

# Rules and Regulations 2006

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## EUROPEAN CONFERENCE OF ARAB HORSE ORGANIZATIONS

**EAHSpC**

**European Arabian Horse Sports Commission**

**Rules, Regulations, Class Descriptions, Patterns**

**2006**

# **Rules and Regulations 2006**

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### 1 TYPE & LEVELS of ECAHO SPORT COMPETITIONS

#### 1.1 Levels of Competitions – (Classic & Western)

**General:** All events must be recognized by or affiliated with the national FN/Official Western Riding Organisation.

**Beginning with Level B, a license for rider and a registration for the horse as a competition horse from the National Riding Ass. is obligatory. Monotests only in A and higher levels.**

##### **ECAHO C - Level**

Degree of difficulty not specified, up to the organiser; the level to be lower than B Level (see Rules and Patterns page 20+).

The sport competitions of this level should be adapted to local needs and to novice riders.

They should be the base to prepare for the B-Level.

##### **ECAHO B - Level**

The base to prepare for A-Level (see Rules and Patterns page 20+)

##### **ECAHO National Sport Championships**

Only one event of this type per country per annum. Only open to horses that are registered in the WAHO accepted studbook of the country in which the event is being held. The event to be held with the approval of the national ECAHO Member organisation; the minimum level to be ECAHO B - level.

##### **ECAHO A - Level**

Qualification event for the European Championships.

##### **ECAHO European Championships (E - Level)**

The event follows the "Special Requirements for European Championships

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### 1.2. Special Requirements for the European Championships

**a) Condition of Entry**

International Sport Event open to horses that are registered at birth in the WAHO recognised studbook of an European ECAHO Member Country. Horses registered at birth in a non-European ECAHO Member Country have to be continuously registered in the WAHO recognised studbook of an European ECAHO Member Country from January 1st of the year of the event until the date of the event.

**b) Titels**

- Ø European Champion All Around:  
Classic, Western, Driving
- Ø European Champion (Mono):  
Dressage, Show Jumping, Classic Pleasure  
Trail, Reining, Western Pleasure
- Ø The titles are given to the horse (not rider/driver).

**c) Qualification criteria**

- Ø Any ECAHO A-Level event is regarded as qualification event.
- Ø Any official riding class, recognized by the FN/Official Western Riding Organisation of the country, which is of the same level as ECAHO A-Level, is regarded as qualification.
- Ø Any positive result achieved under 1 or 2 is to be presented with the entry form.
- Ø Horse and rider do not have to qualify together, they may qualify separately.
- Ø Cross and Marathon, qualification needs to be achieved at least 1 week prior to the event.
- Ø For All Around Classic qualification is required in Dressage or Show Jumping.
- Ø For All Around Western qualification is required in Reining or Trail.
- Ø For All Around Driving qualification is required for Dressage Driving.
- Ø Proof of Qualification is required by the, official Equestrian Federation Western Riding Organisation or Show Office.

**e) License:**

- Ø Any horse participating in the European Championships must be registered with a National Equestrian Federation (FN) as competition horse valid for the year in which the event takes place.
- Ø Any rider participating needs to have a license for competition (i.e. the license needed for starting in an official competition in his country), valid for the year in which the event takes place, issued by a National Equestrian Federation of the country he comes from.

**f) Minimum number of entries necessary for the European Championships:**

**MONO Title:**

- Ø For each class a minimum number of 5 entries must be received, or otherwise the class will not be regarded as European Championships class.
- Ø To give any European Mono Champion title, a minimum of three (3) countries must have entered.

**ALL AROUND Title:**

- Ø To give any European Championships Allround title, a minimum of five (5) countries must have entered in European Championship Allround classes.

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### 2. RANKING SYSTEM

#### 2.1 Class Ranking System

- a) The ranking obtained in each class of every level is proportional to the number of competitors. Maximum number of points is 10, regardless of the number of participants.

