

What is new in the FEIF Sport Rules & Regulations & Sport judges Guidelines 2021

For complete rules see https://www.feiffengur.com/documents/FEIF_Sport_Rules_Regulations2021.pdf

For complete guidelines see [https://www.feiffengur.com/documents/2021sj_guidelinesEN_1\(1\).pdf](https://www.feiffengur.com/documents/2021sj_guidelinesEN_1(1).pdf)

For all other documents pertaining to sport see <https://www.feif.org/sport-dept/documents/>



G2.2 Judges

In most cases judges start at national level, and their training, examining structure and licence system is regulated by national associations. The international level of all judges is regulated and licensed by FEIF.

FEIF international judges must be members of a national association

G1.2. Ethics statement

Discrimination

FEIF does not tolerate any form of discrimination on the basis of race, gender, ethnic origin, religion, philosophical or political opinion, marital status or other grounds.

Equipment committee

- **G8.2.3. Prohibited bits and bridles**

- To have a specific bit and/or bridle added to or removed from the list of prohibited bits and bridles, national Sport and Breeding Leaders, members of the FEIF Sport or Breeding Committee and FEIF Licensed International Sport and Breeding Judges can make a proposal to the FEIF Equipment Committee.
- A clear description, a clear picture and proper reasoning should accompany such a request.
- The Equipment Committee is formed by one representative from sport, one representative from breeding and one person from the Board of FEIF.
- The Equipment Committee will review all requests and changes will be published by April 1 each year except in cases where decisions of official authorities require an immediate decision. Decisions can be made if there is a unanimous decision in the committee and they need to be approved by the Board of FEIF.



Prohibited equipment list

<https://www.feif.org/feif-equipment/>

- The pictures shown are provided as an example only:
- the rule applies in the case of all bits and nosebands with a similar function

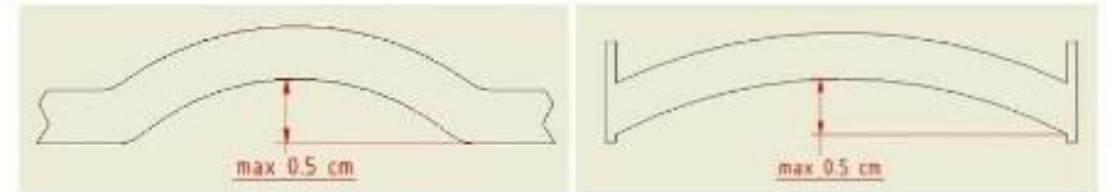
Ported Icelandic Curbs

Icelandic bits with ports higher than 0.5cm (unbroken, single broken, double broken, multiple broken)

These bits have been shown to cause bar injuries in studies conducted in Iceland, therefore they are forbidden with ports higher than the max. of 0.5cm.



The port is a bend over the full width of a bit or a bend in the center of the bit irrelevant of the direction of the port. The maximum height from the lowest part of the bit to the lowest part of the port is 0,5 cm.



Kineton noseband

Kineton noseband

With this type of noseband there is an increased risk of bruising between bit and metal halter rings.



Micklem noseband with clips

Micklem noseband with clip

Micklem with clip (bit and noseband connected with a clip) is forbidden, as a combination of bit and bitless riding is not allowed.



A conventional bitted bridle used together with a bitless bridle

This is against the intention of a bitless bridle.

NB - MICKLEM BRIDLE WITHOUT THE CLIPS IS ALLOWED

Noseband & bit combinations

- To put it simply – ONLY a cavesson (English) noseband is allowed with bits with a curb chain and/or upper and/or lower cheeks

Flash, Mexican, Drop (German/Hanoverian), **Micklem, **Anatomic** or Leveler noseband in combination with any bits with a curb chain and/or upper and/or lower cheeks**

Description: There is a risk of the cheeks or curb chain becoming entangled in these types of nosebands. In some cases, the combination can become overly severe.



