competition numbers or the first year that a competition hosts above Fourth Level.***~~ All Open Dressage classes must be completed prior to the start of any other classes. When a dually licensed C2 Steward/Dressage Technical Delegate is officiating, the Open Dressage classes must be their sole responsibility until those classes are complete. At breed and multi-breed competitions, if there are additional non-Open Dressage classes occurring at the same time as the Open Dressage classes, a separate Dressage Technical Delegate must officiate for the Open Dressage classes. Horses competing in Open Dressage classes may not compete in any other divisions or classes on the same day(s) and are subject to all DR Chapter rules from the time of

their arrival until the end of competition day. A Registered Dressage Technical Delegate must officiate at Level 4 and Level 5 Dressage Competitions. A Recorded Dressage Technical Delegate may officiate as the assistant to the Registered Technical Delegate(s) at Level 4 and Level 5 Dressage Competitions, and may officiate alone at Levels 1-3 Dressage Competitions.