

FEI EVENTING RULES – MODIFICATION Art 548.1 EFFECTIVE 31 MARCH 2015

Dear National Federations,

Following the recommendation of the Eventing Committee, the Bureau approved on 30 March 2015 a modification to the Art 548.1 referring to the penalties for the activating a frangible device as well as a rewording of the explanatory note on the penalties for frangible devices.

The modification is made in the interest of Risk management programme, following meetings with Eventing Riders and 3/4 star Eventing Course designers who expressed concern that the current rules would restrict the use of frangible devices.

In accordance with Article 20.3 of the FEI Statutes the changes to the rules as approved by the Bureau and attached to this email for your attention will be implemented on the **31 March 2015**.

For reference the article in question contained within the FEI Statutes confirms:

***20.3** In an Emergency Situation, the Bureau may, by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of votes cast, pass Resolutions which are normally the prerogatives of the General Assembly. In such cases, the National Federations shall be notified promptly of these measures. If a majority of the National Federations eligible to vote, responding within thirty (30) days of the date of the notice, signifies its disapproval, the measure shall be rescinded if possible.*

We would thank you for your attention to this matter and please don't hesitate to contact the Director for Eventing for any clarification that may be needed.

In accordance with the FEI Bureau approval process, the updated FEI Eventing Rules 2015 can now be found on the [FEI website](#).

FEI Eventing Rules – Risk Management

Eventing Rules Article 548.1 Faults at Obstacles

Fault	Penalty
First refusal, run-out or circle	20 penalties
Second refusal, run-out or circle at the same obstacle	40 penalties
Third refusal, run-out or circle on XC Course	elimination
Fall of Athlete or Horse on Cross Country Course	elimination
Breaking-Activating a frangible obstacle /device	21 11 penalties ^{1*}
Dangerous Riding	25 penalties

^{1*} ~~Clarification~~ Explanatory note and procedure for the implementation of the penalty for "Activating a frangible obstacle/device":

~~21 penalties will automatically be given to~~ Each Athlete ~~breaking-activating~~ a frangible ~~obstacle~~/device will be awarded ~~21~~ 11 penalties ~~if whenever the mechanism activation occurs -was activated-~~ as expected (i.e. activation by significant pressure exerted by the

horse on the fence)- In the case of unexpected activation (i.e activation by an insignificant contact), the Ground Jury will be called to evaluate the possible removal of the penalty.

~~Only in case of clear failure of the mechanism, Ground Juries can remove the 21 penalties. In evaluating the possible removal of a the penalty for a clear failure of the mechanism when breaking a frangible obstacle/device, it is made clear that the Ground Juries are not called to investigate if the Horse would have fallen or not or if the contact was with the front or hind legs, or if the rider was riding dangerously or not, but simply if a clear mechanical failure has produced only if an unexpected activation of the mechanism occurred through a light tap similar to the behaviour of a show jumping fence. This is the only case where penalties can be eventually removed.~~

In line with the GRs (Art 159), there will be no Appeal against a decision of the Ground Jury arising from the field of play, where the Decision is based on factual observation of the performance during a Competition.

In this case a detailed report explaining the reasons for removing the penalty must be produced by the Course Designer/Technical Delegate and, signed by the President of the Ground Jury, must be returned to the FEI.

Eventing Rules Article 517 Minimum Eligibility (MER)

Add: **Note:** For 2015, 11 penalties at obstacles will be accepted as an MER. All rules documents will be updated as of 2016