



Fédération  
Equestre  
Internationale



MANUAL FOR ENDURANCE  
STEWARDS

Revised December 2017

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NOTE:

- **The following constitute specific provisions of the FEI Rules and Regulations reprinted for ease of reference.**
- **Provisions not relevant to Endurance have been removed, and some of the provisions printed below may need to be interpreted in the context of other provisions of the Statutes, General Regulations (hereinafter the “GRs”), Internal Regulations or Sports Rules.**
- **Please note that in the event of conflict between this Stewards Manual and the Statutes, the General Regulations, Internal Regulations or Sport Rules, the Statutes shall prevail.**
- **Should there be any conflict between this Stewards Manual and the GRs and/or other Sport Rules, the GRs shall prevail, unless specified otherwise in the Sport Rules.**

## INTRODUCTION

### 1. FEI Stewarding Motto

"Help, Prevent, Intervene"

### 2. Fairness by means of a good FEI Stewarding Programme

International equestrian competitions have developed in recent years to a point that stewarding is now one of the most important aspects of any event. The steward is called upon to make quick, informed judgements and to intervene in situations that require an official, authoritative but fair reaction. In line with most activities of equestrian officials, knowledge of accepted behaviour and of the rules and regulations combined with experience and common sense provide for the best stewarding.

From higher level events where top professionals compete down to lower level events with up and coming competitors, sometimes riding borrowed horses, the services of qualified stewards are essential. Up and coming competitors often imitate the well known experienced competitors, and proper training methods and behaviour are frequently learned by example. The stewards' principal aim is to endeavour to ensure that competitors participating in events do so with the utmost respect for their horses, officials, the public, their fellow competitors and all those involved in the sport.

While no two events are alike, stewards should always make fair and considered decisions. The FEI Chief Steward must be aware of the standards at each event and should always aspire to help raise the awareness of competitors and officials alike. The welfare of the horse is paramount.

### 3. FEI Code of Conduct

#### THE FEI CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE WELFARE OF THE HORSE

The Fédération Equestre Internationale (FEI) expects all those involved in international equestrian sport to adhere to the **FEI's Code of Conduct** and to acknowledge and accept that at all times the welfare of the horse must be paramount and must never be subordinated to competitive or commercial influences.

1. At all stages during the preparation and training of competition horses, welfare must take precedence over all other demands. This includes good horse management, training methods, farriery and tack, and transportation.
2. Horses and competitors must be fit, competent and in good health before they are allowed to compete. This encompasses medication use, surgical procedures that threaten welfare or safety, pregnancy in mares and the misuse of aids.
3. Events must not prejudice horse welfare. This involves paying careful attention to the competition areas, ground surfaces, weather conditions, stabling, site safety and fitness of the horse for onward travel after the event.
4. Every effort must be made to ensure that horses receive proper attention after they have competed and that they are treated humanely when their competition careers are over. This covers proper veterinary care, competition injuries, euthanasia and retirement.
5. The FEI urges all involved with the sport to attain the highest levels of education in their areas of expertise.

## **1. THE IDEA OF FEI STEWARDING AND ITS PURPOSE**

The terms “Stewarding” and “Steward” (and the included responsibilities) can have different interpretations and therefore need to be clearly defined.

### **1.1 What is stewarding?**

It is the supervision at international events by trained individuals to ensure that the welfare of the horse is respected and that a level playing field is provided for all athletes participating at the event.

## **2. STEWARDING**

### **2.1 The aim of FEI stewarding**

The purpose of Stewarding is:

- To protect the welfare of the horse and ensure fair play;
- To support the Organising Committee (OC) in the successful running of the event in line with the FEI rules and regulations.

### **2.2 Organisation of stewarding within the FEI (structure and hierarchy)**

#### **2.2.1 FEI Director Stewarding**

The FEI Director Stewarding is appointed by the FEI Bureau from a member of FEI HQ. The FEI Director Stewarding duties are:

- To coordinate all matters relating to Stewarding for each discipline;
- To liaise between the FEI Honorary Stewards General for each discipline;
- To report to the Bureau.

#### **2.2.2 FEI Honorary Steward General**

An FEI Honorary Steward General is appointed by the FEI Bureau for each discipline and is responsible for stewarding throughout the FEI for that specific discipline. The FEI Honorary Steward General’s duties are to:

- Liaise with the FEI Director Stewarding and produce a report on stewarding every year;
- Liaise with the Regional Stewards General;
- Liaise with the FEI Director of Endurance;
- Together with FEI HQ, establish a list of courses each year for the education of Stewards;
- Supervise stewarding activities within Endurance.

### **2.2.3 FEI Regional Steward General – FEI Regional Stewards General are appointed by the FEI for designated areas.**

The FEI Regional Steward General's duties are:

- To report half yearly on stewarding in their area to the FEI Honorary Steward General

### **2.2.4 FEI Steward General**

The FEI Steward General is proposed to the FEI by their NF and is responsible for the stewarding at international events within their NF. Prior to their appointment as FEI General Steward they must be a Level 3 (Senior) Steward. In addition they are required to report to the FEI Regional Steward General to make suggestions for improvement relating to stewarding matters. The duties of a Steward General are to:

- Act as the contact person between their NF and the FEI Regional Steward General and if necessary directly with the FEI Honorary Steward General in matters relating to their discipline's stewarding;
- Advise their NF on all matters relating to their responsibility;
- Be familiar with the organisation of an international event;
- Have a good knowledge of veterinary matters plus FEI Veterinary Regulations and the FEI legal system;
- Speak and write English fluently;
- The Steward General must inform the OCs of international events in their country of their responsibilities relating to stewarding and stable security under their jurisdiction.

