

Fitness Inspection “Trot-Up”

For CDI 1* CDI 3*, CDIU25, CDIY, CDIJ horses

Below are (highly edited) requirements/procedures for the Fitness Inspection. (FEI Veterinary Regulations, Art. 1032 to 1035 and associated articles and the FEI Stewards Manual) and FEI General Regulations.

The aim of the standardised horse inspection protocol is to ensure the “fitness to compete”.

- The **person responsible** should present the horse unless the person responsible has been excused from this requirement by the inspection panel in advance by the President of the GJ. Riders are to advise their intention via the FEI Chief Steward prior to the start of the inspection.
- Horses presented in either a snaffle or double bridle with Identification – (eg, bridle number).
- Handlers should be neatly dressed (neatly attired OC suggests *suitable shoes for running*)
- No horse may be presented with its identity concealed in any manner (e.g. no rugs, bandages, ear hoods or other equipment, **no dye or paint on horses or hooves**)
- Handlers may carry a whip of up to 1.2m only.
- Earplugs are permitted at the inspection (Art. 6.3 FEI Dressage Rules). Ear hoods refer above.
- The inspection must take place on a firm, level and clean but not slippery surface.
- The horse must be presented in front of the Veterinary Commission/Delegate and Member(s) of the Ground Jury. (see Fig. 1).
- The Veterinary Commission/Delegate must check the identity of the horse and note any obvious sign of injury or disease.
- The horse must be walked (approx. 10 paces) and trotted on a loose rein (30-40 m) with the handler on the left (see illustration). The Veterinary Commission/Delegate and/or Member (s) of the Ground Jury must note any signs of lameness.
- If necessary, walk and trot may be repeated. Unless special permission is given by the Veterinary Commission/Delegate and/or the Ground Jury.
- Before the horse leaves the inspection site, the Member of the Ground Jury must announce the decision of the inspecting panel:

- Accepted - Not accepted - Re-inspection

In a doubtful case the Inspecting Panel, may direct that the horse be placed in an officially supervised holding area for a further inspection. Refer the FEI Veterinary regulations for more information. The responsibility for accepting or not accepting horses to compete is shared between the Ground Jury and the Veterinary Commission/Delegate.

- Chefs d'Equipe must be present with their team horses in addition to their grooms and/or their competitors.
- Persons Responsible (competitors) must be present with individual horses, in addition to their grooms.
- All those involved with the horse undergoing inspection must be neatly attired.
- No appeal may be lodged against any decision made by the Inspection panel.