Tack, protective equipment, blood rule

G8.1 Saddle

(also added to sport judge guidelines)

- **Position of the saddle**
- The saddle should be placed on the horse so that a major part of the girth is placed on the sternum. The saddle should neither cover the shoulder blades nor be weight bearing on the lumbar region in the standing horse. If the saddle is too far back a warning can be given or the rider can be eliminated from a test depending on the place of the saddle.

G8.2 Bits and Bridles

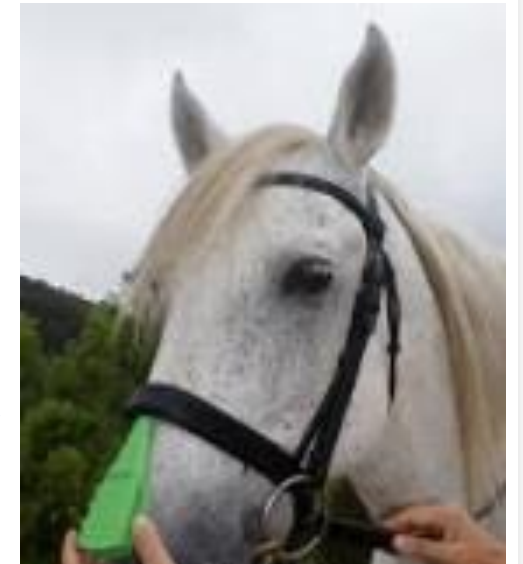
(also added to sport judge guidelines)

Tightness of the noseband

- The noseband must not be too tight. A space of at least 1.5 cm for Hanoverian/drop nosebands and at least 1 cm for English/combined nosebands must be kept between the noseband and the front of the horse's nose (nasal midline).
- The tightness of the noseband is measured in the equipment check using a Noseband Taper Gauge or similar.



1.5 cm



1 cm

Tightness of the noseband

G8.2 (cont)

- A noseband found to be too tight will result in an elimination from the test if this happens in the preliminaries and from the finals if this happens in the finals. In pace events the combination will be eliminated from the round.

G8.3.2. Shoeing of sport horses

- G8.3.2.2 Rings are allowed with shoes up to 10mm

G8.3.2. Shoeing of sport horses

G8.3.2.4 Loss of a shoe

- If a horse loses a shoe or the shoeing becomes damaged during a test the rider must stop the performance.
- Whenever one of the judges judging the test is certain about the loss of a shoe and the rider continues riding the judge must stop the performance of this combination.
- If this occurs during a preliminary round the rider is eliminated from the class test and no marks are given.
- If this occurs in the finals or in a pace track test any marks and/or times earned before the loss of the shoe are kept including those from completed sections or heats. The rider receives a "0" for the remaining sections but is not eliminated.
- When the loss of a shoe is noticed in the equipment check it will result in elimination in the preliminaries and in the final, it will result in a zero for the last section



S3.1

Equipment

- It is allowed to change equipment between rounds in all pace track tests.
- Whips are not allowed in P1 and P3.

G8.4

Additional equipment (Sport)



- The use of earplugs is allowed.
- The use of a muzzle net is allowed with the following conditions: The net must be of a neutral colour, not pinch the horse and allow the bit to be visible at all times.

Protective equipment – liquid bandage

- **G8.5.2 Sport Competitions**

- Protective equipment above the sole of the hoof, not exceeding 250 g per leg, is allowed.
- The use of protective liquid bandage patches is allowed. This kind of addition on a leg above the sole of the hoof is assumed to have a weight of 50 grams, independently of the real weight.
- If the material is suspected to exceed the weight of 50g and the protective equipment above the sole of the hoof to exceed 250g per leg, then a removal of the material can be ordered.
- These rules are valid for the whole competition area and for the entire duration of the competition.

