

fihb Fédération Internationale de Horseball



WHR Rules 2025 ver.1.0 The WHR Rules has been reviewed and approved by the International Federation of Horse-Ball (FIHB).

These rules are available on the FIHB Website: http://www.fihb.net

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1 – Definition

The WHR (World Horseball Ranking) is a recognition system based on the performance of a player, horse, coach, club and on the participation of a referee.

Starting from 1st January 2013 all FIHB competitions will be taken in account to establish the ranking lists of International players, horses, clubs, coaches, starting from 1st January 2014 also for referees and Nations, starting from 1st January 2017 the WHR system is opened to National Championships (clubs, players, coaches) and starting from 1st January 2020 the WHR system is opened also to U8, U10, U12 and U14 players.

The ranking lists are established by points gained by Horse-Ball players, horses, coaches, clubs or referees in participating to recognized FIHB event and registered National Championships: they will be automatically ranked in the World International Ranking List.

The period between two consecutive FIHB Seniors Champions League is called FIHB year. For a particular FIHB year, the points gained by each participant are counted starting from the first FIHB competitions or National Championship after the FIHB Seniors Champions League of the previous calendar year until the next FIHB Seniors Champions League (example FIHB year 2019: points are gathered from September 9th 2018 till October 6th 2019).

Those who want to be in the ranking lists for the FIHB current year or in the active n years (n=2...8) have to fulfil the following conditions:

- to be registered to the FIHB paying the fee defined in the par.5 "Inscription fees" or in the par.4.2 "National Championship inscription fees";
- to participate to an International event approved by FIHB or to a registered National Championship.

Points attributed depend on the type of International event or National Championship the players participate as specified in par.3 "Point System for International Competitions" or in par.4.1 "Point System for National Championship"; the type of International event is reported in par.2 "Classification of International Competitions" while the type of National Championship is reported in par.4.

The Ranking List started for:

- Players;
- Horses;
- Clubs;
- Coaches.

But from 2014 is opened also to:

- Referees;
- Nations.

From 2017 is opened also for National Championships and from 2020 is opened also to U8, U10, U12 and U14 players.

2 – Classification of International Competitions

Each International Competition is classified with the following ranking method based on number of stars as defined at par.26 in the FIHB Organization Rules.

Classi	fication of Inter	national Comp	etitions		
Item	5 *	4 *	3 *	2 *	1 *
Minimum number of teams	6 of 4 diff.countries	6 of 4 diff.countries	4 of 3 diff.countries	4 of 3 diff.countries	3 of 2 diff.countries
Minimum number of international players in case of Open competition	50%	40%	30%	25%	25%
FIHB Horse-Ball Village (exclusive FIHB commercial zone)	~	~			
VIP zone	\checkmark	\checkmark			
Competition Secretary	Provided and chosen by FIHB	Provided and chosen by FIHB	Provided and chosen by FIHB	provided by Organizer and approved by FIHB	provided by Organizer and approved by FIHB
Tribune (min number of seats)	1000	500	500	200	
Safety 24H of stables and reserved access	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark		
Catering on place	✓ seated	√seated	Bar	Bar	Bar
Shuttle from hotel to competition arena	~	\checkmark			
Money prize	\checkmark				
Clear Signposting (toilet, competition, stables, restaurant)	~	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	
Information Secretary/accreditation	~	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark
Hotel for Officials and partners	Min 3*	Min 3*			
Free FIHB stand	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark		
FIHB prizes	Medals, cup and acrylic trophies	Medals and acrylic trophies	Medals and acrylic trophies	Acrylic trophies	Acrylic trophies from the 3 rd year only
Respect OR's latest version	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark

Please note that:

- a World Cup is a 5* competition;
- an European or Continental Cup (Americas or Asian Cup) is at least a 4* competition;
- a Champions League is at least a 3* competition.

3 – Point System for International Competitions

The Point System for International Competitions is described below for each category and for each type of competition.