Number of starters -competitors-	POINTS							
	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup> ...	10 <sup>th</sup> ...	14 <sup>th</sup>	15 <sup>th</sup>
3	3	2	1	0				
4	4	3	2	1	0			
10	10	9	8	7	6	1		
15	10	9	8	7	6	1	0	

- b) In each level, not more than half of the participating horses should be in the ownership of one person.
- c) No rider is allowed to present more than three horses per class.
- d) No horse is allowed to participate in more than three (for Classic) or six (for Western) classes per day, with the exception of the Liberty / Halter class / Type & Conformation
- e) **at different Levels:** Horses may be entered for C + B or B + A or A + European Championship, and equal Mono levels.
- f) **Any horse that fulfils the requirements for the All-Round title** in two different levels, will only be accepted for the title in the higher level. The lower level is only for warm up, no points for ranking.

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### 2.2 Rules for All-Round at ECAHO Sport Competitions

#### Categories and disciplines, acceptable for All-Round Champion

Cat.	Classic All Around disciplines	Western All Around disciplines	Driving (1-in-hand) All Around disciplines
<b>obligatory</b>	Liberty/Halter/Type & Conf. <b>AND</b> Dressage Allr. <b>OR</b> Show Jumping Allr.	Liberty/Halter/Type & Conf. <b>AND</b> Western Trail Allr. <b>OR</b> Reining Allr.	Liberty/Halter/Type & Conf. <b>AND</b> Dressage Driving Allr.
	Dressage Allr. Doma Vaquera Classic Pleasure Allr. Show Jumping Allr. Cross Country Allr. Pole Bending Allr. Speed Allr. Pleasure Driving Allr. Obstacle Driving Allr. Dressage Driving Allr.	Western Trail Allr. Reining Allr. W. Horsemanship Allr. Western Pleasure Allr. Western Riding Allr. Pole Bending Allr. Speed Allr. A Pleasure Driving Allr. Obstacle Driving Allr. Dressage Driving Allr.	Dressage Driving Allr. Pleasure Driving Allr. Obstacle Driving Allr. Marathon Allr.

- a) For the All-round Champion, a minimum of 3 different sport disciplines out of 6 different categories (see above) plus Liberty or Halter or Type & Conformation is required. Any further contest will add to the final result.
- b) ECAHO All-Round Champions are possible for Classic, Western and Driving. Champion will be the horse, not the horse/rider/driver combination.
- c) The **winner of the All-Round Champion** will be the horse who, with the same rider/driver achieved the best total points after adding up all contests of his category
- d) If two or more horses have equal points in the final ranking (ex aequo), the champion will be decided by the higher points in the Liberty/Halter/Type & Conformation class.
- e) If an All-round Champion horse is not present at the prize giving ceremony, the Allround Champion title will be given to the second placed horse.

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### 3. Rules for Affiliation of ECAHO Sport Competitions

#### 3.1 Conditions of Entry for all levels

Competition open to horses registered in any WAHO recognised studbook by the closing date of entries. There are no entry restrictions.

National Registries will be responsible for confirming registration. Entries must either present the relevant registration certificate or a letter by the registrar confirming that registration will be completed by the date of the event on basis of full foreign documentation having been received.

No horse will be permitted to enter a competition unless its name and all other relevant details have been printed in the catalogue.

#### 3.2 Qualifications for entry - none required by ECAHO except for the European Championships

#### 3.3 Approval of Dates and Schedules

a) Application for sport events need to be sent to ECAHO Exec. Sec. by November the previous year.

b) **All draft schedules and patterns of ECAHO Sport Competitions need to be approved by the Executive Secretary of ECAHO and the Chairman of EAHSpC at least three months prior to the event. The draft schedule to be in English** (or any other language accepted by the Executive Secretary). The approval certificate to be published in the show office.

All schedules shall indicate that the "Rules and regulations of ECAHO Sport Competitions" will be applied in their entirety.

