



2025

MCI GB

RULES AND REGULATIONS



2025 RULES AND REGULATIONS

BRITISH QUALIFIERS

Version 1-2025 – 17.12.24

This version of the rules and regulations supersedes any earlier version. The reference version is the version that is currently published on the website of the MCI GB www.mcigb.co.uk

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MCI of GB – Rules and Regulations 2025

1 – INTRODUCTION

The MCI GB was set up in 2015 to offer its members the opportunity to compete in dressage tests from Young Horse up to Grand Prix against other Iberian horses. The MCI GB are responsible for organizing qualifiers at venues throughout the UK and we are also responsible for determining the number of qualifiers required, the method of points allocated, the minimum number of qualifiers plus the minimum percentages to be obtained to be able to qualify for selection to represent Great Britain at the European Finals. The MCI GB league is exclusively for purebred and part-bred Iberian horses (PRE & PSL). The MCI GB operates as a National Circuit and we hold our own National Championships for Purebred and Part-bred/Fusion Iberians. The prestigious MCI European Championships are held on an annual basis at a venue to be confirmed and in a different country each year but the MCI EU rules state that only Purebred PRE's and PSL's may qualify to compete at the Europeans.

The National Championships will be held at Addington Equestrian in 2025 will be on the 6th and 7th September. Any Member wishing to participate in the MCI GB qualification series must be a member and deemed to have read and accepted these Terms and Conditions.

The MCI GB is responsible for updating the annual league table showing a provisional ranking for each test after each qualifier. These results must be public results accessible on our website.

1.2 The MCI GB qualifying tests comprise 18 tests ranging from Young Horse up to Grand Prix levels and includes 8 Freestyle to Music classes. The Paso Doble, Novato, Salsa and Tango only qualify for the MCI GB National Show and you cannot qualify for the Europeans with these tests.

PRIMERA – Preliminary - Young Horse 4-6 year olds
NOVILLA – Novice/Elementary 4-6 year olds
PASO DOBLE – Preliminary – Young Horse 7 year olds and over
NOVATO – Novice/Elementary 7 year olds and over
GOLEGA - Elementary
SEVILLA – Medium/Advanced Medium
LISBOA – Advanced Medium
MADRID – Prix St George
MAGISTRALE – Intermediate A
REYALE – Grand Prix



Plus 8 FREESTYLE TO MUSIC tests:

SALSA – Preliminary for 7 year olds and over
TANGO – Novice/Elementary for 7 year olds and over
CARMENCITA - Elementary
FLAMENCA – Medium/Advanced Medium
FANDANGO – Advanced Medium
LUSITANIA –Prix St George/Inter I
BAILARINA – Intermediate A
IBERICA – Grand Prix

1.3 MEMBERSHIP

All owners, competitors and their horses must be a member of the MCI GB to compete in the MCI GB qualifiers, National Championships, and the European Finals. Membership to the MCI GB is renewed on the 1st of January of each year. The scores achieved on the league table are registered scores for the horse, a change of riders is acceptable but only twice per year.

Annual membership fees are available on the website and new members can join online.

2 – DEFINITIONS

MCI GB:

The MCI GB (Masters du Cheval Iberique of Great Britain) is the British branch of the MCI-EU and is responsible for the organisation of all qualifiers held in the UK. It offers its members the opportunity to qualify and compete at the annual National Championships plus the opportunity to qualify and be selected to represent Great Britain at the annual MCI European Finals.

Qualifiers = All tests from which results are taken into account to establish a ranking in GB to help determine the final selection for competing at the European Masters final. A qualifier can be National or Regional.

Qualifying Season = Commences on the 1st January – 15th September 2025. (This qualification season will determine the final number of places available at the European final available for each level.

Masters / Final = The annual European Championship for finalists that have been selected from each country in Europe.

The European Masters / MCI-EU: Brings together Associations of many European countries that have organized their qualifications for selection of the Masters (final). Each country must hold qualifiers to determine the scores.

Competitor = A rider and horse combination. A rider can ride as many different horses as he/she wishes. A horse can have up to a maximum of two different riders during the qualifying season and the scores for that horse remain on the league table under that horse's name.