Within smaller NFs, one Steward General may act as Steward General for a number of disciplines providing that they are qualified in the disciplines for which they have been appointed.

The Steward General must arrange for Level 1 and 2 steward courses to be organised within their NF for persons to be appointed to Steward Levels 1, 2 and 3.

### **2.2.5 The Chief Steward**

To be eligible to act in the capacity as Chief Steward at an international event the Chief Steward must have successfully completed a FEI Stewards' course and be included on the FEI list of stewards. The number of FEI Stewards in any country should be in proportion to the number of international events held there.

A Chief Steward should be able to speak English as one of the FEI's official languages and must be a person experienced in equestrian sports, particularly in the Discipline of Endurance and have a good knowledge of all up to date FEI Rules and Regulations for Endurance, the General Regulations and the VRs.

Each OC must appoint a Chief Steward from the list of FEI Stewards. If the event includes more than one discipline, a Chief Steward must be appointed for each discipline. One of these must be appointed as overall Chief Steward of the entire event.

The Chief Steward must be integrated into the Organisation Committee of the event. Their name must be printed in the event schedule. They are responsible for organising the stewarding at the event and is under the authority of the President of the Ground Jury. If a Technical Delegate is appointed they must work together closely

prior to and during the event (see Annex II). The Chief Steward must be invited to all technical and other relevant meetings.

The Chief Steward must report immediately to the President of the Ground Jury (GRs Art 155.5) any act by anyone that they consider being in contravention of the rules and regulations relating to their responsibilities. They must inform the President of the Ground Jury, the Appeal Committee and the Technical Delegate of any infractions that merit a Yellow Warning Card and additional action. The Chief Steward may issue Yellow Warning Cards to athletes, in accordance with General Regulations Art. 169.7.1 for reasons including, but not limited to, abuse of horses and incorrect behaviour towards officials. Once a Yellow Warning Card has been issued the Chief Steward must inform the OC.

During the event the Chief Steward and Assistants must wear, along with the event's Organising Committee's accreditation, the FEI Steward badge in a clearly visible manner.

The Chief Steward is responsible for stewarding and the organisation of the stewarding team during the entire event.

Following each event, the Chief Steward must send a written report to the Endurance Director at FEI HQ, with copies to the President of the Ground Jury, the OC, the Steward General of the NF and the Secretary General of the host NF where the event has taken place. If necessary, recommendations for improvements should be made in the Chief Steward's report (see Annex I).

### **2.2.6 The Assistant Steward(s)**

According to the size and type of event, a sufficient number of assistant stewards must be appointed by the OC. There must be a minimum of four Assistant Stewards and all must hold at least Level 1 Steward status.

### **2.2.7 The Stewarding Team**

The OC together with the Chief Steward are responsible for the selection of a competent stewarding team capable of providing the appropriate stewarding service during the event. Briefing sessions must be organised every day by the Chief Steward.

A briefing meeting must be held by the Chief Steward with the assistant Stewards prior to the start of the International Event. The following topics must be covered:

- Arrival of the horses
- Supervision and security of the stables
- Stable Duties
- Control of training areas/tracks
- Control of the warm-up area
- Patrolling of the event restricted area(s)
- Vet Gate procedure and organisation
- Veterinary assistance (passports etc.) and Medical Control Programme
- The initial veterinary examination
- The first veterinary inspection prior to the start of the competition
- Prize-giving
- Opening/Closing ceremonies (if applicable)
- Rider weigh-in
- Checking the saddlery
- Timely intervention to prevent abuse
- Procedure for reporting incidents



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- Correct behaviour towards athletes, grooms and trainers
- Areas of responsibilities
- Stewarding Groups
- Work timetable
- Meals
- Accommodation

### **2.3 Working place for Steward(s)**

As the Stewarding team frequently has to work outdoors for the entire day, and sometimes on through the night, the OC must provide the Stewards with adequate working facilities. An undercover area or trailer should be available with chairs, beverages and a table so that they have a place to rest from time to time. Sufficient food should also be available at all times. For purposes of communication the entire team must be equipped with radios (or equivalent).

All Stewards officiating at an international event must wear distinctive identification such as badges or armbands, bibs, etc. and must have complete freedom of access to all restricted areas such as, but not limited to, all parts of the stables, vetting areas, vet gate hold areas, and all other areas under control of the OC.

### **2.4 The cooperation between FEI Officials and athletes (athletes, owners, chefs d'équipe, trainers and grooms)**

Every effort should be made to have a good working relationship between officials and athletes. It is much better to prevent a rule being broken rather than having to react afterwards. To be able to intervene at the correct time a good knowledge of the rules and regulations is necessary.

## **3. STABLES (HIGHER LEVEL EVENTS OR MULTI-DAY EVENTS)**

### **3.1 Access to the Stable Area**

For a high level of stable security, the stables must be completely enclosed by a fence or wall. Access to the stable area must be controlled and restricted. This serves both as a deterrent to the entry of unauthorised persons and uncontrolled exit of horses. The area must be sufficiently large to allow horses to be evacuated from the stables in an emergency.

All horses must be stabled in the stables. Horses cannot leave their stables without their ID number – be this as a bridle number or a number marked directly on to the horse.

