



**fihb**  
Fédération  
Internationale  
de Horseball



**Competition**  
Rules 2022  
**ver.1.0**

**Fédération Internationale de Horse-Ball**



The Competition Rules (CR) have been reviewed and approved by the International Federation of Horse-Ball (FIHB).

These rules are available on the FIHB website: [www.fihb.net](http://www.fihb.net)

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## 1 – Ranking List

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Starting from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2013 all FIHB competitions, as stated in FIHB GR's art.17.1.1, will be taken in account to establish the ranking list of International players, horses, coaches, clubs, from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2014 also for referees and Nations, from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2017 also for National Championships and starting from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2020 the WHR system is opened also to U8, U10, U12 and U14 players.

The ranking list is established by points gained by Horse-Ball players, horses, coaches, clubs, referees and Nations in participating to recognized FIHB event or in National Championships.

Please refer to FIHB WHR Rules for any other information and/or rule related to the World Horseball Ranking.

## 2 – Junior European Nations Ranking

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This ranking establishes which are the Nations able to participate to the next FIHB U16 Champions League. It is based on the WHR point gained by the Clubs and by the Nations during the last 3 years. The Nations of this classification have the right to present their best team who won their National Championship or any National Cup that the National Federation/ONHB retains adequate for the selection of the team in the current or previous season, according to the development of the national season.

The classification of the National Championship and/or Cup with the participating team has to be communicated by the National Federation together the priority order to choose the club teams participating to the Champions League.

The Nation with the major number of WHR points will be ranked by the FIHB as the best Nation, the Nation with the 2<sup>nd</sup> major number of WHR points will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> best Nation etc.. If two or more Nations have the same number of points, the number of Clubs has to be taken into consideration.

The U16 FIHB Ranking for 2022 is:

<b>U16 FIHB Ranking 2022</b>		
<b>Rank</b>	<b>Nation</b>	<b>Points</b>
1 <sup>st</sup>	Spain	1065
2 <sup>nd</sup>	France	950
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Italy	525
4 <sup>th</sup>	Portugal	480
5 <sup>th</sup>	Great Britain	380
6 <sup>th</sup>	Belgium	50

## 3 – Senior European Nations Ranking

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This ranking establishes which are the Nations able to participate to the next FIHB Pro Elite Champions League. It is based on the WHR point gained by the Clubs and by the Nations during the last 3 years. The Nations of this classification have the right to present their best team who won their National Championship or any National Cup that the National Federation/ONHB retains adequate for the selection of the team in the current or previous season, according to the development of the national season.

The classification of the National Championship and/or Cup with the participating team has to be communicated by the National Federation together the priority order to choose the club teams participating to the Champions League.

The Nation with the major number of WHR points will be ranked by the FIHB as the best Nation, the Nation with the 2<sup>nd</sup> major number of WHR points will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> best Nation etc.. If two or more Nations have the same number of points, the number of Clubs has to be taken into consideration.

The Pro Elite FIHB Ranking for 2022 is:

<b>Pro Elite FIHB Ranking 2022</b>		
<b>Rank</b>	<b>Nation</b>	<b>Points</b>
1 <sup>st</sup>	Spain	1880
2 <sup>nd</sup>	France	1505
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Belgium	1230
4 <sup>th</sup>	Portugal	760
5 <sup>th</sup>	Italy	710
6 <sup>th</sup>	Great Britain	330

#### **4 – Ladies European Nations Ranking**

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This ranking establishes which are the Nations able to participate to the next FIHB Ladies Champions League. It is based on the WHR point gained by the Clubs and Nations during the last 3 years. The Nations of this classification have the right to present their best team who won their National Championship or any National Cup that the National Federation/ONHB retains adequate for the selection of the team in the current or previous season, according to the development of the national season.

The classification of the National Championship and/or Cup with the participating team has to be communicated by the National Federation together the priority order to choose the club teams participating to the Champions League.

The Nation with the major number of WHR points will be ranked by the FIHB as the best Nation, the Nation with the 2<sup>nd</sup> major number of WHR points will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> best Nation etc.. If two or more Nations have the same number of points, the number of Clubs has to be taken into consideration.