3 - PARTICIPATION RIGHTS AND RULES

The MCI-EU recognises and approves of the MCI GB as the only Association allowed to organize qualifiers and control the selection process within Great Britain with a view to organizing their own National Championships and participating in the European Final:

To date the MCI is represented and has been approved in the following countries:

France :	Le MCI-FR (1997) = Masters du Cheval Ibérique
Italy:	Le MCI-IT (2001) = Master Cavallo Iberico Italia
Belgium:	Le MCI-BE (2005) = MCIB-MIP
Spain:	Le MCI-ES (2009) = Master del Caballo Ibérico
Great Britain:	Le MCI-GB (2015) = MCI GB
Czech Republic:	Le MCI-CZE (2015) = Iberské mistři koní
Portugal:	The MCI-POR (2018) = association being created
Netherlands:	MCI-NED (2018)
Sweden:	The MCI-SWE (2018) = association being created

Any new membership application of any new country must be applied for and approved by the MCI EU headquarters in France.

4 - DRESSAGE TESTS 2025

4.1 The MCI GB runs 18 tests throughout the UK ranging from Young Horse up to Grand Prix, including 8 Freestyle to Music classes specific to the MCI.

These are 2025 tests of the - F.F.E., F.E.I. or SHF:

PRIMERA:	Level Young Horse 4-6 year olds
NOVILLA:	Level Young Horse 4-6 year olds
PASO DOBLE:	Level Preliminary 7 year olds and above
SALSA:	Level Preliminary 7 year olds and above
NOVATO:	Level Novice 7 year olds and above
TANGO:	Level Novice 7 year olds and above
GOLEGA :	Level 1 = Elementary
FSM CARMENCITA :	Level 1 = specific to MCI freestyle
SEVILLA :	Level 2 = Medium/Advanced Medium
FSM FLAMENCA :	Level 2 = = specific to MCI freestyle
LISBOA :	Level 3 = Advanced Medium
FSM FANDANGO :	Level 3 = specific to MCI freestyle
MADRID :	Level 4 = Prix St George
FSM LUSITANIA :	Level 4 = specific to MCI freestyle
MAGISTRALE :	Level 5 = Intermediare A
FSM BAILARINA:	Level 5 = specific to MCI freestyle
REYALE :	Level 6 = GRAND PRIX F.E.I
FSM IBERICA :	Level 6 = specific to MCI freestyle



4.2 To qualify for the MCI GB National Championships:

- i) each combination must be a member of the MCI GB
- ii) each combination needs a minimum of ONE score of 60% or above at the chosen level recorded on the league table. This will automatically allow each combination to compete in the Freestyle (at that level) without gaining a separate freestyle qualifying score.

For example - One score in the Golega over 60% will allow you to compete in the Carmencita without gaining a qualifying freestyle score.

4.3 To qualify for the MCI European Final and to be selected to represent Great Britain, selection is based on your place on the league table and the number of places allocated to MCI Team GB by MCI EU Headquarters:

- i) each combination must be a member of the MCI GB
- ii) each competitor's horse must obtain a minimum of 3 qualifying scores with the minimum percentages at 3 different show dates before the end of the qualifying season.
- iii) Each combination needs to compete in at least one test at the annual MCI GB National Championships in order to be selected (unless a wildcard has been granted subject to approval from the selection committee which cannot be offered every year).

Minimum percentages per test for the European Finals:

PRIMERA & NOVILLA – More than 66%
GOLEGA & SEVILLA– More than 65%
LISBOA – More than 64%
MADRID – More than 63%
MAGISTRALE & REYALE – More than 62%
Freestyles CARMENCITA AND FLAMENCA – More than 66%
Freestyles FANDANGO - More than 65%
Freestyle LUSITANIA – More than 65%
Freestyle BAILARINA AND IBERICA – More than 64%

4.4 The Dressage Test sheets can be found on the website www.mcigb.co.uk. At all of the qualifiers and at the request of the rider, the help of a caller is allowed (without the caller making any additions or repetition which will result in the penalty of elimination). A caller is not allowed at the National Championships at Addington.

4.5 The MCI-EU headquarters may introduce changes to some of the dressage tests during the year, if this happens the MCI GB will inform the members but the tests in GB will not change after the 1st January and up to the end of the qualifying season for all GB qualifiers only so as to keep the continuity for the qualifiers. Changes to the tests by the MCI EU Headquarters will need to be ridden and adhered to for the European finals.



5 - ORGANISATION OF QUALIFIERS

The MCI GB is responsible for arranging qualifiers throughout the UK. The MCI GB will try to obtain as many venues as possible to provide local qualifiers for all of its members. Please support your local venue to ensure they run them each year. It is up to the venue to run the qualifiers, they do not have to, it is their choice.

6 – MCI GB LEAGUE TABLE

6.1 Each horse must achieve a minimum of 3 qualification scores during the qualifying season to be in with a chance of selection to represent Great Britain at the European Finals.