Strict stable security is of paramount importance. Admission to the stables is limited during an event. The only persons authorised by the OC to enter the stable area are the following so long as they are in possession of the required accreditations (See Art. 1025.4/5 VRs):

- Athletes plus one accompanying person
- The Technical Delegate or Foreign Judge
- Members of the Ground Jury and Appeal Committee
- Chief Steward and assistant stewards
- The Veterinary Commission/Delegate
- Treating Veterinarian
- Medication Control Officials
- The Official farrier, Team farriers and individual athletes' private farriers
- Not more than two owners per horse as per those registered within the horse's passport
- The Chefs d'Equipe, trainers, grooms
- The Team Veterinarians and veterinarians accompanying individual athletes
- Physiotherapists who have registered with the Veterinary Commission/Delegate
- Presidents and Secretaries General of National Federations may also visit the stable area with the approval of the OC

It is essential that the OC official responsible for authorising access to the stable area is a senior person within the OC.

#### Control of access

A control system must operate at all entrance gates to the stable area so that there is an efficient and reliable method of identifying those who enter and leave the stable area at any time. Please see below for further information.

### **3.2 Stewarding of the Stable Area**

At least one steward reporting directly to the Chief Steward must be present or readily available in the vicinity of the stable area 24 hours a day for the entire duration of the event. He may be assisted by additional stewards as deemed necessary.

During the time that the stables are officially closed nobody has the right to stay in the stables. Any persons requiring access to the stables during the hours of closure must report to the steward on duty. They must be in possession of the required accreditation. They must sign in on the 'Night Control in Stables' form (ref. Annex VI of this Manual) and they must be escorted by an FEI Steward at all times during their visit until they have left the secured stabling area. The 'Night Control in Stables' form must then be submitted to the Chief Steward each morning.

There must be constant patrolling of the secured stable areas by official FEI Stewards (or security team employed by the OC). This patrolling must be obvious and clear for all people to see. It must take place 24 hours a day, even when the stables are closed. No predetermined pattern should be established in order to discourage any form of forbidden practices or abuses. Any misdemeanours must immediately be reported to the steward responsible in the stable area, who must, in turn, report to the Chief Steward, who in turn reports to the President of the Ground Jury. Stewards may also ask for the appropriate Medication Form if a horse is seen to receive treatment of any kind.

Any persons found within the secured stable areas during the hours of closure without the required authorisation should have their accreditation removed for the remainder of the event. Also, at the discretion of the Ground Jury, the athlete of the concerned groom etc. may possibly be disqualified from the remainder of the event.

The duty of the stewards is therefore to safeguard the welfare of the horses and to prevent any form of forbidden practice.

Stabling must:

- If possible, be on the Showground
- Satisfy requirements of local authorities
- Have clear-kept emergency exits
- Have appropriate and sufficient fire-fighting equipment
- Have 'no-smoking' signs
- Be checked for safety and solidity
- Be allocated by the OC to athletes
- Be numbered and labelled
- Have adequate ventilation, water and bedding
- Have clean yards, adequate manure disposal
- Have an area for storing fodder and bedding
- Have an entrance open 24 hours a day
- Have a passage way of a minimum of 2 metres, although minimum 3 metres is highly recommended.

#### Stabling – Minimum Requirements:

- Cleaned and disinfected prior to horses' arrival
- Well ventilated
- Be a restricted area (Security)
- Washing facilities for horses
- Sufficient electricity and power points
- Space for tack and equipment
- Sufficient number of showers and toilets for grooms as necessary
- No cars or motor bikes may be parked in the stable area. Push bikes and electrically powered bikes may be allowed at the discretion of the OC.
- Office for Stewards if possible in the vicinity of the stables, Stable Manager and Treating Veterinarian for assistance
- Information Board
- Minimum 2 MCP Stables
- Minimum two isolation stables
- There must be hot water
- Stables must have a roof over hang

## 4. GROOMS

Accommodation for grooms, if required, must be provided in the vicinity of the stables; only grooms, with permission of the OC and duly registered with the OC as a groom, who wish to remain with their horses during the night, may possibly be permitted to do so. This permission may **only** be granted under exceptional circumstances i.e. ill horse etc.

The Person Responsible must ensure that their groom, or any other authorised persons with access to their horses, are familiar with the security and stewarding procedures for the event in question.

## 5. PRIOR THE COMPETITION

### 5.1 Arrival of the horses

Upon arrival, the reception of horses and horse transporters must be strictly and efficiently organised so that horses can be stabled and made comfortable as soon as possible. Parking facilities, loading and unloading areas need to be clearly defined and indicated. Stewards should be available to help the Veterinary Official during the initial Veterinary Examination of all horses arriving onsite. Also assistance may be required to accompany any horses requiring special attention such as treatment or isolation in the appropriate areas.

Additionally the Chief Steward must assist the FEI Veterinary Delegate in the organisation and management of the passports and health papers for all horses arriving onsite.

### 5.2 Movement throughout the Venue

Movement of horses between the stables, training area/tracks, grazing area and vetting area must be strictly controlled by stewards. The optimum layout for the Endurance discipline may be found in Annex III. It is understood that flexibility will be required depending on the requirements of other disciplines and/or lay-out of the venue, but wherever practicable the optimum layout should be followed.

### **5.3 Training areas/tracks and Warm-up area**

The training areas/tracks refer to the trail or part of a trail open specifically for the purpose of training the horses prior to the start of the event. The training areas/tracks must comprise an area suitable for fast work; canter tracks or similar. The horses and athletes must be properly identified when using the training areas/tracks and must wear protective headgear and clothing (Annex XI – Permitted saddlery and dress) at all times. This area/tracks must be regularly supervised by the Stewards. Horses may only be trained in areas provided by the OC.