The **schedule** is a contract between participants and organisers and shall not be varied by the organiser after publication without prior notice. The appointed judges may not be changed from those listed in the schedule without notice to be given to the competitor (except in the event of a judge's illness or accident occurring too late for this to be done). The Schedule of an EAHSpC affiliated sport event should be a printed document to inform prospective participants and breed societies, the press, potential sponsors and advertisers about the conditions of the sport event. After proper affiliation of the event with the EAHSpC, this document should be mailed to the above mentioned at least 2 months prior to the event. The "ECAHO Entry-Form" must be included. Its proper filling out and signature binds the competitors to respect the "Rules and Regulations of ECAHO Sport Competitions". The organiser of the event should acknowledge receipt of entries.

#### **The Draft Schedule for ECAHO Sport Competitions must contain**

1. *Title, Date and Venue of the Event*
2. *Conditions of entry*
3. *Judges and Technical and Disciplinary Committee; Names of jury and TDC to be listed.*
4. *ECAHO Entry Form*
5. *Programmes of contests and provisional time-table*

#### 3.4 Insurance

Organisers must attest that no competitor will be admitted in a sport contest without an insurance.

#### 3.5 Judges

Organisers should note that all **judges** for ridden classes must be selected from the EAHSpC list of judges or from the judges' panel of the FN, FEI and any judges of the judges list of the national Western Riding Organisation to ensure correct judging. All judges for Liberty must be selected from the EAHSpC or ECAHO list of judges (always preferring the ones that are interested in Arabian sport horses). Failure to comply with this will result in the event being disaffiliated.

The number of sport judges follow the FN/FEI or Western Riding Rules.

The number of Liberty/Halter classes/Type & Conformation: C Level – one; B Level – two; A Level – three; these judges to be chosen from the list of EAHSpC.

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### **3.7 Affiliation fee (as agreed by the EAHSpC in February 1999)**

C - level competition: CHF 150,-

B - level competition: CHF 200,-

A - level competition: CHF 250,-

If the sport event is organised in conjunction with an ECAHO affiliated show, no affiliation fee for the sport event applies; if more than one level is organised, only the fee for the highest level applies.

### **3.8 Results**

The results of all individual contests as well as of the Championships must be send to the Executive Secretary of ECHAO not later than one month after the event.

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### 4. Rules for Conduct of ECAHO Sport Competitions

**4.1. Organisers**, officials, judges, participants and riders will unconditionally submit themselves and their accompanying persons to the "Rules and Regulations of ECAHO Sport Competitions" These Rules will be interpreted when necessary under the provisions of the laws of Switzerland. Event organisers are not permitted to introduce rules which are in conflict with the "Rules and Regulations of ECAHO Sport Competitions".

#### **4.2 Show Organisers, Judges and Riders**

**a)** The organiser will pay any reasonable travelling and accommodation expenses for appointed judges and any applicable fee as determined by the FN/FEI and/or Western Riding Organisation.

**b) No judge** is allowed to judge a class in which a horse is subject of a conflict of interest. Such judge to stand down for the whole class.

**c)** No member of the organising committee may judge.

No appointed judge may ride, drive or handle an entered horse, nor may he act in any other official capacity at an event where he is judging.

**d)** The show organiser reserves the right to refuse any entry, but must give the reason for refusal. The organiser is personally responsible for compliance with these rules and with EAHSpC instructions given for his level of contest.

**e)** EAHSpC "Rules for Affiliation of ECAHO Sport Competitions" are binding on organisers and exhibitors.

**f)** Judges will not visit competitors premises or accept the hospitality of participants immediately before or during the event concerned.

**g)** Judges will not knowingly judge horses concerning which there may be an actual or apparent conflict of interest, nor will riders exhibit horses under judges where an actual or apparent conflict of interest may affect the judge's decision. Organisers will not accept entries which indicate any connection listed under rule h) with an invited judge, unless an alternative judge and a reserve judge are available.