6.2 The MCI GB is responsible for updating the league table to show the GB ranking for each test after each qualifying round. These results must be public results and available to be viewed on our website www.mcigb.co.uk.

6.3 The MCI GB is allowed to have their own National rules relevant to their own country as long as there is no contradiction with the general rules of the MCI EU and in particular concerning the number of places allocated at the European Finals.

7 - MCI EUROPEAN FINAL

7.1 The number of places available for each country depends on how many competitors compete in the qualifiers for each test during their qualifying season. The MCI EU headquarters takes these results from the MCI GB publicly available league table and they will confirm to the MCI GB at the end of the qualifying season how many places are available to GB.

For example (this table is only an example):

TESTS	Number of Competitors during the qualifying season										
	1 - 4	5 - 7	8-11	12-15	16-20	21-25	26-31	32-37	38-43	44-50	50+
Primera Novilla											
Golega Carmencita Sevilla Flamenca											
Lisboa Fandango Madrid Lusitania											
Magistrale Bailarina Reyale Iberica											
Number of Final places	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12



For Example:

At the end of qualifying season we may have 28 competitors qualified in the Sevilla test and showing on our league table but only 7 places will be offered for selection in Sevilla at the European Final. So the more competitors that take place the more places we will be offered.

7.2 The host country of the European Final will receive an extra quota of 15% more places (excluding freestyles) for their team to be distributed according to their choice between the different levels of test.

7.3 The MCI-EU will regularly update the ranking for each Country and for each test with the number of places they will have at the European Final according to the publication of their league table results.

7.4 The MCI-EU will provide an up-to-date version of their rules for the Europeans which every MCI organization and their members need to abide by, these rules and regulations will be available on the MCI website: www.masters-iberique.com

8 - SELECTION PROCESS FOR THE EUROPEAN FINAL

8.1 At the end of the qualifying season each competitor must fulfill all of the following conditions to be able to participate in the European Masters (final) in any one of the tests:

- 1) Be ranked on the league table for that particular test (see table above) with 3 scores at their chosen level/s.
- 2) A horse can only participate once at the European Final in the same test. If at the end of the season a horse is selected twice for the Masters (final) for the same test but with different riders, the owner must choose which rider he/she wishes to compete.
- 3) A rider may not participate twice during the year at the European final in the same test (even if the number of points earned is sufficient). If at the end of the season, a rider is selected more than once for the European Final for the same test, the rider will need to choose the which horse he/she wishes to compete.
- 4) A horse can participate in up to two tests at the Finals during the year. If at the end of the season a horse is selected for more than 2 tests, the owner must choose which two tests they wish to compete in.
- 5) For a horse to participate in the finals of PRIMERA and NOVILLA, the horse must not exceed 6 years of age during that calendar year.
- 6) If a Declaration of withdrawal (horse or rider) for the Finals is received by the due date, the next combination that has qualified but not yet selected will be offered this place.



9 DRESS AND TACK

9.1 This rule is subject to change depending upon the current MCI EU regulations subsequent to this version of MCI GB rules being available. The MCI GB rules with regard to dress code are in line with updated British Dressage rules from 1st January 2024.

9.2 **Horse tack:** Horse tack for all qualifiers in Great Britain should be classical English only. Spanish or Portuguese traditional tack can be used at the National Championships but will not receive any additional marks but it is a good opportunity to compete in this traditional dress before the European Finals. The types of bit must be strictly adhered to as authorized by the FEI for dressage. Martingales and other similar types of training aids are prohibited.

No boots or bandages, blinkers, shields or earmuffs are allowed in any of the qualifiers.

9.3 **Dress for Riders:** For qualifiers in GB, classical English dress only is required. Spanish or Portuguese traditional dress is optional at the National Championships.

9.4 **Spurs :** Must strictly comply with the FEI regulations.

9.5 **Whips:** Whips are allowed in all qualifiers in GB including the National Championships. Whips are only permitted to be used by the rider who is competing or walking in hand. Any other person who is authorized to carry a whip must ensure it does not interfere with the training of the horse.

Whips maximum length is 1.20 meters. Whips are prohibited for all tests in the European Finals (except for PRIMERA and NOVILLA).

9.6 **Headphones:** During the competition, the use of headphones by riders is allowed only when training in the warm-up. They are prohibited in all the tests.

9.7 **No commanders/callers** are allowed when competing in the National Championships or the European Final.