The Warm-up area refers to the area adjacent to the start line of the competition where horses perform their warm-up prior to the start. Tack and equipment checks may be carried out here by the Ground Jury, and helped by the Stewards as required (Annex XI – Permitted saddlery and dress).

### **5.4 Grazing Area**

It is recommended that a grazing area be provided at all outdoor events and that this be subject to random control. If available, horses may be corralled or grazed/walked in hand within this area. The horses must be properly identified at all times with their bridle number and/or the number marked directly on the horse.

### **5.5 Ceremonies (opening/closing, prize giving)**

The Chief Steward must take the initiative to implement the plans for the Opening and Closing Ceremonies and additionally the prize giving ceremony in line with FEI Protocol.

## **6. DURING THE COMPETITION**

### **6.1 Vet Gates**

Stewards may be required to ensure the smooth passage of horses from the crewing areas through to the Vet Gates and on to the Veterinary Inspection lanes. They may also be required to manage the distribution of the individual Vet Cards to the presenting athletes. It is important to remember that no gamesmanship can be tolerated in terms of delaying or interfering with a fair presentation. Stewards should use good judgement as there is no exhaustive list of specifically prohibited behaviours. However, it is important that horses remain in constant forward motion when moving from the time-in line to the Veterinary Inspection lanes – no stopping or delaying is tolerated. Additionally it is not acceptable for any athlete/crew to interfere with a horse whilst the horse's heart rate is being taken with the specific aim of lowering the horse's heart rate. (see notes for Guidance)

### **6.2 Crew stops**

The Event schedule will specify where assistance is allowed on course during an event. Stewards should ensure that assistance is not given anywhere outside of an authorised crewing area.

### **6.3 Road crossings**

Stewards may be required to assist athletes at certain road crossings. The stewards should be familiar with the laws of the country where the event is taking place. In many countries it is not permitted for members of the public (nor stewards) to stop any motor vehicle on a public road in order to allow the passage of horses. However, the stewards may inform the athletes when it is clear for them to cross the road.

#### **6.4 Supervision of the Phases**

Whenever a short cut is possible on the course, a steward must be placed in order to control that the obligatory passage is respected. It is also important that a general inspection of the course is made throughout the competition and any incidents of outside assistance reported to the Ground Jury.

Sometimes stewards may be used to note and record the start and finish time for each timed phase for each competitor – stewards should ensure that they are familiar with the process and the protocol prior to the start of the competition.

#### **6.5 Rider weigh-in**

The Chief Steward must assist in the organisation of the weighing of the riders prior to the start and at the finish, as well as at random during the event. He should also ensure that members of his stewarding team are available to assist as necessary. The weighing of every athlete prior to the start and at the finish of the competition must take place in the presence of a member of the Ground Jury.

### **7. WARNING CARDS**

In accordance with the FEI General Regulations, 23rd edition, January 2009, updates effective 1 January 2017 –(Art. 169), in cases of offences mentioned in paragraphs 6.2 (Abuse of Horses) and 6.3 (Incorrect behaviour towards Event Officials or any other party connected with the Event) and which are of a less serious nature and/or in cases specified in the Sport Rules, the President of the Ground Jury, the President of the Appeal Committee and the Chief Steward, instead of instituting the procedures foreseen in the legal system, may deliver to the Person Responsible (athlete) a yellow warning card, either by hand or by any other suitable means.

Incorrect behaviour towards (a) Event Officials or any other party connected with the Event (other Athlete, journalist, public etc.) and/or (b) Doping Control Officers, Testing Veterinarian, Chaperones and/or any other person involved in the collection of a doping control sample may entail a fine of CHF 200.- to 10,000.- and/or a Suspension of a minimum of three (3) months up to a maximum of twelve (12) months;

Should the same Person Responsible receive one (1) more Yellow Warning Card at the same or any other International Event within one year of the delivery of the first Yellow Warning Card, the Person Responsible shall be automatically suspended for a period of two (2) months after official notification from the FEI Secretary General.

NFs and OCs must ensure that the President of the Ground Jury, President of the Appeal Committee and the Chief Steward at all international events are in possession of sufficient warning cards.

Presidents of Ground Juries and Chief Stewards are reminded that when issuing a warning card they must submit a copy of the Yellow Warning Card in annex to their report, with a full explanation. The FEI keeps a record of all penalties imposed under the FEI legal system and an up to date list of athletes in possession of a Yellow Warning Card.

### **8. VETERINARY INSPECTIONS AND EXAMINATIONS OF HORSES**

Please refer to the Endurance Rules Art. 820 to Art. 821 for full information concerning Veterinary Inspections and Examinations of Horses.

## 9. ANTI-DOPING TESTING FOR ATHLETES AND HORSES

At any event where testing is to take place, the Testing Official (MCP Testing Veterinarian or Veterinary Delegate) will require the assistance of stewards with testing. In most cases, the Steward will be asked to notify the athlete (at the moment of leaving the arena) that the horse will be tested and accompany the horse thereafter until the sample(s) has/have been collected. It is essential not to let the horse out of sight until collection takes place. The Steward appointed to Testing should be familiar with the procedure, so that they are aware of the correct procedure (FEI website / Veterinary / Medication Control).

The Steward escorts the selected horse to the MCP box.