- **Application of blood rule** (from rule G1.3.2(g))
- The FEIF vet form shall be used to record incidences of bleeding

G2.1.5 Helmets

- At all times when mounted at a breeding show and/or sport competitions riders must wear a CE or similar approved riding helmet.
- Body protectors are allowed

Ring Masters

- **G2.3.1 Ring Master (general)**

- a. inspection of equipment and the presence of wounds directly after the end of the presentation
- b. overseeing the warming up area and inspections of training facilities and stabling areas.

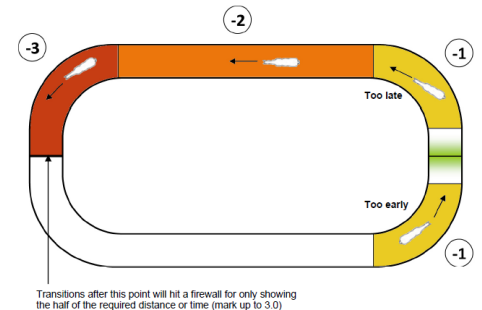
S7.4.4 Ringmaster (World Championships)

- The Ring Masters have the authority to give out warnings in accordance with the FEIF Rules and Regulations regarding allowed equipment, horse welfare and the Code of Conduct.
- During the tests there will be Ring Masters (preferably judges) checking the riding equipment and the presence of wounds directly after the end of the test.

FEIF Sport Judges Guidelines – all gait pages Flow

Other remarks:

- The mark 0 is given when less than the equivalent of 1 long side in tölt is shown (consecutively)
- If a yellow card is given for rough riding in any of the gaits / sections, the final mark for the whole performance can be reduced by 0.5 to 2 points.
- Deduction 1 to 3 points if a horse breaks the gait or if transition of gaits are in the wrong place (too early or too late) – see diagram on page 20.
- Deduction of 1 point (per interruption) if there is an extreme interruption to flow in transitions of gaits or sections in the test
- If transition is in the wrong place (too early or too late) and also has extreme lack of flow, deduct only for transition in the wrong place
- If a horse breaks the gait in the preliminaries the mark after deduction cannot be higher than 6.5. If a horse breaks the gait in the finals the mark after deduction cannot be higher than 7.5. The amount of deduction: see page 20.



Competition rules

G7.3.2 Participating horses in sport events

- f. horses are allowed to compete more than once in the same test if it is in a different age class.

S1.6 Disqualification & Elimination

- A combination shall be eliminated if:
 - the rider falls from his horse or dismounts without permission between entering the track and the end of the test.
 - the horse leaves the oval-track between entering the track and the end of the test.

S2.5 Finals

- ...
- Organizers can allow the 6th position in A finals, if no B finals are organized.

S1.5 Combination

Breaking the winner tie

S1.5.3 Tie breaks in four gait or five gait combination

In the case of equal marks for the first place the following steps are taken until it can be decided who is the winner:

- Step 1: look at the next decimals in line
- Step 2: Try to break the tie using the higher score in V1 or F1 (as appropriate for the combination in question)
- Step 3: recompute the V1 or F1 score using the marks from all 5 judges averaged (put high and low back in) and use the new marks to decide the winner
- Step 4: If that doesn't work, toss a coin.
- If horses have equal marks in other than the first place, they will share the place

S3.6.4 PP1 Pace test – description part 1 (also added to guidelines)

- **S3.6.4.4 and S3.6.5.4 Start**
- As soon as the starting flag is raised, the horse is ridden in walk, trot or tölt in a good balance to the funnel zone. The horse enters a new zone when the first part of the horse breaks the dividing line between the zones. When the horse enters the funnel-zone he should change the gait to canter from walk, tölt or trot. For high marks to be given the horse has to perform like it is described above and to canter with agility through the whole 25m funnel before he makes the transition into pace.
- Between the 25m mark and the 50m mark.....