3.1 - International Competitions: Point System for Players, Horses, Clubs, Coaches and Nations

The Point System for Players, Horses, Clubs, Coaches and Nations are listed in the tables below for the competitions held from 2018 (from 2020 for 2 stars competitions).

For the multistage events (minimum 2 stages and 4 matches / team) held from 2020, the point system is upgraded to the next level, for example if the multistage event is a 2 stars event, the point system for 3 stars events has to be used.

	INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS 5 *												
	Point System for Players, Horses, Clubs, Coaches and Nations												
final		number of teams											
classification	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14		
1 st place	140	150	160	170	180	190	200	210	220	230	240		
2 nd place	120	130	140	150	160	170	180	190	200	210	220		
3 rd place	100	110	120	130	140	150	160	170	180	190	200		
4 th place	60	90	100	110	120	130	140	150	160	170	180		
5 th place		60	60	70	80	90	100	110	120	130	140		
6 th place			60	60	60	60	60	90	100	110	120		
7 th place				60	60	60	60	70	90	100	110		
8 th place					60	60	60	60	70	80	90		
9 th place						60	60	60	60	70	80		
10 th place							60	60	60	60	70		
11 th place								60	60	60	60		
12 th place									60	60	60		
13 th place										60	60		
14 th place											60		

Please note that a World Cup is always on the points system of a 5^{*} competition.

	INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS 4 *											
P	Point System for Players, Horses, Clubs, Coaches and Nations											
final		number of teams										
classification	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12			
1 st place	120	130	140	150	160	170	180	190	200			
2 nd place	100	110	120	130	140	150	160	170	180			
3 rd place	80	90	100	110	120	130	140	150	160			
4 th place	50	70	80	90	100	110	120	130	140			
5 th place		50	50	70	70	70	80	90	100			
6 th place			50	50	50	50	60	70	80			
7 th place				50	50	50	50	60	70			
8 th place					50	50	50	50	60			
9 th place						50	50	50	50			
10 th place							50	50	50			
11 th place								50	50			
12 th place									50			

Please note that an European Cup, Continental Cup (Americas or Asian Cup) or Champions League is always on the points system of a 4* competition.

	INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS 3*										
P	Point System for Players, Horses, Clubs, Coaches										
final		number of teams									
classification	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10			
1 st place	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120			
2 nd place	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110			
3 rd place	40	40	50	60	70	80	90	100			
4 th place		40	40	50	60	70	80	90			
5 th place			40	40	50	60	70	80			
6 th place				40	40	40	40	70			
7 th place					40	40	40	40			
8 th place						40	40	40			
9 th place							40	40			
10 th place								40			

	INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS 2 *									
Point System for Players, Horses, Clubs, Coaches										
final				num	ber of te	eams				
classification	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
1 st place	30	35	40	45	50	55	60	65	70	
2 nd place	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60	65	
3 rd place		25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60	
4 th place			25	30	35	40	45	50	55	
5 th place				25	30	35	40	45	50	
6 th place					25	30	35	40	45	
7 th place						25	30	35	40	
8 th place							25	30	35	
9 th place								25	30	
10 th place									25	

The point system for International competitions 2 stars is valid for competitions held from 2020.

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS 1 *									
Point System for Players, Horses, Clubs, Coaches									
final	final number of teams								
classification									
1 st place	15	20	25	30					
2 nd place	10	15	20	25					
3 rd place	5	10	15	20					
4 th place		5	10	15					
5 th place			5	10					
6 th place				5					

Notes for Point System for Players

For the competitions held from 2013:

• extra 10 points for the team (so each player) winning the "Fair Play" award.

For the competitions held from 2015:

- the points gained by an Under16 player, participating to Under16 and Senior competitions in the same year, will be split in the relevant categories for the year ranking while will be summed together for the other type of rankings (history, 8 years);
- the points gained by the players in an Under21 competition are recorded as Senior category.

Notes for Point System for Horses

• A horse or pony registered in two or more teams in a multistage event will gain only the points related to the best team's results.

Notes for Point System for Coaches

- only one coach per registered team will gain the awarded points;
- the coach of two or more teams in the same competition will gain only the points related to the best team.