9.8 Riding Helmets & Hats:

9.8.1 Protective hats are to be worn by all riders at all times when mounted at an MCI GB competition or qualifier, including exercising, warming up and competing.

9.8.2 Protective hats must meet one of the following standards:

- British – All PAS 015 (2011 and subsequent updates)
- European – VG1
- European – 1384 2017 (only in conjunction with another accepted standard from this list)
- American – SNELL E2016, E2021
- Australia & New Zealand – AS/NZS 3838 2006 onwards



9.8.3 It is strongly recommended that riders wear hats bearing the BSI Kitemark (for the PAS 015 or VG1) standard hats, the SAI mark (in the case of AS/NZS 3838) in addition to the published safety standard.

9.8.4 Harnesses must be correctly fastened at all times whilst mounted. Competitors are strongly recommended to check their hats regularly and replace them if damaged, or following a fall.

9.8.5 If a rider starts their test without wearing the correct headgear, the Judge is to ring the bell and instruct the rider to dismount and leave the arena. At the discretion of the organiser and the Judge, the rider may restart the test once properly attired. If a rider fails to comply with the instruction, the organiser is to eliminate the competitor from all classes on that day. This will also apply if, as a result of a spot check, a rider's hat is found not to comply with the required standard.

9.8.6 The standard riding helmet is accepted with the Iberian outfit and wearing it will not interfere with the points for Freestyle at the Europeans.

9.9 Freestyle Dress Code Points for the Europeans:

- Spanish or Portuguese Dress: 10, 12, 14 or 16 points based on traditional outfits.
- Classic Dress: 8, 9 or 10 points
- Plaited Tail : 1 point
- Plaited Mane: 1 point
- Traditional Saddle: 2 points

10 - CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MCI GB MEMBERS

Members of the MCI GB must act in a respectful manner and no member shall:

- Conduct themselves in a manner that is offensive to the public
- Not discriminate on the grounds of race, colour, religion or belief
- Ill-treat in any way a horse or pony
- Misuse or use excessively the whip, spur or the bit
- Conduct themselves in a manner detrimental to the character or the interests of the MCI GB
- Not behave in a way that may be considered inappropriate. Inappropriate behaviour includes foul language, or acting in an intimidating or threatening way.
- Post inappropriate words or images on social media that can be deemed offensive, intimidating, or threatening in the interests of the MCI GB as a company or any of its members.
- Every member agrees to abide by these rules and regulations by renewal of their membership on the 1st January.



11 - MCI GB – General Business

The MCI GB is the trading name of the Iberian Dressage Masters Limited. An AGM takes place for directors, proxies, auditors, and corporate representatives to attend.

If any member wishes to make any recommendations or comments or raise a complaint they need to email the committee at office@mcigb.co.uk

12 - FEI CODE OF CONDUCT

The MCI GB requires all those involved in International equestrian sport to adhere to the FEI Code of Conduct and to acknowledge and accept that at all times the welfare of the Horse must be paramount. The following points must be particularly adhered to:

- 1. The welfare of horses takes precedence over all other requirements at all stages of their preparation and their training. This includes good horse management, training methods, farriery and saddler/tack and transportation.*
- 2. To be allowed to compete, horses and competitors must be physically fit, competent and in good health. This includes the use of medications, surgical procedures which threaten the safety or well-being of horses, pregnancy in mares and the misuse of aids.*
- 3. Events must not prejudice horse welfare. This involves constant attention to the competition areas, ground surfaces, weather conditions, stabling, safety of the site and fitness of the horse for onward travel after the event.*
- 4. Every effort must be made to ensure that horses receive the proper attention they are due after the competition and that they are treated humanely when their competition careers are over. This includes proper veterinary care, competition injuries, euthanasia and retirement.*
- 5. The FEI urges all involved with the sport of Equestrianism to attain the highest possible level of knowledge in their areas of expertise.*

12.1 FEI : OBJECT AND GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF DRESSAGE

The object of Dressage is the development of the horse into a happy Athlete through harmonious education. As a result, it makes the horse calm, supple, loose and flexible, but also confident, attentive and keen, thus achieving perfect understanding with the Athlete. These qualities are demonstrated by:

- The freedom and regularity of the paces.
- The harmony, lightness and ease of the movements.
- The lightness of the forehand and the engagement of the hindquarters, originating from a lively impulsion.
- The acceptance of the bit, with submissiveness/throughness without any tension or resistance.

A full copy of the FEI Code of Conduct can be obtained from the Federation Equestre International, the Code is available in English and can be found on their website <https://www.fei.org/>