In accordance with the FEIs' Anti-doping Rules for Human Athletes (ADRHA), FEI athletes (riders, drivers, vaulters, lungers) can be tested at any FEI Event, by the FEI or by other Anti-Doping Organisations with Testing jurisdiction (Anti-Doping Organisations who wish to conduct athlete testing at FEI events must first obtain the FEI's permission).

Where FEI Testing is planned, Organisers have the responsibility to provide facilities and staff/volunteers if requested by the FEI (article 22.3 of the ADRHA). The FEI makes all necessary arrangements with the Organiser and the TD or Foreign Judge. Stewards may be asked to provide assistance if necessary.

If a Steward receives a query on human anti-doping, he/she should direct the person:

- To a medical person with knowledge in anti-doping, or
- To the FEI, or
- To the local National/Regional Anti-Doping Organisation.

Additional information and contact details can be found in the "Clean Sport Humans" section of the FEI's website.

The ADRHA are published on the FEI's website at <http://inside.fei.org/content/antidoping-rules>.

## 10. ABUSE OF HORSES

No person may abuse a horse during an event or at any other time.

*ABUSE* is defined as acting in a way which may cause pain or discomfort to a horse. It means an action or omission which causes or is likely to cause pain or discomfort to a horse. This includes, but is not limited to, any of the following:

- Excessive or inappropriate use of hand/leg and/or reins
- The use of any object to simulate a type of whip, or something to hit the horse with
- To subject a horse to any kind of electric shock device
- To exhaust or exercise an exhausted, lame or injured horse
- Excessive or prolonged use of any training method or movement
- To sensitise or desensitise any part of a horse
- To leave a horse without adequate food, drink, bedding or movement/exercise
- To use any device that causes pain to the horse

If abuse is witnessed during an event, it should be reported as a protest (Art 163 FEI General Regulations) to an Official. If an Abuse is witnessed at any other time it should be reported as a protest (Art 167 FEI General Regulations) to the FEI Secretary General for referral to the Judicial Committee.

## 11. BE PRO-ACTIVE

SITUATIONS NOT ALLOWED BUT NOT LIMITED TO...

- Any behaviour or training method that could be considered as abusive to the horse;
- Persons in charge of horses causing dangerous situations due to a lack of consideration to others;
- Horses bleeding in the mouth/nose or indeed anywhere (in minor cases of blood, such as where a horse appears to have bitten itself or inflicted a minor injury, it can be authorised to rinse or wipe the affected area and, at the discretion of an official veterinarian, allow the horse to continue);
- Riding or walking with horse in hand in any unauthorised areas;
- Removing the horse from the field of play during the whole duration of the competition.

## **12. MISCELLANEOUS**

### **12.1 Public**

For safety reasons, the public must be separated and kept away from the areas where horses transit and exercise. The entire event area should be patrolled randomly.

### **12.2 Training Timetables**

Timetables for the use of the training areas/tracks must be established, posted on the notice board in the stable and adhered to. Horses must be properly identified at all times. At events where active quarantine is in place, this must be taken in to consideration when creating the training timetables.

### **12.3 Advertising and publicity on athletes and horses (GRs Art. 135)**

At all Events, except Regional and Olympic Games under the patronage of the IOC, Athletes may wear clothing and use equipment (including, but not limited to, riding equipment and vaulting back pads) and vehicles which identify the manufacturer, the Athlete's sponsor(s), the Athlete's team sponsor(s), the NF's sponsor(s), the Athlete's nation, and/or the Athlete himself, but only under the specific conditions set forth below:

#### **12.3.1 Identification of a Non-Sponsor Manufacturer**

While present in the Competition area and during the prize-giving ceremonies names or logos identifying a non-sponsoring manufacturer of the clothing, equipment may appear only once per item of clothing or equipment and solely on a surface area not exceeding three square centimeters (3 cm<sup>2</sup>) (maximum on centimetres -1 cm- high, maximum three centimeters - 3 cm- wide) for clothing and equipment.

#### **12.3.2 Identification of Sponsors**

While present in the Competition area and during the prize-giving ceremonies the name and/or logo of the Athlete's sponsor(s), his team sponsor(s) and/or his NF's sponsor(s) may appear on a surface area not exceeding:

- two hundred square centimeters (200 cm<sup>2</sup>) on each side of saddle cloth;
- sixteen square centimeters (16 cm<sup>2</sup>) on both sides of the shirt collar and of the hunting stock or centrally in the middle part of the collar on the ladies' blouses;
- either two hundred square centimeters (200 cm<sup>2</sup>) on one arm of jackets or top garment or one hundred square centimeters (100 cm<sup>2</sup>) on each arm of jackets or top garment;
- one hundred twenty five square centimeters (125 cm<sup>2</sup>) (maximum twenty five centimeters - 25 cm- long, maximum five centimeters -5 cm- wide) vertically in the middle part of the hard hat;

Notwithstanding the above, OCs of FEI Championships may prohibit such names and logos in the schedule, with the exception of the names and logos of the team sponsors and/or of the NF sponsor(s) under the limitations as set forth in Article 135 of the General Regulations.

Notwithstanding the above, OCs of CIOs may prohibit such names and logos in the schedule for Nations Cup classes, with the exception of the names and logos of the team sponsors and/or of the NF sponsor(s) under the limitations as set forth in Article 135 of the General Regulations.

The OC may display the name and/or logo of a Competition and/or Event sponsor(s) on members of the OC crew present in the field of play and on numbers present on front and back of the bibs worn by Athletes, as well as on stable rugs during the prize-giving ceremonies at all FEI Events. The size of name and/or logo on Athlete's number shall not exceed 100 cm<sup>2</sup>.