3.2 - International Competitions: Point System Player and Horse - Top Scorer and Best Horse-Player Combination

For the competition held from 2018:

Point System Top Scorer and Best Horse-Player Combination (note 1)							
Competition	extra points						
WC World Cup	50						
EC European Cup or other Continental Cup	30						
CL Champions League	30						
IE 5*	30						
IE 4*	25						
IE 3*	20						
IE 2*	15						
IE 1*	10						

note 1 – Best Horse-Player Combination criteria: dressage, presentation, veterinary inspection, positions on field, temperament, agility.

For the competition held from 2023:

Point System for each goal scored by a player					
Competition	extra point				
Any FIHB competition or National Championship	1				

Notes for Point System for Players, Horses or Clubs

- extra points for the player winning "Top Scorer" award, also in ex aequo case.
- extra points for the player winning "Best Horse-Player Combination" award.
- extra points for the horse winning "Best Horse-Player Combination" award.
- extra points for the Club with the player winning "Best Horse-Player Combination" award in IE 1*...5° and CLs.

For the competitions held from 2015:

- the points gained by an Under16 player, participating to Under16 and Senior competitions in the same year, will be split in the relevant categories for the year ranking while will be summed together for the other type of rankings (history, 8 years);
- the points gained by the players in an Under21 competition are recorded as Senior category.

3.3 - International Competitions: Point System Referees

For the competition held from 2014:

Point System Referees								
Competition	points							
WC World Cup	40+10 each match							
EC European Cup or other Continental Cup	20+10 each match							
CL Champions League	15+10 each match							
IE 5*	25+5 each match							
IE 4*	20+5 each match							
IE 3*	15+5 each match							
IE 2*	10+5 each match							
IE 1*	5+5 each match							

3.4 - International Competitions: Point System for Players and Ponies for the U8...U14 categories

For the competition held from 2020:

Point System Players and Ponies U8…U14 categories for any number of stars						
Participant points						
Player	5					
Pony	5					

For the U8...U14 competitions there is no assignment of WHR points for:

- Top Scorer;
- Best Horse-Player Combination;
- Fair Play Team.

The point system for coaches, clubs and nations is that one related to the number of stars of the competition.

4 – WHR system for a National Championship

A National Championship could be included into WHR system if the following conditions are met:

- Category: Pro Elite, Ladies or Under16;
- Level: 1st league;
- Number of teams: 2 to 10;
- **Competition system:** to be submitted to the FIHB Bureau for approval.

4.1 – Point System for National Championship

The Point System for National Championship foresees to assign ranking points to each player, top scorer, coach and club of each category.

If in a country there are 2 National Championships in a FIHB year (time between 2 Senior Champions League), for the calculation of the WHR points, the results of the 1st one will be counted in the current FIHB year and the results of the 2nd one will be postponed to the next FIHB year.

The Point System Players is shown below and it takes into account the number of teams participating in a National Championship.

4.1.1 – National Championship: Point System Players, Coaches and Clubs

National	National Championship - Point System Players, Coaches and Clubs										
final		number of teams									
classification	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
1 st place	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120		
2 nd place	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110		
3 rd place		40	40	50	60	70	80	90	100		
4 th place			40	40	50	60	70	80	90		
5 th place				40	40	50	60	70	80		
6 th place					40	40	40	40	70		
7 th place						40	40	40	40		
8 th place							40	40	40		
9 th place								40	40		
10 th place									40		

For the competitions held from 2020:

• only one coach per registered team will gain the awarded points unless the fact that during the season the coach is exchanged with a new one: in that case each coach, will gain the expected points divided by the number of coaches involved, two or more.

4.1.2 – National Championship: Point System Players – Top Scorer

For the competitions held from 2018:

• extra 20 points for the player winning the "Top Scorer" award:

4.2 – National Championship: inscription fees

Each National Federation or ONHB has to pay the annual fee for each category of the National Championship in order to be included into the WHR system. Those fees for 2023 are offered by FIHB.

