

ANNEX – ERRORS Article 430

All Dressage tests except Freestyles and Young Horse tests:

To be deducted / penalty points

- Entering the space around the arena with a whip or
- Entering the dressage arena with a whip or
- Not entering the arena within 45 seconds after the bell or
- Entering the arena before the sound of the bell or
- Error of course or omissions

1 st Error	see test sheet
2 nd Error	see test sheet
3 rd Error	see test sheet

All Freestyle tests and Young Horse tests:

To be deducted / penalties

- Entering the area around the arena with a whip or
- Entering the dressage arena with a whip or
- Not entering the arena within 45 seconds after the bell or
- Entering the arena before the sound of the bell or
- Entering the arena after more than 20 seconds of music
- Time penalty Freestyles: test falls below or exceeds the time limits set, deduct 0.5% from the total marks of artistic execution
- Error of course or omissions (Young Horse tests only)

1 st Error	see test sheet
2 nd Error	see test sheet
3 rd Error	see test sheet

Article 430 EXECUTION OF THE TESTS

The Official FEI Tests must be carried out entirely from memory, and all movements must follow in the order laid down in the test.

1. **Sound of bell.** After the sound of the bell, the athlete should enter the arena at A within 45 seconds. During Freestyle tests, in case of technical failure or delay in start of the music, the judge at C can interrupt the count and re-continue after the problem has been resolved. The Judge at C is responsible for the bell and clock/time. A clock showing 45/90 sec, should be clearly visible for the athlete.

2. **Salute.** Athletes must take the reins in one hand at the salute.

3. **Error of course.** When an athlete makes an "error of the course" (takes the wrong turn, omits a movement, etc.) the President of the Jury warns him, by sounding the bell. The President shows him, if necessary, the point at which he must take up the test again and the next movement to be executed, then leaves him to continue by himself. However, in some cases when, although the athlete makes an "error of the course", the sounding of the bell would unnecessarily impede the fluency of the performance - for instance if the athlete makes a transition from medium trot to collected walk at V instead of at K, or, cantering up the centre line from A, makes a pirouette at D instead of at L - it is up to the President to decide whether to sound the bell or not. However, if the bell is not sounded at an error of course and the test requires the same movement to be repeated and the athlete again makes the same error, the athlete is only penalised once.

The decision as to whether or not an error of course has been made will be that of the President of the Ground Jury. The other Judges' scores will be adapted accordingly.

4. **Error of test/execution.** When an athlete makes an "error of the execution of the test" (trots rising instead of sitting, at the salute does not take the reins in one hand, etc.) he must be penalised as for an "error of course". In principle an athlete is not allowed to repeat a movement of the test unless the judge at C decides on an error of course (sounds the bell). If, however, the athlete has started the execution of a movement and attempts to do the same movement again, the judges must consider the first movement shown only and at the same time, penalise for an error of course.

5. **Unnoticed error.** If the Jury has not noted an error, the athlete has the benefit of the doubt.

6. **Penalties.** Every "error of the course", whether the bell is sounded or not, must be penalised, except as noted above. See 430.8 for additional penalties.

7. Elimination.

Lameness. In a case of marked lameness, the President of the Jury informs the athlete that he is eliminated. There is no appeal against this decision.

Resistance. Any resistance which prevents the continuation of the test longer than 20 seconds is punished by elimination. However, resistance that may endanger athlete, horse, judges or the public will be eliminated for safety reasons earlier than within 20 seconds. This also applies to any resistance before the entering the dressage arena.

Fall. In the case of a fall of horse and/or athlete, the athlete will be eliminated.

Leaving arena during dressage test. A horse leaving the arena completely, with all four feet, during a dressage competition between the time of entry and the time of exit at A, will be eliminated.

Outside assistance. Any outside help by voice, signs, etc. is considered as illegal or unauthorized assistance to an athlete or to his horse. An athlete or horse receiving positive assistance must be eliminated.

Other reasons for Elimination may also be:

- Horse and athlete combination clearly not being able to fulfill the requirements of the level.
- The performance is against the welfare of the horse.
- Horse and athlete combination not entering the competition arena within the specified starting time. Except where a valid reason thereto has been informed to the Judge at C, valid reason may be losing a shoe etc)

8. **Penalty Points.** The penalty points are deducted on each Judge's sheet from the total points obtained by the athlete. The following are considered as penalties for the deduction of points:

Penalties

All of the following are considered errors in the same way as 430.3 and 430.4:

- Error of course or
- Entering the space around the arena with whip or
- Entering the dressage arena with whip or
- Not entering the arena within 45 seconds after the bell or
- Entering the arena before the sound of the bell or
- In the Freestyle, entering the arena after more than 20 seconds of music

First error -2 Points
Second error -4 Points
Third error - Elimination

For Freestyle tests deduction shall be:

First error -1% of possible total score
Second error -2% of possible total score
Third error - Elimination

The same scale as for Freestyle tests applies to Young Horses tests.

9. Execution of movement at certain point. In a movement which must be carried out at a certain point of the arena, it should be done at the moment when the athlete's body is above this point, except in transitions where the horse approaches the letter from a diagonal or perpendicular to the point where the letters are positioned. In this case, the transitions must be done when the horse's nose reaches the track at the letter so that the horse is straight in the transition.

10. Beginning/End of test. A test begins with the entry at A and ends after the salute at the end of the test, as soon as the horse moves forward. Any incidents before the beginning or after the end of the test have no effect on the marks. The athlete should leave the arena in the way that is prescribed in the text of the test.

11. Details to the Freestyle Test

An athlete must enter the arena within 20 seconds of the music starting.

At the beginning and end of a Freestyle Test a halt for the salute is compulsory. The test time will start after the athlete moves forward after the halt.

Refer further to Guidelines for Assessing the Degree of Difficulty in a Freestyle Test.