### **12.3.3 Athlete's National identification**

While present in the Competition area and during the prize-giving ceremonies the name or logo of the Athlete's nation, its national symbol and/or its national flag, and/or the Athlete's NF logo or name may appear on a surface area not exceeding:

- two hundred square centimeters (200 cm<sup>2</sup>) on each side of saddle cloth;
- either two hundred square centimeters (200 cm<sup>2</sup>) on one arm of jackets or top garment or one hundred square centimeters (100 cm<sup>2</sup>) on each arm of jackets or top garment;
- vertically in the middle part of the protective head gear. National colours may appear on the entire surface of such protective headgear;
- eighty square centimeters (80 cm<sup>2</sup>) (maximum twenty centimeters -20 cm- long, maximum four centimeters -4 cm- wide) only once lengthwise on the left leg of the riding breeches;

In any case, the Athlete's national identification can be combined in the same surface area with the name and/or logo of the Athlete's sponsor(s), his team sponsor(s) and/or the NF's sponsor(s) as long as their presence and visibility are in compliance with the surface areas mentioned above.

### **12.3.4 Athlete's Name**

While present in the Competition area and during the prize-giving ceremonies the Athlete's name may appear on a surface area not exceeding:

- eighty square centimeters (80 cm<sup>2</sup>) (maximum twenty centimeters -20 cm- long, maximum four centimeters -4 cm- wide) only once lengthwise on the left leg of the riding breeches.

These rules do not apply during the holds in Vet Gates.

## **13. LEGAL PROCEDURE AND SANCTIONS**



### 13.1 The Legal Base

The following rule books and regulations describe the basic tasks, responsibilities and organisation of the FEI. Officials and the Chief Steward must be in possession of these rule books and know the rules which cover their responsibilities.

The Chief Steward should have the following:

- General Regulations (GRs)
- Veterinary Regulations (VRs)
- Rules for Endurance Events

It is of course impossible to know all the rules by heart. Therefore the first priority is to become familiar with the relevant articles, in order to understand how to proceed.

The First Principles are:

- ✓ HELP
- ✓ PREVENT
- ✓ INTERVENE

In accordance with the maxim that prevention is better than cure, the first principle of Officials is to ensure that everything is organised according to the rules.

Athletes for their part, have a duty to ensure that they observe the rules with regard to their horses and within relation to their own preparation for and participation in the event.

The legal system is fairly complex even for a professional lawyer. Therefore those concerned with applying it, while they must know what rule to look for and where to find it, ought not to try to learn the system by heart. When a difficulty arises, it is wise, even for the well-informed, to read the relevant articles carefully before tackling the problem.

If someone objects informally to a decision by an official, the official should inform him of the correct procedure and refer him to Articles 163 and 165 of the GRs. If the objector is not the appropriate person, this should be pointed out.

### 13.2 Some practical advice

The facts of a case, if not already agreed, must first be established. A decision must then be reached on the agreed or proven facts. Witnesses to prove alleged facts are of great importance.

If an objection (including an informal objection) is clearly correct, thank the objector, apologise and correct the mistake, however caution is needed on two points - think carefully before you change your decision: the official may have been right.

Except when making a quick decision, a quiet place should be found where the proceedings will not be overheard. A courtroom atmosphere should be avoided, but order must be maintained and interruptions discouraged. Each interested party must receive a fair hearing and be allowed to state their case regarding the facts and, where necessary, the law.

Members of the Ground Jury, other officials and stewards, who were in the vicinity of the incident, may be able to give relevant evidence. Where severe cruelty is alleged, see the horse as soon as possible and enlist the help of the FEI Veterinary Delegate. If the horse shows signs of having been ill-treated, point out any marks to the person accused.

Even if the act of cruelty has been seen by you, ask the accused person for his comments before reaching a decision.

If an incident has to be reported, do not forget the officials will need written statements from those involved and witnesses (impartial!). These papers must be signed and dated (with the time noted, if possible).

Finally while a lay person cannot expect to be a qualified legal expert, it is important to be fair and patient, to give each party an opportunity to state their own case and ask each question of the witnesses, to weigh the evidence (where it is disputed) and reach an impartial decision in a sporting spirit.

Who must have a good knowledge of the rules?

- The President of the Ground Jury
- The Foreign Judge/Technical Delegate
- The President of the Appeal Committee
- The Chief Steward
- The Veterinary Delegate/President of the Veterinary Commission