WHR Inscription fees (note 1)								
number of teams	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
annual fee per category	60 €	80 €	100 €	120 €	140 €	160 €	180 €	200 €

note 1: not due for 2023, offered by FIHB

4.3 – Requirements for the inclusion of a National Championship

A National Federation or a ONHB that wants to include a National Championship into the WHR system has to be compliant with the following requirements:

- Send to FIHB the National calendar before the beginning of the National Championship(s);
- Send to FIHB the participants Clubs, the data of each player and coach (name, nationality, gender, birth date) and the top scorer information just after the end of the National Championship;
- Display the FIHB WHR banners on the pitch during all the competitions of the National Championship.

4.4 – Format of the data to be transmitted to FIHB

The National Federation or ONHB has to transmit to FIHB the data related to the clubs, players, coaches of each category of National Championship they want to include into the WHR system. The responsibility for the correctness of the transmitted data is of the involved National Federation or ONHB.

The data should be contained in an excel file where the following columns describe the necessary data:

- Classification of the club: number (1...3-10);
- Club: text with first letter in upper case unless special cases with all upper cases (i.e.UCPA);
- Coach: text with first name and last name with first letter only in upper case;
- Coach's nationality: text with nation code in 3 letters in upper case;
- Player: with first name and last name with first letter only in upper case;
- Player's nationality: text with nation code in 3 letters in upper case;
- Player's gender: text as male or female;
- Player's birth date: date in the format dd/mm/yyyy;
- Top scorer: text as YES or NO.

An example of the file is shown here below:

class.	club	coach	nat	player	nat	gender	birth date	top scorer
1	Arles HCC	Luc Laguerre	FRA	Benoit Levèque	FRA	male	07/04/1980	NO
1	Arles HCC			Mikel Le Gall	FRA	male	19/01/1982	NO
1	Arles HCC			Nicolas Thiessard	FRA	male	01/10/1978	NO
1	Arles HCC			Mathieu Laguerre	FRA	male	10/07/1990	NO
1	Arles HCC			David Abecassis	FRA	male	21/01/1989	NO
1	Arles HCC			Christine Orgels Laguerre	FRA	female	09/03/1973	NO
2	Bordeaux	Bernard Depons	FRA	Benjamin Depons	FRA	male	15/07/1987	NO
2	Bordeaux			Romain Depons	FRA	male	04/06/1980	NO
2	Bordeaux			Jean Baptiste Depons	FRA	male	12/06/1982	NO
2	Bordeaux			Hugo Soubes	FRA	male	17/02/1987	NO
2	Bordeaux			Romain Vigneron	FRA	male	13/08/1986	NO

5 – Inscription fees

Each member of a category has to pay the inscription fee at each competition in order to be included in the WHR. Those fees for 2023 are listed in the table below.

In case of missing payment of the WHR inscription fees within the end of the competition, the team or participant involved will be disqualified and the WHR points not granted.

WHR Inscription fees					
Category	1* competition	2* competition	3* competition	4* competition	5* competition
Player	5€	10€	20€	25€	30€
Horse	5€	5€	15€	15€	15€
U8U14 Player	5€	5€	5€	5€	5€
U8U14 Pony	not due	not due	not due	not due	not due
Coach	5€	10€	15€	20€	25€
Club	10€	20€	30€	40€	50€
Nation	not applicable	not applicable	not applicable	100€	100€
Referee	5€ note 1	10€ note 1	15€ note 1	20€ note 1	25€ note 1

note 1: not due for 2023, offered by FIHB

6 – Ranking types

The following ranking lists are foreseen:

- **FIHB current year ranking list:** in this ranking list are listed all the participants that paid the FIHB inscription fee (see par.4) for their category (player, horse, coach, club, referee) and that participated to the FIHB competitions in that FIHB current year. The ranking list is a rolling list and it will be frozen at the end of each calendar year.
- Active 8Y ranking list: in this ranking list are listed all the participants that paid the FIHB inscription fee (see par.4) for their category (player, horse, coach, club, referee) and that participated to the FIHB competitions in the last 8 years.
- **History ranking list:** in this ranking list are listed all the participants to the FIHB competitions since 1992.