S3.6.6 PP3 – Easy Pace Test

S3.6.6.4 Start

- As soon as the speaker starts the test, the horse moves off at walk, trot or tölt.
- Between the starting line and the 50 m mark, strike off in canter from any gait change into pace.
- From 50 – 100 m mark the horse must show pace.
- After the 100 m mark and before the end at 150 m, the horse must have returned to tölt or trot (not walk).
- Horses can have two runs.
- The marks of the best run decide the placing.
- In case of equal marks, the marks given by the judges in the second-best run will decide the winner. In case the marks for the first place are equal a tie break must be performed.

S3.6.6 PP3 – Easy Pace Test (2)

S3.6.6.5 Judging

- Three judges are needed; they score openly from 0-10 with half points:
 - the first judge judges the strike off at canter and the changeover into pace;
 - the second judge judges the pace between the 50 m and 100 m mark;
 - the third judge judges the downward transition between the 100 m mark and the end of the track at 150 m.
- The judges choose their places in order to get the best possible view over their respective areas.
 - When the horse has passed the area concerned, judges show their marks.
 - If the horse falls out of pace during the second section, the second judge show a red flag and no marks shall be given.
 - A maximum of 30 points for change of gaits and pace quality can be given. The final sum is to be divided by 3.

• S3.6.6.6 Announcement of Marks

- The speaker shall announce the marks in order of judging positions.

S5.6.1 FG1 Figures test – Level 1 (introduction to test)

- Two judges score individually. Marks are given according to S2.2.1.
- The rider has one minute to proceed, by any route, to A to begin the test.
- The rider may start the test on either rein.
- If the rider shows trot, the rider should show rising trot on the correct diagonal and change diagonal at X.
- For information - The old list of TiH judges from 2018 will be removed from the website.

FG1 (guidelines – other remarks)

- **Other remarks:**
- The test can be ridden in either tölt or trot.
- If the rider shows trot, the rider should show rising trot on the correct diagonal and change diagonal at X.
- When a wrong route or a figure is ridden a deduction of -2 must be made.
- A final mark of 8 or higher can only be given if horse and rider fulfil all requirements.

G9.2.1 Oval track tests and details on tracks

- All tests taking place on the oval track must be carried out on oval tracks, which satisfy the standard dimensions shown in the drawings in S17 for 4m and 6m. When groups of riders are riding to the speaker's instructions, the time a specific section is shown shall be according to the table set by the FEIF Sport Committee and published in S13.
- The track should be even and firm, 250.00 m long and an inner circumference of 246.56 m, and have a minimum width of 4.00 m. The radius of the inner side of the curves should be 13 m. The length of the long sides (between the curves) should be 70.44 m; the short sides (between the curves) should be 12.00 m. There should be a minimal gradient of 1.5% toward the inner side of the track to drain water. The fencing should be low and not disturbing horses or judges. Refer to the drawings for other measures.
- The start and end of the long sides have to be properly marked.
- Footnote:
- Established tracks may keep gradients toward the inner side of up to 3.75% (long sides and shorts sides between the curves) and 7.5% in the curves.

S1.7 Withdrawals (preliminary rounds & pace events)

- Riders and horses are expected to be fit for the preliminary rounds and pace tests unless stated differently latest one hour before the start of the test concerned. Withdrawal after this time limit will only be accepted if the horse (by a veterinary surgeon who has examined the horse on site) or the rider (by a doctor) is declared unfit, or by decision of the Chief Judge; otherwise the rider is disqualified from the event including forfeiture of marks and prizes already given. In case this concerns a too late withdrawal between rounds in a pace event the combination is only eliminated from that test.
- World Championships: Riders and horses are expected to be fit for the preliminary rounds and pace tests unless stated differently latest 3pm the day before the test starts. Withdrawal after this time limit will only be accepted if the horse (by the chief veterinarian of the event) or the rider (by a doctor) is declared unfit, or by decision of the Chief Judge; otherwise the rider is disqualified from the event including forfeiture of marks and prizes already given.
- In competitions with teams (including World Championships) all team leaders must declare the riders and horses involved fit to take part in the final rounds at the latest one hour before the first final for the relevant test begins.