### **13.3 Protests (GR Art. 163)**

1. Protests may be lodged against any person or body involved in any capacity in an International Event or otherwise subject to the jurisdiction of the FEI including for failure to observe the Statutes, GRs or Sport Rules or violation of the common principles of behaviour, fairness, or accepted standards of sportsmanship, whether occurring during or in connection with an International Event or at any other time.
2. Protests may only be lodged by the FEI, Presidents of NFs, Officials, Chefs d'Equipe or, if there is no Chef d'Equipe, by a Person Responsible or a Team Veterinarian responsible for Horses taking part in the Event. Protests for abuse of Horses may be lodged by any person or body.
3. Unless otherwise specified, Protests must be lodged before the end of the period of jurisdiction of the body that has the competence to hear the relevant Protest. This is true even if the person or body lodging the Protest is not present at the Event. The relevant body does not have jurisdiction to hear the Protest prior to any required deposit being paid.
4. Protests in the following matters can only be lodged with the Ground Jury:
  - 4.1. Protests concerning the eligibility of an Athlete or Horse for a specific Event or concerning the conditions of the arena. Such Protests must be filed not later than thirty (30) minutes before the start of the relevant Competition;
  - 4.2. Protests concerning an obstacle, or the plan or length of the course for a Jumping Competition or the obstacle Phase of a Driving Competition. Such Protests must be filed no later than fifteen (15) minutes before the start of the Competition;
  - 4.3. Protests concerning the cross-country obstacles or courses in Eventing or marathon course or obstacles in Driving, or the course in Endurance. Such Protests must be filed no later than 18:00 on the day before the relevant Competition;
  - 4.4. Protests concerning irregularities or incidents during a Competition, or the results of a Competition. Such Protests must be filed no later than thirty (30) minutes after the announcement of the results of the relevant Competition.
  - 4.5 Protests challenging the procedures followed in the application or implementation of any FEI rule. Such Protests must be filed no later than thirty (30) minutes after the notification of the application or implementation of such rule.
  - 4.6 Lodging a Protest before the Ground Jury within the relevant time limit in matters listed in the previous paragraphs is a prerequisite to a right of Appeal to the Appeal Committee.

5. Protests for matters not listed in Article 163.4 must be lodged with the Appeal Committee or with the Ground Jury if there is no Appeal Committee.
6. Protests regarding matters which have not occurred during or in direct connection with an International Event and which were not known until after the end of the Event, shall be lodged with the FEI Tribunal through the Secretary General. Such Protests shall be filed no later than fourteen (14) days after the end of the relevant Event. A case shall be deemed to occur in direct connection with an Event if it occurs during the journey towards the Event or, after arrival, including during the period of quarantine, training or acclimatisation.
7. All Protests must be in writing, signed by an authorised person within the meaning of Article 163.2 and be accompanied, as the case may be, by any supporting evidence, including names of witnesses.
8. Protests to the Ground Jury and to the Appeal Committee shall be presented within the applicable time limit to the President of the Ground Jury or to the President of the Appeal Committee, as the case may be, together with the necessary deposit. Protests to the FEI Tribunal shall be sent within the applicable time limit to the FEI Tribunal together with proof of payment of the necessary deposit.
9. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, Protests may be lodged by the FEI, at its sole discretion, in the event that a conduct brings equestrian sport, and the FEI in particular, into disrepute and/or in the case of match fixing, betting, bribery and/or corruption without the payment of a deposit.
10. Any person lodging a Protest should, if possible, secure witnesses to the incident and any other form of evidence, and either bring them to the body before whom the Protest is lodged, or obtain written statements from them, duly signed, together with their names and addresses.
11. Before the FEI Tribunal, these requirements are set out specifically in the Internal Regulations of the FEI Tribunal.
12. The Foreign Judge, Technical Delegate, Veterinary Delegate and Foreign Veterinary Delegate must report to the Secretary General all acts or omissions constituting a Protest.
13. There is a statute of limitation on prosecution by the FEI, which is time-barred after:
  - (i) one (1) year for offences committed on the field of play or in its immediate vicinity;
  - (ii) five (5) years for all other offences;
  - (iii) ten (10) years for doping offences;Match-fixing, bribery and corruption shall not be subject to a statute of limitations

### **13.4 Appeals (GR Art. 165)**

1. An Appeal may be lodged by any person or body with a legitimate interest against any Decision made by any person or body authorised under the Statutes, GRs or Sport Rules, provided it is admissible (see paragraph 2 below):
  - 1.1. With the Appeal Committee (or with the FEI Tribunal if there is no Appeal Committee) against Decisions by the Ground Jury.
  - 1.2. With the FEI Tribunal against Decisions of the Appeal Committee or any other person or body.
  - 1.3. With the CAS against Decisions by the FEI Tribunal. The person or body lodging such
  - 1.4. Appeal shall inform the Secretary General and provide him with copies of the statement of Appeal.
2. An Appeal is not admissible:
  - 2.1. Against Decisions by the Ground Jury in cases covered by Article 159.6.1–4 (or in cases in relation to the arena, an obstacle or the course if there is no Appeal Committee);
  - 2.2. Against Decisions of the Appeal Committee on Appeals arising from Decisions made by the Ground Jury.
  - 2.3. If there is no Appeal Committee, against Decisions made by the FEI Tribunal on Appeals arising from Decisions made by the Ground Jury.
3. Appeals to the Appeal Committee must be in writing, signed and accompanied by supporting evidence in writing or by the presence of one or more witnesses and must be lodged no later than one (1) hour after the Decision of the Ground Jury.

4. If there is no Appeal Committee, Appeals to the FEI Tribunal must be in writing, signed and accompanied by supporting evidence in writing or by the presence of one or more witnesses and must reach the FEI Tribunal no later than fourteen (14) days after the end of the Event. So far as Competitions are concerned, the right of Appeal is limited to questions of the Eligibility of an Athlete or Horse and questions involving the interpretation of the Sport Rules.
5. Appeals to the FEI Tribunal must be dispatched to the Secretary General and signed by the appellant or his authorised agent and accompanied by supporting evidence in writing or by the presence of one or more witnesses at a designated hearing and must reach the FEI Tribunal within thirty (30) days of the date on which the Secretary General's notification of the earlier Decision was sent.
6. 6.1 Appeals to the CAS together with supporting documents must be dispatched to the CAS Secretariat pursuant to the Procedural Rules of the CAS Code of Sports-related Arbitration:  
6.2. So as to reach the CAS within thirty (21) days of the date on which the Secretary General's notification of the FEI Tribunal Decision was received by the National Federation of the Person Responsible;  
6.3 A copy of the statement of Appeal should be sent concurrently to the Secretary General.