Different types of ranking lists are foreseen for the different categories. Those ranking lists are below described.

6.1 - WHR ranking lists for Players

For the Players there are three WHR ranking lists:

- 1. WHR History Players Ranking: all the players participating to FIHB competitions from 1992 are listed;
- 2. WHR Active 8Y Players Ranking: all the players that paid the inscription fee and that participated to FIHB competitions in the last 8 years are listed;
- 3. WHR FIHB current year Players Ranking: all the players that paid the inscription fee and that participated to FIHB competitions in the FIHB current year are listed.

6.2 - WHR ranking list for Horses

For the Horses there are two WHR ranking lists:

- 1. WHR Active 8Y Horses Ranking: all the horses for which the inscription fee has been paid and that participated to FIHB competitions in the last 8 years are listed;
- 2. WHR FIHB current year Horses Ranking: all the horses for which the inscription fee has been paid and that participated to FIHB competitions in the FIHB current year are listed.

6.3 - WHR ranking lists for Clubs

For the Clubs there are two WHR ranking lists:

- 1. WHR History Clubs Ranking: all the clubs participating to FIHB competitions from 2007 are listed;
- 2. WHR FIHB current year Clubs Ranking: all the clubs for which the inscription fee has been paid and that participated to FIHB competitions in the FIHB current year are listed.

6.4 - WHR ranking lists for Coaches

For the Coaches there are three WHR ranking lists:

- 1. WHR History Coaches Ranking: all the coaches participating to FIHB competitions from 1992 are listed;
- 2. WHR Active 8Y Coaches Ranking: all the coaches that paid the inscription fee and that participated to FIHB competitions in the last 8 years are listed;
- 3. WHR FIHB current year Coaches Ranking: all the coaches for which the inscription fee has been paid and that participated to FIHB competitions in the FIHB current year are listed.

6.5 - WHR ranking list for Referees (from 2014)

For the Referees there are two WHR ranking lists:

- 1. WHR Active 8Y Referees Ranking: all the Referees that paid the inscription fee and that participated to FIHB competitions in the last 7 years are listed;
- WHR FIHB current year Referees Ranking: all the Referees for which the inscription fee has been paid and that participated to FIHB competitions in the FIHB current year are listed.

6.6 - WHR ranking list for Nations (from 2014)

For the Nations there is one WHR ranking list:

1. WHR - History Nations Ranking: all the Nations participating to FIHB competitions from 1992 are listed.

7 – Awards

Each year after the FIHB Seniors Champions League, all the ranking lists will be frozen and the three best total point of each ranking will be awarded. Their names will be published on the FIHB web site at the section "Hall of Fame" for the relevant year.

8 – Votes for the best horse-player combination and fair play team

The votes for the best horse-player combination and fair play team shall be sent via WhatsApp or SMS to a defined FIHB responsible within the end of the competition. The defined FIHB responsible will receive, check and count all the votes and then will inform the OC responsible on time for the relevant prize giving.

9 – FIHB Horseball Masters

Each year at the end of the season, a maximum of 24 players (top 12 Ladies, top 12 Pro Elite) in the FIHB WHR ranking will be invited to participate to the FIHB Horseball Masters event. It will be taken into account the players that were active in the last 12 months prior the FIHB Horse Master and their position in the FIHB WHR ranking of the last 4 years plus the points gained in the FIHB current year, 1 months prior the event. The nation that will host that event has the right to present a maximum of 6 players (top 3 Ladies, top 3 Pro Elite) while the other maximum 18 will be chosen among the other nation.