S3.6.1.4

Pace – withdrawals (P1/P3)

- **S3.6.1.3 Withdrawal from rounds**
- If a rider wants to withdraw from a round, he has to inform the secretariat within 10 minutes after the last heat of the previous round on the same day.
- Withdrawal after this time limit will only be accepted if the horse or rider is declared unfit by a veterinary surgeon or a doctor; otherwise the combination is eliminated from the test in question.

S1.7 Withdrawals (cont)

- In competitions without teams, riders and horses are expected to be fit for the finals unless stated differently one hour before the first final for that relevant test begins. Withdrawal after this time limit will only be accepted if the horse (by a veterinary surgeon who has examined the horse on site) or the rider (by a doctor) is declared unfit, or by decision of the Chief Judge otherwise the rider is disqualified from the event including forfeiture of marks and prizes already given. The Chief Judge shall make an immediate report to the FEIF Registrar of Bans and Warnings issuing the rider a two-week ban starting from the Monday following the last day of the event.
- If for any reason a horse is withdrawn or disqualified from a final the next ranked horses in the preliminary round will move up according to S2.5..
- If a rider has two or more horses in either the A- or B-final, he has to decide with which horse he will start in each final at least one hour before the start of each final. The other horse(s) of this rider will be ranked in the order they had in preliminary round in the last position(s) of that final. Subsequent riders can take the free position(s) according to S2.5.

S3.6.1.4 – S3.6.1.6 – P1 - Pace Race 250m

Starting order and start

- Before the first round, lots are drawn in order to set the starting order. In all other rounds, those riders start together whose fastest finishing times in the previous rounds are nearest to one another. This means that the first heat will be composed of the up to then slowest horses, the second heat of the second slowest etc. If heats cannot be formed of equal numbers, the first heat always starts with fewer horses, if necessary, individually. If several horses are not rated, allocation of the horses to the heats will be decided by drawing lots.
- **S3.6.1.5 Start**
- Up to four horses proceed to the start.- All riders are marked with distinct colours (blue and yellow, two more colours if needed). Any rider may have two helpers. Helpers should wear an approved helmet and no whips are allowed.
- In case of disagreement in the first heat, the rider marked blue takes the left lane (seen from behind the start line/boxes facing the end of the track), the rider marked yellow takes the right lane. In all further rounds this rule is valid for a starting group with no valid heat (no times) yet or starting groups having equal times.
- For the following rounds (two to four) the rider in the fastest (last) position in a heat has to decide before the riders of that heat are called into the start boxes (or at the starting line) which box (or position) the rider prefers, with no right of change the moment the starting procedure has started.

S3.6.1.4 – S3.6.1.6 – P1 - Pace Race 250m

Starting order and start (cont)

- If the start has not been declared after 10 minutes, the horse preventing the start from taking place must move back a few steps. If after a further 5 minutes the start has not been declared because of the same horse, the horse will be eliminated from that heat. The track is clear and time-is-ready at the beginning of a round must be declared by the judge controlling the time. The ready-to-start must be declared by the judge supervising the starting procedure behind the starting line. At the starter's signal, the riders ride to the 50 m marker in any gait they wish. From there to the finish the horse must be in racing pace. There will be two or four rounds all in all, but not more than two per day.
- At the starting procedure one should be as quiet as possible. At the starting line the horse must stand quietly, straight and in the direction of the finish. Other starting positions can be allowed (e.g. horse standing diagonally), if the rider informs the other riders of his starting group and is allowed by the starter to do so. If a horse was obstructed at the start and could not start for this reason, the starter can allow it to start alone. This will not count as a false start. As soon as all horses are standing still and in the direction of the finish, the start can be signalled. The starter should stand on some sort of elevation about 3 m outside the track and one to two meters in front of the riders. He gives a visual signal (two-coloured flag if possible). There is no acoustic (voice) signal.
- Interpretation:
 - Flag raised: attention, start can be any time
 - Flag lowered: go !