The Ladies FIHB Ranking for 2022 is:

<b>Ladies FIHB Ranking 2022</b>		
<b>Rank</b>	<b>Nation</b>	<b>Points</b>
1 <sup>st</sup>	Spain	2645
2 <sup>nd</sup>	France	1095
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Great Britain	1090
4 <sup>th</sup>	Italy	565
5 <sup>th</sup>	Belgium	190
6 <sup>th</sup>	Portugal	70

#### **5 – Reservation of a place in the Champions League for the winner of International multistage competitions**

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In the case of International multistage competitions with the participation of teams of at least 3 nations and with at least 3 stages, a place is reserved for the winner of that competitions in each category for the next Champions League. If the winner of the International multistage competitions is also the winner of its National Championship, then the place for the Champions League will be entitled to the team that is classified at the 2<sup>nd</sup> place of the international multistage competition.

## **6 – Registration procedure of the teams participating to Champions League**

According to the number of club teams allowed in a Champions League and defined by the Organizer and approved by the FIHB (normally from 4 to 8 teams depending of the category), the following procedure will be used to accept the registration of the teams:

1. If there are places reserved for the winner of the International multistage events, then the relevant teams will be invited and if they can't participate, they will lose the possibility to participate the Champions League;
2. Starting from the first Nation of the ranking, the first classified club team of that Nation will be invited and if the first team can't participate, the second classified is then able to participate;
3. The step 2 is then repeated for all the subsequent Nations of the ranking until the maximum number of teams is reached;
4. If the number of registered teams is less than the maximum number of teams then on starts again from the first Nation of the ranking, the second classified club team of that Nation will be invited and if the second team can't participate (or it's just registered), the third classified is then able to participate;
5. The step 4 is then repeated for all the subsequent Nations of the ranking until the maximum number of teams is reached;
6. If the number of registered teams is less than the maximum number of teams then on starts again from the first Nation of the ranking, the third classified club team of that Nation will be invited and if the third team can't participate (or it's just registered), the fourth classified is then able to participate;
7. The step 6 is then repeated for all the subsequent Nations of the ranking until the maximum number of teams is reached;
8. If the number of registered teams is less than the maximum number of teams then on starts again from the first Nation of the ranking, the fourth classified club team of that Nation will be invited and if the fourth team can't participate (or it's just registered), the fifth classified is then able to participate;
9. The step 8 is then repeated for all the subsequent Nations of the ranking until the maximum number of teams is reached;
10. If the number of registered teams is less than the maximum number of teams then club team of Nations not listed in the ranking are able to participate.

Notes:

- in the case where the hosting country of the Champions League doesn't have a place into the competition then a place into the competition can be reserved.
- in case of no payment of the 30% of the inscription fee within the deadline for a club team registered in the FIHB Champions League, FIHB has the right to invite the next club team in the priority list.

Example:

<b>U16 FIHB Ranking 2017</b>		
<b>Rank</b>	<b>Nation</b>	<b>Points</b>
1 <sup>st</sup>	France	1045
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Spain	870
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Portugal	420
4 <sup>th</sup>	Italy	341
5 <sup>th</sup>	Belgium	50

Nation ranking

<b>France</b>	<b>Spain</b>	<b>Portugal</b>	<b>Italy</b>	<b>Belgium</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> club team – YES	1 <sup>st</sup> club team – NO	1 <sup>st</sup> club team – NO	1 <sup>st</sup> club team – NO	1 <sup>st</sup> club team – YES
2 <sup>nd</sup> club team – YES	2 <sup>nd</sup> club team – YES	2 <sup>nd</sup> club team – NO	2 <sup>nd</sup> club team – YES	2 <sup>nd</sup> club team – YES
3 <sup>rd</sup> club team – YES	3 <sup>rd</sup> club team – NO	3 <sup>rd</sup> club team – YES	3 <sup>rd</sup> club team – YES	
4 <sup>th</sup> club team – NO	4 <sup>th</sup> club team – YES			
5 <sup>th</sup> club team – YES				

Club team classification in each nation and their intention to participate

<b>N</b>	<b>Club team</b>
1	France 1 <sup>st</sup> club team
2	Spain 2 <sup>nd</sup> club team
3	Italy 2 <sup>nd</sup> club team
4	Belgium 1 <sup>st</sup> club team
5	France 2 <sup>nd</sup> club team
6	Portugal 3 <sup>rd</sup> club team
7	Belgium 2 <sup>nd</sup> club team
8	France 3 <sup>rd</sup> club team

