November 16, 2026

Lauren Moore, Director of Dressage 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 DR121.15 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 2027 competition year until the approved standard rule change goes into effect 12/1/27. As a condition of this approval, please continue to communicate to the entire community of equestrians, organizers, and officials affected by this modification.

DR121 Saddlery and Equipment
15. Mane, Tail and Body
Braiding of the horse's mane and tail is permitted. False tails are permitted, but a false tail may not contain any metal parts, except hooks. Decoration of the horse with extravagant items, such as ribbons, flowers or glitter in the mane, tail, or on the body, including hooves, is prohibited. Exception: A red ribbon in a horse's tail is permitted to identify a horse that kicks. Only standard horse colors that occur naturally on that horse may be added to affect the color of the mane, tail, or body. ~~An existing wound or injury cannot be obscured.~~

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

Sincerely,

Thomas F. X. O'Mara
President

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