Pace – loading into starting boxes

- **S3.6.1.6 Start with start boxes or automated starting machines**

- When starting boxes or automated starting machines are used all riders are allowed 2.0 minutes to bring their horses into a start box; the start should be performed not later than 30 seconds after the last horse has entered its start box. If a rider doesn't succeed within this time limit, he is eliminated from the specific round.
- The front gate of the box shall be closed when riders bring their horses into a start box and all riders shall try to enter the box exactly at the same time. If a rider asks for an exception to keep the front gate open when entering the box, it shall be allowed; with the condition that the one that asks for this exception shall be the first to enter the box. The other rider can choose to wait but then have to start entering immediately after the first horse is in the box and within the time limit.
- The same applies if the horse has to be walked with into the box. Before the start the front and rear gates have to be closed.
- Helpers are not allowed to leave the ground or force the horse into the box; they have to have at least one foot on the ground, without exception. If the helpers don't meet the requirements, the rider is eliminated from that round. Box assistants, in charge of opening and closing the box doors, are not allowed to help with loading the horses except for while closing the door.
- One extra judge is allocated to supervise the starting procedure behind the starting line.
- **Consequences / implications for other R&R:** Same alterations to S3.6.3 (P3)

Pace – colour of flags

- **S3.6.1.7 and S3.6.3.2 Judges**
 - [...]
 - When start boxes are used one extra judge or pace assistant is needed to supervise the starting procedure behind the starting line. The judges or pace assistants have coloured flags in the same colours as the riders. If elimination is necessary, the judge or pace assistant will show the relevant colour, if the horse's run is OK, he will show a white flag. As an alternative, judges or pace assistants may have a red and a green flag. On demand of the speaker, the judges placed from 50 m to 250 m line show green flags if the horse was in pace in their section. The judges show red flags if the horse was not in pace in their section. If at least one red flag is shown the run is considered not valid.
- **S3.6.2.3 Judges**
 - The judges show green flags if the horse was in pace in their section. The judges show red flags if the horse was not in pace in their section. If at least one red flag is shown the run is considered not valid.

Chapter G4 Anti-doping

The complete anti-doping chapter is replaced by replaced G4.1, G4.2 and G4.3

G10.7.4. Disqualifications and Disciplinary measures

1. Breaches of the Regulations are classified and treated according to the table below. Conditions are indicated by figures as follows:

❶ **1 If observed by 2 or more judges:**

- At least 2 yellow cards shown: warning, eventually to be published.
 - 2 or more red cards shown requires elimination from the test.
- A judge can show a red and a yellow card simultaneously.

❷ **2** may be appealed to the arbitration committee (at a specific event)

❸ **3** may be appealed to the Arbitration Council (FEIF or National)

❹ **4** confirmed by the Director of Sport (FEIF or National) or the Competition Leader at the event

❺ **5** decided by the judges' meeting

• **V** after veterinary inspection only

Offence	Elimination from a test	Elimination from a competition	Warning - To be published	Warning - To be published	Suspension
(1) Violation of the Rules of the competition	0				
(2) Violation of the Rules of the competition	0				
(3) Violation of the Rules of the competition	0				
(4) Violation of the Rules of the competition	0				
(5) Violation of the Rules of the competition	0				
(6) Violation of the Rules of the competition	0				
(7) Violation of the Rules of the competition	0				
(8) Violation of the Rules of the competition	0				
(9) Violation of the Rules of the competition	0				
(10) Violation of the Rules of the competition	0				
(11) Violation of the Rules of the competition	0				
(12) Violation of the Rules of the competition	0				
(13) Violation of the Rules of the competition	0				
(14) Violation of the Rules of the competition	0				
(15) Violation of the Rules of the competition	0				
(16) Violation of the Rules of the competition	0				
(17) Violation of the Rules of the competition	0				
(18) Violation of the Rules of the competition	0				
(19) Violation of the Rules of the competition	0				
(20) Violation of the Rules of the competition	0				

Advertisements on clothing at WC

G6.14 §4:

- During the competitions people working within the confines of the tracks, including judges and other officials, may bear only advertisements from non-equestrian related advertisers.

