



ENDURANCE

ENDURANCE RULES

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PREAMBLE

These Endurance Rules (including the Annexes, which form an integral part of these Endurance Rules) come into effect on 1 January 2024. The provisions in these Endurance Rules supersede all prior Endurance Rules issued by the FEI and apply to all international-level Endurance Events that take place on or after 1 January 2024.

Horsemanship and Horse welfare are the core of endurance riding. Endurance is a test of the Athlete's ability to manage the Horse safely over an Endurance course. It is designed to test the stamina and fitness of the Athlete and Horse against the track, distance, terrain, climate, and clock, without compromising the welfare of the Horse.

A key tenet of the sport is successful completion of an Endurance course, including all of the Phases of the course and all of the mandatory veterinary inspections. The qualification system to compete in FEI Events is based on (and rewards) successful completions, and so it is designed to promote horsemanship at all levels of the sport.

Defined terms used in these Endurance Rules (denoted by initial capital letters) have the meaning given to them in Annex 1, or (if not listed in Annex 1) have the meaning given to them in the FEI Statutes, FEI General Regulations, FEI Veterinary Regulations, or other applicable FEI Rules and Regulations. In addition, Annex 1 includes certain rules to be used in interpreting and applying these Endurance Rules. However, the most important rule is that these Endurance Rules are to be interpreted and applied in a manner that gives effect to the values and objectives set out in this Preamble and in accordance with the FEI General Regulations (i.e., not by reference to national or local laws, but rather as an independent and autonomous text).

FEI CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE WELFARE OF THE HORSE

The FEI requires all those involved in international equestrian sport to adhere to the FEI Code of Conduct and to acknowledge and accept that at all times the welfare of the Horse must be paramount. The welfare of the Horse must never be subordinated to competitive or commercial or other interests. The following points must be particularly adhered to:

1. **General Welfare:**

a) Good Horse management

Stabling and feeding must be compatible with the best Horse management practices. Clean and good quality hay, feed and water must always be available.

b) Training methods

Horses must only undergo training that matches their physical capabilities and level of maturity for their respective disciplines. They must not be subjected to methods that are abusive or cause fear.

c) Farriery and tack

Foot care and shoeing must be of a high standard. Tack must be designed and fitted to avoid the risk of pain or injury.

d) Transport

During transportation, Horses must be fully protected against injuries and other health risks. Vehicles must be safe, well ventilated, maintained to a high standard, disinfected regularly, and driven by competent personnel. Competent handlers must always be available to manage the Horses.

e) Transit

All journeys must be planned carefully, and Horses allowed regular rest periods with access to food and water in line with current FEI guidelines.

2. **Fitness to compete:**

a) Fitness and competence

Participation in Competition must be restricted to fit Horses and Athletes of proven competence. Horses must be allowed suitable rest periods between training and Competitions; additional rest periods should be allowed following travelling.

b) Health status

No Horse deemed unfit to compete may compete or continue to compete, Veterinary advice must be sought whenever there is any doubt.

c) Doping and medication

Any doping or illicit use of medication constitutes a serious welfare issue and will not be tolerated. After any Veterinary treatment, sufficient time must be allowed for full recovery before Competition.

d) Surgical procedures

Any surgical procedures that threaten a Horse's welfare or the safety of other Horses and/or Athletes must not be allowed.

e) Pregnant/recently foaled mares

Mares may not compete when more than four months pregnant or with foal at foot.

f) Misuse of aids

Abuse of a Horse using natural riding aids or artificial aids (e.g., whips, spurs, etc.) will not be tolerated.

3. Events must not prejudice Horse welfare:

a) Competition areas

Horses must be trained and compete on suitable and safe surfaces. All obstacles and Competition conditions must be designed with the safety of the Horse in mind.

b) Ground surfaces

All ground surfaces on which Horses walk, train and/or compete must be designed and maintained to reduce factors that could lead to injury.

c) Extreme weather

Competitions must not take place in extreme weather conditions that may compromise Horse welfare or safety. Provision must be made for cooling conditions and cooling equipment for Horses after competing.

d) Stabling at Events

Stables must be safe, hygienic, comfortable, well ventilated and of sufficient size for the type and disposition of the Horse. Washing-down areas and water must always be available.