**h)** An actual or apparent conflict of interest is defined as judging a horse which

\* has been bought or sold by the judge either as owner or agent,

\* is owned in whole or part by the judge or by a member of the judge's family, or business partner in an Arab horse business venture,

\* has been leased by the judge, at any time,

\* has been bred by the judge or is the property of a breeding organisation in which the judge is an employee,

\* has been regularly trained, examined or treated by the judge in a professional capacity.

**i)** A sport judge or a panel of sport judges is authorised to withhold any award if in their opinion the competitor does not merit such an award.

**j)** Judges may exclude any horse that is lame or ill. Other rights of sport judges follow FN/FEI or Western Riding Rules.

**k)** The Liberty/Halter Class/Type & Confirmation judges may refuse to judge a competitor who is not neatly dressed.

**l)** The organiser has to provide the "Rules and Regulations for ECAHO Sport Competitions" and the "Appendices" at the disposition of the competitors.

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### **4.3 Enforcement**

**b).** Only competitors at the event may lodge a complaint alleging infringement of these rules. Such complaint is to be made in writing within 1 hour of the alleged infringement occurring. A deposit of CHF 80.- (or equivalent) for liberty/halter class/type & conformation, will be lodged with the referee and may be retained if the complaint is considered frivolous at the TDC's discretion. Such forfeiture belongs to the EAHSpC.

Any dope tests follow the FEI Veterinary Rules.

### **4.4 Disguising of Horses**

**a)** No alteration of the basic colour of the skin, coat or hooves is permitted. Hoof paints, colourless varnishes, coat dyes and cosmetic operations including skin grafts are forbidden.

Note: Colourless hoof oils, vaseline or oil and white chalk used on white legs may be accepted.

**b)** Artificial methods of dilating the eyes or affecting the natural action of the horse or otherwise influencing its action or behaviour by oxygenating the bloodstream or by the use of weights or artificially weighted shoes, or by electrical or chemical treatment of any kind at any time before or during the performance are forbidden.

Burns, cuts or other marks on the body of any exhibit in such places or positions as to indicate prohibited methods have been used, will be regarded by TDC's with veterinary advice the vet on duty as full and adequate grounds for exclusion of any exhibit from competition.

- Horses may be fully or partly bodyclipped, subject to eyelashes being left uncut, hair inside the ears left unshaved and tactile hair left intact around the nose, muzzle and the eyes.
- No equipment intended to alter the natural appearance of the horse is permitted in the stables, including necksweats, neck collars, tailracks, hobbles or weights. Exhibitors using such equipment on the showground will be suspended by the ground jury for the period of the show.

### **4.5 Cruelty**

Excessive whipping, excessive stimulation by noise or intimidation, use of electric shock devices or infliction of pain by any means is forbidden in all parts of the showground, or stable areas, at all times.

### **4.6 Misuse of Drugs**

**a)** The administration of any substance not a normal nutrient (including ginger and similar irritants), whether intentionally or unintentionally which may affect the performance, temperament or soundness of an exhibit is forbidden. Such forbidden substances are listed in Appx. IV, FEI Veterinary Regulations, an up to date copy of which will be maintained by the EAHSpC.

**b)** The FEI veterinarian may order chemical tests on any exhibit. Exhibits may be withdrawn from such test by the TDC or the owner. Horses so withdrawn will not receive any prize or title and will not compete further at the show concerned.

**c)** TDC's may order tests of exhibit's eyes for mydriatic drugs.

**d)** Judges may request DC's to test any horse.

### **4.7 Drug misuse procedures**

**a)** Procedures for investigation are laid down in "Rules for Disciplinary Committees".

**b)** Where the authorised laboratory finds a positive reaction it will inform the show organiser and the EAHSpC, which will take action in accordance with the "Rules for Technical and Disciplinary Committees".

**c).** All drug-related offences will be dealt with by a Standing Technical and Disciplinary Committee (STDC) under "Rules for Technical and Disciplinary Committees"

### **4.8 Non-specified subjects**

Any matter not specified by ECAHO rules will follow FN/FEI rules.