The following restrictions apply:

- a. 80 cm² on jackets or top garments at chest height
- b. 16 cm² on both sides of the shirt collar.

The Director of Sport/Breeding or the Competition Leader can decide otherwise

S7.1 Teams (WC) Reigning World Champions

- ...
S7.1 Teams
- The reigning World Champions are allowed to participate at the succeeding World Championships with the same or another eligible horse. They must be officially entered by their national organisation but will start in addition to the national team in the same team uniform. They can start in any discipline.
- The national team leader has the same authority over reigning World Champions as over other members of the national team. The national team leader is allowed to accept or reject the horse of the reigning World Champion and the tests he participates in if the horse does not qualify for the team or does not fulfil the limits each national team sets for each World Championship.
- Reigning World champions shall obey to the rules and regulations of the national team of their country.

S7.4.2 Appointment of judges (WC)

-
- Should it not be possible to hold a sufficient number of WR competitions due to the general circumstances in the year before the World Championships, then the group of judges will be determined by the selection committee with the confirmation of the FEIF Board.
- In this special case the group of judges will be selected based on their judging experience from previous years, their social and communication skills and their general horsemanship knowledge (e.g. as a Trainer or Sports Rider).

G11.1 Code of Conduct – sport judges at WR events 2021

By accepting an invitation to judge at FEIF WorldRanking event the judge commits to act in accordance with the following standards:

1. The judge seeks to have a neutral, independent and fair position towards riders, owners, trainers, organizers and other officials and integrate well into a team. Financial and/or personal interest shall not influence or be perceived to influence their way of judging.
2. The judge will avoid any actual or perceived conflict of interest. Activities which will lead to or may lead to a “conflict of interest” when judging at a FEIF WorldRanking event includes but are not limited to:
 - Coaching/training a horse/rider that is competing in a WorldRanking test he is judging, from the arrival of the horse on the event area..
 - Gaining event related financial profit from owners, riders, trainers, organizers (except for the rule based judging fees).
 - Having a close personal relationship with a competitor. Note: A judge may judge WorldRanking tests, after confirmation of the chief judge, the judging panel and the organiser, where
 - o His/her spouse, children, siblings or parents are competing, or
 - o He is owner/part-owner/last seller of horses taking part.

The judge must notify the chief judge, the judging panel and the event organiser of possible conflicts of interest or situations that may be perceived as such.

G11.2 Code of Conduct - World Championship Judges 2021

As a judge at the World Championships for Icelandic Horses I commit to act in accordance with the following standards:

1. I will strive to have a neutral, independent and fair position towards riders, owners, trainers, organizers and other officials and integrate well into a team. Neither financial, national nor personal interest will influence or be perceived to influence my way of judging.
2. I will avoid any actual or perceived conflict of interest. Activities which will lead to or may lead to a “conflict of interest” when officiating at a World Championships, include but are not limited to:
 - Acting as Team Leader of national teams at international level
 - Being responsible/co- responsible for selecting teams and/or individuals
 - Training a competing horse/rider after arrival on the WC area
 - Gaining event related financial profit from owners, riders, trainers, organisers or other related organisations (except for expenses refund based on national or FEIF rules)
 - Having a close personal relationship with a competitor: A judge must not judge tests where
 - his/her spouse, children, siblings or parents are competing, or
 - He is owner/part-owner/last seller of participating horses.

I will notify the responsible FEIF Director of possible conflicts of interest or situations that may be perceived as such.....