4. Humane treatment of Horses:

a) Veterinary treatment

Veterinary expertise must always be available at an Event. If a Horse is injured or exhausted during a Competition, the Athlete must stop competing and a Veterinary evaluation must be performed.

b) Referral centres

Wherever necessary, Horses should be collected by ambulance and transported to the nearest relevant treatment centre for further assessment and therapy. Injured Horses must be given full supportive treatment before being transported.

c) Competition injuries

The incidence of injuries sustained in Competition must be monitored in accordance with the requirements of the relevant Discipline. Ground surface conditions, frequency of Competitions, and any other risk factors should be examined carefully to indicate ways to minimise injuries.

d) Euthanasia

If injuries are sufficiently severe a Horse may need to be euthanized on humane grounds by a Veterinarian as soon as possible, with the sole aim of minimising suffering.

e) Retirement

Horses must be treated sympathetically and humanely when they retire from Competition.

5. **Education:**

The FEI urges all those involved in equestrian sport to attain the highest possible levels of education in areas of expertise relevant to the care and management of the Competition Horse.

This Code of Conduct for the welfare of the Horse may be modified from time to time and the views of all are welcomed. Particular attention will be paid to new research findings. The FEI encourages further funding and support for welfare studies.

CHAPTER I: GENERAL

800. RULES AND REGULATIONS APPLICABLE TO INTERNATIONAL-LEVEL ENDURANCE EVENTS

800.1 All international-level Endurance events, including CEIs, CEIOs, and Championships (**Events**), are governed by and must be organised in accordance with the following rules (each as amended from time to time): these Endurance Rules, the FEI Statutes, FEI General Regulations, FEI Veterinary Regulations, FEI Code of Conduct for the welfare of the Horse, FEI Equine Anti-Doping and Controlled Medication Regulations, FEI Anti-Doping Rules for Human Athletes, and any other rules, policies or documents issued by the FEI from time to time that apply according to their terms to international-level Endurance Events (collectively, the **FEI Rules and Regulations**).

800.2 By registering with the FEI, submitting an entry for an Event, and/or participating in any capacity in an Event, Athletes, Trainers, Owners, Crew Members, Support Personnel, teams, Chefs d'Equipe, National Federations, and other persons participating in the Event are deemed to have undertaken to comply with the FEI Rules and Regulations, not only during the Event itself but also in the course of preparing for the Event, and will be liable for the consequences set out in the FEI Rules and Regulations in the event of any breach.

800.3 In addition to complying with the FEI Rules and Regulations, Endurance Events held as part of Regional Games (and participants taking part in those Events) must comply with the requirements laid down by the relevant IOC-affiliated Regional Games Association.

800.4 Without prejudice to the generality of Article 800.2, these Endurance Rules recognise in particular two distinct roles associated with the preparation and participation of Horses in Events:

800.4.1 The **Trainer** is the person who is responsible for preparing the Horse both physically and mentally for competition (which includes determining the appropriate exercise programme, nutrition, and veterinary care for the Horse).

800.4.2 The **Athlete** (who may also be the Trainer) is the person who rides the Horse in a Competition.

800.5 It is the personal and non-delegable responsibility of each person participating in any capacity in an Event, including each Athlete and each Trainer, to familiarise themselves with all of the requirements of the FEI Rules and Regulations, including any amendments that may be made from time to time. Each Athlete and each Trainer must also ensure that each of their Support Personnel (including Crew Members) and any other person from whom the Athlete obtains advice or support familiarises themselves with such requirements. Ignorance of those requirements will not be a defence in the event of any breach.

801. HORSE WELFARE

801.1 Horse welfare is the first priority in Endurance: everything possible must be done to protect Horse health, safety and welfare at all times. This guiding principle is the most important responsibility of all persons participating in Events, including Athletes, Trainers, Owners, Crew Members, Support Personnel, teams, Chefs

d'Equipe, and Officials. Anyone participating in any capacity in any Event is required to comply strictly with both the letter and spirit of Article 801 and the FEI Code of Conduct for the welfare of the Horse, including without limitation in preparation for the Event (by implementing good training practices), during the Event (by exercising good horsemanship and safely managing the Horse over the course), and following the Event (by ensuring the Horse receives appropriate rest from Competition in accordance with these Endurance Rules), and by at all times ensuring proper care for the Horse.