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### **5. Technical requirements for ECAHO Sport Competitions**

(Obligatory for A level events, recommended for B and C level)

#### **5.1 Introduction**

A complete description of the following topics should be presented by the committee of any proposed new event to the EAHSpC for affiliation, together with the schedule. Information on the same topics must reach all participants prior to the event with entry and parking cards if needed (this may be included with the Schedule).

#### **5.2 Access and parking**

Access to the event grounds should be clearly signed and from a certain distance, depending on the location of the event (open country or city). Ample parking space should be provided sufficiently close to the stabling area. Stewards must be appointed to regulate proper parking of horse vans.

#### **5.3 Stabling**

The stables should be grouped in one (max. two) areas. The horses must be housed in box stalls (covered if outdoors), made of resistant material providing the best possible conditions of security of the minimum dimension of 2,8 m by 2,8 m and minimum height all around of 2,7 m, for all foreign entrants. Proper bedding should be available on the event ground free of cost. A notice will be posted to the effect that "Training of horses will not be permitted on the showgrounds between 20.00 hrs and 06.00 hrs".

#### **5.4 Feed and water**

Running water must be available at the stables as well as a feed store where oats and hay can be purchased at current prices.

#### **5.6 Show ring**

The layout of the showgrounds must be attractively decorated as suitable for a prestigious or international event. Sufficiently large covered stands should allow the spectators to be seated while attending the event. The public address system must be clearly audible from the grandstands, the ring, the paddock and the stables. Announcements should be made in both the host country's language and in English.

#### **5.7 Warm up Paddock**

Should be of sufficient dimensions to allow the proper exercise of about 10 horses at a time. It must be located close to the showring in order to allow the horses to pass easily from one to the other. The passage from paddock to showring must be kept free from the public. The precise schedule with the order of starters must be marked on a large signboard at the entrance to the paddock. Stewards must control both the entries and the exits to the paddock and the ring according to the proceedings of the event.

#### **5.8 Staff**

The number of staff members of a sport competition will depend on the importance of the event, number of entries foreseen and/or other technical considerations.

##### **a) Officials**

Organising Committee and/or Show Director or Secretary

Jury

Technical and Disciplinary Committee (TDC)

Veterinarian

Show Secretariat, with one or two persons

An announcer presenting the horses, whose role is to keep the audience informed throughout the proceedings.

One or two persons recording scores and calculating totals and placings

##### **b) Stewards**

The stewards should either be in uniform or wearing a distinctive badge. Their number and attribution is decided by the show organiser, it should be nevertheless recommended to have them placed at

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least at:

- \* the horse van parking space
- \* the stables (one or two should patrol the stable area all times, day and night)
- \* the paddock
- \* the entrance to the show ring

A chauffeur and bi-lingual hostesses should be appointed for the proper reception of judges, TDC members and other VIP's.

### **5.9 Catalogue**

An attractive catalogue should be available, at a reasonable price, on the show grounds. The catalogue should include complete information on the sport competition and its classes with the list of horses entered in each competition with date of birth, colour, origins, breeder and owner. The overall plan of the show grounds should appear in the catalogue. The sponsors of the event and the advertisers will have their publicity in the catalogue, which will help finance its publication and add to its interest. A complete list of advertisers with their addresses will also appear.

### **5.10 Hosting of judges**

The judges should be invited well in advance of the event, as their replies must be received in time to have their names printed in the schedule. Accommodation should be booked for them near the show ground. Organisers are responsible for the hotel charges for room and food. Reasonable travelling expenses must be paid. Transport from and to the airport and between hotel and show ground should be arranged and the judges have to be informed about the times of pick-up. Any unpaid expenses with the judges will be settled before they return home.

### **5.11 Post-event-Requirements**

Class and Championship results must be mailed to the General Secretary of ECAHO within one month of the competition. Computer printouts of the results are accepted if all information asked on the EAHSpC form are given.

A TDC Report of the event must be sent to EAHSpC and to the organiser as soon as possible after the event.