History

		Document history
2013 Ver.1.0	November 2013	First edition approved by FIHB Bureau on November 25th 2013
2014 Ver.1.0	January 2014	First edition approved by FIHB Bureau on January 19th 2014
2014 Ver.1.1	February 2014	 Second edition approved by FIHB Bureau on February 14th 2014 and the approved by the FIHB General Assembly on February 22nd 2014: added the presence in the active n years for the paying participants; added definition of a factor Active n years replying (n. 2, 9)
		added definition of n for the Active n years ranking (n=28).
2014 Ver.1.2	April 2014	 Third edition approved by FIHB Bureau on April 30th 2014: modified WHR inscription fees and changed the payment modality from annual to each competition; deleted the classification in the CLs for the Nations ranking list.
2014 Ver.1.3	July 2014	 Fourth edition approved by FIHB Bureau on July 15th 2014: added extra 20 points for the Club with the player winning the "Best Horse-Player Combination" award.
2015 Ver.1.0	December 2014	 First edition approved by FIHB Bureau on December 20th 2014: modification to the point system for players, horses, clubs, coaches, referees.
2016 Ver.1.0	March 2016	 First edition approved by FIHB General Assembly on March 12th 2016: CR 014-2016: clarification about points gathered by U16 player participating to U16 and Senior competitions; points gathered in U21 competitions; point gathered by coaches of two or more teams in the same competition. Correction on FIHB fee; CR 022-2016: FIHB fee for the referees offered by FIHB.
2017 Ver.1.0	February 2017	 First edition approved by FIHB General Assembly on February 25th 2017: CR 001-2017 rev.1: FIHB WHR Point Systems according to the number of participating teams; CR 002-2017 rev.1: FIHB WHR for National Championships; CR 014-2017 rev.1: 1 * events: no cost and low complexity (no FIHB rights, no vet inspection, no FIHB acrylic trophies); CR 015-2017 rev.3: FIHB Horseball Masters.
2018 ver.1.0	March 2018	 First edition approved by FIHB General Assembly on March 24th 2018: CR 004-2018: WHR points for individual awards; CR 005-2018 rev.1: WHR points for international competitions; CR 006-2018: WHR points for National Championships.
2018 ver.1.1	June 2018	 Second edition approved by FIHB Bureau on June 28th 2018: error correction for extra points related to horse-player combination.
2018 ver.1.2	July 2018	 Third edition approved by FIHB Bureau on July 5th 2018: counting of the FIHB WHR points between two Seniors FIHB Champions League.
2018 ver.1.3	July 2018	 Fourth edition approved by FIHB Bureau on July 17th 2018: definition of FIHB year.
2018 ver.1.4	July 2018	 Fifth edition approved by FIHB Bureau on July 24th 2018: max number of player for FIHB Horseball Master.
2019 ver.1.0	March 2019	 First edition approved by FIHB General Assembly on March 17th 2019: CR 001-2019 rev.1: minimum number of teams per national championship; CR 002-2019: dealing with the results of 2 nat.chs.in a FIHB year; CR 026-2019: WHR point systems for National Championships with 2 teams.
2020 ver.1.0	March 2020	 First edition approved by FIHB General Assembly on March 28th 2020: CR 003-2020: correction to the point tables for 4 and 5 stars; CR 005-2020: disqualification or no WHR points if payment of the FIHB fees is missing; CR 011-2020: point system for multistage event; CR 012-2020: point system for National Championships; CR 019-2020: votes via whatsapp or SMS within end of the last match to a FIHB responsible; CR 022-2020: inscription fee and WHR points for U14, U12, U10 players.
2020 ver.1.1	June 2020	 Second edition approved by FIHB Bureau on June 4th 2020: error correction for point system related to 2 stars competitions.

2023 ver.1.0	April 2023	 First edition approved by FIHB General Assembly on April 22nd 2023: CR 009-2023: WHR fees for player and horse or pony; CR 012-2023: WHR point for each goal.
2023 ver.1.1	August 2023	 Second edition approved by FIHB Bureau on August 8th 2023: specification of point gathered by horse and pony used in two or more teams in the same multistage event.
2025 ver.1.0	May 2025	 First edition approved by FIHB Bureau on May 6th 2025: WHR point system for 5 stars events with 13 and 14 teams; WHR point system for 3 stars events with 3 teams; WHR point system for 2 stars events with 2, 3, 9 and 10 teams; WHR point system for 1 star events with 5 and 6 teams; deletion of the par.10 Example of ranking list.