### 13.5 Penalties

Please refer to Art. 169 of the General Regulations.

## 14. REPORT AND FOLLOW-UP

### a. Reports (GR Art. 164)

1. Officials are required to send reports to the FEI Secretary General (via the FEI Sport Director) at the conclusion of Events, in accordance with these GRs and the applicable Sport Rules. Matters giving rise to Protests, irregular incidents and Yellow Warning Cards must be included in such reports.
2. Failure to return a report(s) to the FEI shall be sanctioned by the FEI, first with a warning and then by a suspension until the outstanding report(s) has been provided to the FEI.

### b. After the Competition

The Chief Steward should complete the blank report form which they should have received from either the FEI or NF (Steward General) or downloaded from the FEI website and send it to the FEI as soon as possible after the event, with copy to the event's OC, NF, Regional Steward General and Steward General (and their own NF's Steward General if the event was held in another country). A copy of the report may be found under Annex I of this manual.

Communicate to the OC any points which need improving for the following year.

### c. FEI Checklist for Chief Stewards

#### i. Administration

- Do you have the names of the other Officials?
- Do you have an Information Leaflet for the athletes if applicable?
- Will the Information/Message Board give instructions in English or French and in the language of the host country? (General Map of Area, Time-Schedules, Important Telephone numbers, Starting Lists, Results, Attribution of Boxes).
- Are distinctive Stable Badges and Access Passes distributed?
- Are telephone lists available?
- Are letter boxes (pigeon holes) for Chefs d'Equipe installed if necessary?

- Is there a list of all horses entered available (Master-list)?
- Are ID Numbers ready to deliver to the grooms at the Arrival Examination if applicable?

## ii. Logistics

Is the following satisfactory:

- Accommodation for grooms (outside stables)?
- Accommodation for your Assistant Stewards?
- Meals for your Assistant Stewards?
- Is drinking water for the Stewards available?
- Are radios, walkie-talkies, or telephones provided for you and your Assistants?
- Is there a Steward's Office (near to the entrance/exit of the stables; fully equipped)?

## iii. Medical and Veterinary Services

- Are ambulances, a doctor and a veterinarian available during training?
- Is a treating Veterinarian available 24 hours/day?
- Are isolation boxes available?
- Is there a specific place (e.g. clinic, MCP-boxes ...) organised for Vet treatments; have the Vets been informed of the location?
- Are there two separate boxes prepared for MCP (in a quiet corner)?
- Is there a trained Steward in attendance for MCP?
- Are the MCP-facilities ready (office, freezer, table, chair ...)

## iv. Stables

- Is there a close cooperation with the stable manager?
- Are the trucks, lorries and vans outside the stables enclosure?
- Is the Stable Area properly fenced-off (Restricted Area)?
- Are the boxes sufficiently large and safe?
- Is there a list of stabled horses (Boxes numbered - Master-list)?
- Are the boxes labelled accordingly (Stable Information Card)?
- Well ventilated?
- 24 hour security organised?
- Is the 'Night Control in Stables' form (Annex VI) available?
- Are the water supply points and showers sufficient?
- Is the electricity working?
- Is a Horse Watch service for the night organised?
- Do the stables have enough fire-fighting equipment?
- Is a farrier readily available?
- Is the passageway sufficiently wide?
- Are the stables equipped with lights and are they working, do they provide enough light?
- Is the electric cabling out of the reach of horses?

## v. Horse Examinations and Inspections

- Was the Arrival (identification and examination) of horses organised with Stewards and the Veterinarian(s)?
- Are the ID-numbers (bridle numbers or markers) readily available?
- The site for the Horse Inspection:

- Is it flat?
- Is the ground firm?
- Is it a non slippery surface?
- Are there enough Stewards to help?
- Are starting-lists, table, passports, loudspeaker system, manure collector organised?
  - Is there enough room for the spectators?
  - Are spectators/owners kept away from the inspecting panel?

**vi. Training areas/tracks**

- Is there enough space?
- Is there an area for lunging if requested?
- Are sufficient Stewards available for the daily patrolling or the areas/tracks?
- Is the ground suitable?
- Is it similar to the competition ground?
- Are the Stewards briefed (according to schedules)?

**vii. Warming Up**

- Is there enough space?
- If the start is in the dark is there sufficient light available at the start?
- How is the competition flow being organised? Should the Stewards help? (if YES, are there still enough Stewards?)
- Is there contact between the GJ and the Chief Steward?

**viii. During the competition**

- Is a farrier readily available and is his telephone number easily available?
- Are all the check points sufficiently manned?
- Are there stewards present on any possible short cuts?
- Is the vet hold area going to be patrolled?
- Is there someone supervising an exits where horses may be removed from sight or the field of play?
- Are there suitable areas reserved for the Stewards, most especially in the case of adverse weather conditions?
- Horse Ambulance:
  - Is it functional?
  - Is it connected to a vehicle?
  - Is it easily accessible?
  - Where is the key?
  - Does it have proper equipment?
  - Screen?
  - Sled?
  - Halter and Lead Ropes?
  - Is the driver fully briefed on track access?
  - If something goes wrong, is there a plan?
  - Who is in charge?
  - Has there been a rehearsal?
  - Who will organise setting up the screen?
  - Human Ambulance and Doctor?