Final list of registered club team

## **7 – Club team composition**

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The composition of a club team participating to the FIHB Champions League in the Under16, Ladies or Pro Elite category has to be compliant to the following rules:

- In case of a club team of up to 6 players, minimum 4 players must be players registered to that club team for the calendar year;
- In case of a club team of up to 7 players, minimum 5 players must be players registered to that club team for the calendar year;
- In case of a club team that has the right to participate but for some reason change the name and/or the address of the club team, then the new club team has the right to participate under the authorization on its National Federation or ONHB;
- Derogations to the above rules according to particular cases could be given with the approval of the ONBH or National Federation of the country involved;
- All the information related to the registration of the players to a particular club team for the calendar year will be delivered by the own National Federation or ONHB;
- The inscription of the club team will be carried out by the club team and validated by its National Federation or ONHB.

## **8 – Multistage International events**

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Multistage International events are competitions organized mainly among neighboring nations in order to develop international Horseball.

Those events can comprise different categories (i.e. Under16, Ladies, Pro Elite) with the same classification of competition that means same number of stars or also with different classification of competition (for example Under16, Ladies and Pro Elite with 3 stars and Club Ladies with 2 stars).

A competition method shall be proposed according to the number of registered teams and presented in the preliminary program specifying also the number of stages and for each stage, the number of days.

After the deadline for the team registration, a draw will be made and all the teams will be immediately informed about the final match schedule. All the matches will be played according to the final match schedule and no changes or postponing/anticipating of matches in other stages will be allowed.

In the case a team is not ready for the veterinary inspection or to start playing at the schedules time, it will be considered as forfeit (0 points, -8 goal average for the forfeiting team, +8 goal average for the opposing team). In addition, the forfeiting team shall reimburse the sum of 400€ each player of the opposing team independently if they informed or not the opposing team or the OC. Special cases will be evaluated by the Disciplinary Commission: sanctions up to 2 years ban from the competitions could be applied for the participants (players, coaches, clubs).



## **9 – Competition method for European Championships with 6 teams**

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In the European Championships where 6 teams are divided in 2 groups and they play all against all for the first 3 days then the next 2 days there is the cross between 1st and 2nd of the 2 groups, the teams will be grouped by means of a full draw without head of series.

## History

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Document history		
2013 ver.1.0	April 2013	First edition approved by FIHB Bureau on April 30 <sup>th</sup> 2013
2014 ver.1.0	January 2014	First edition approved by FIHB Bureau on January 19 <sup>th</sup> 2014
2014 ver.1.1	February 2014	Second edition approved by FIHB General Assembly on February 22 <sup>nd</sup> 2014
2015 ver.1.0	December 2014	First edition approved by FIHB Bureau on December 20 <sup>th</sup> 2014
2016 ver.1.0	March 2016	First edition approved by FIHB General Assembly on March 12 <sup>th</sup> 2016: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CR 007-2016: Clubs and Nations rankings 2016 and procedure to select the teams for the Champions League;</li> <li>• CR 006-2016: composition rules of the club team participating to the Champions League.</li> </ul>
2017 ver.1.0	February 2017	First edition approved by FIHB General Assembly on February 25 <sup>th</sup> 2017: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CR 011-2017: addition of aisbl and FIHB address;</li> <li>• CR 016-2017: update of the Nations rankings.</li> </ul>
2018 ver.1.0	March 2018	First edition approved by FIHB General Assembly on March 24 <sup>th</sup> 2018: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• update of the Nations rankings.</li> </ul>
2019 ver.1.0	March 2019	First edition approved by FIHB General Assembly on March 17 <sup>th</sup> 2019: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CR 001-2019: minimum number of teams for national championships;</li> <li>• CR 002-2019: dealing with the results of 2 nat.chs.in a FIHB year;</li> <li>• CR 004-2019: invitation of the next club team in the priority list for the FIHB CLs;</li> <li>• CR 011-2019: full draw without head of series;</li> <li>• CR 013-2019 rev.1: multistage international events;</li> <li>• CR 021-2019: reservation of a place for Champions League;</li> <li>• CR 025-2019: allow National Cup participants to be invited to the Champions League;</li> <li>• Update of the nations rankings.</li> </ul>
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2022 ver.1.0	March 2022	First edition approved by FIHB General Assembly on March 5 <sup>th</sup> 2022: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update of the nations rankings.</li> </ul>