801.2 In addition to Article 801.1:

801.2.1 The Athlete and the Trainer must have knowledge of the efficient and safe use of the Horse, and must take care at all times of both human and equine safety.

801.2.2 The Athlete is responsible for exercising good horsemanship and safely managing the condition of their Horse over the course, taking account of the climate, terrain, ground surfaces, and other conditions of the course, without compromising the welfare of their Horse.

801.2.3 The Athlete and Trainer may not enter or keep a Horse in a Competition if the Horse is suffering from an illness or injury or is receiving medication that would adversely affect or enhance its ability to compete.

801.2.4 By entering the Competition, the Owner of the Horse consents to veterinary treatment that, in the opinion of the Treating Veterinarian(s), is required to ensure the welfare of the Horse, and to the transport of the Horse to the designated referral facility for further assessment, care, or monitoring, should that be deemed necessary. If the Horse then leaves the venue without agreement of the President of the Veterinary Commission, President of the Treating Veterinary Commission, and Foreign Veterinary Delegate removal of Competition consequences will apply (Articles 801.3.2 and 810.1).

801.3 The FEI has zero tolerance for any cruelty towards or Abuse of a Horse:

801.3.1 Failure to comply with Article 801 and/or the FEI Code of Conduct for the welfare of the Horse may be considered Horse Abuse.

801.3.2 Any act or omission at an Event that amounts, in the opinion of the Ground Jury, to cruelty towards or Abuse of a Horse shall result in a Yellow Warning Card and Disqualification and may also be subject to the additional sanctions set out in the FEI General Regulations.

801.3.3 Any cruelty towards or Abuse of a Horse that takes place away from an Event will be subject to the sanctions set out in the FEI General Regulations.

801.4 Reporting requirements:

801.4.1 Any person who witnesses Horse Abuse must report it to the FEI in accordance with the FEI General Regulations. Such reports must

whenever possible include the signatures and addresses of the persons who witnessed the abuse.

- 801.4.2 Any Horse Abuse must be reported without delay, but there is no time limit for reporting any such abuse. If the abuse occurs during an Event, the report must be made without delay to (i) the Ground Jury and/or the Secretary of the OC, and (ii) FEI Headquarters.
- 801.4.3 Any cruelty towards or Abuse of a Horse that takes place away from an Event must be reported to FEI Headquarters.
- 801.4.4 A failure to report cruelty towards or Abuse of a Horse is itself subject to sanction as a breach of the FEI Rules and Regulations.

CHAPTER II: THE COMPETITION

802. CATEGORIES OF FEI ENDURANCE EVENTS

802.1 International-level Endurance Events are set out in the FEI Calendar and are divided into:

802.1.1 Concours de Raid d'Endurance International (**CEI**);

802.1.2 Concours de Raid d'Endurance International Officiel (**CEIO**);

802.1.3 Championships (and test events for those Championships) and Games; and

802.1.4 Combined National/FEI events (**CEN/CEI**).

802.2 **CEIs:**

802.2.1 CEIs have only an official individual classification. Unlike CEIOs, they do not have an official team classification. An OC may at its discretion permit Athletes to compete at a CEI in a team of three to five Athletes, not necessarily of the same nationality (details to be indicated in the approved Competition Schedule), but it will not be considered an Official Team Competition. Each member of the team will be considered an individual Athlete for official classification purposes. The number of teams that may be accepted is at the discretion of the OC.

802.2.2 CEIs may be held in conjunction with wider national or FEI-approved series or programmes, subject to the approval of the FEI, in consultation with the FEI Endurance Technical Committee.

802.3 **CEIOs:**

802.3.1 CEIOs have an official individual classification and an official team classification.

802.3.2 Each nation may enter only one team in the team Competition. A minimum of three teams is necessary for the team Competition to be considered an Official Team Competition. Each team must have a minimum of three Combinations and a maximum of five Combinations.

802.4 **Championships and Games:**

802.4.1 Championships (and Games) have an official individual classification and an official team classification. Article 802.3.2 also applies to Official Team Competitions at Championships (and Games).

802.4.2 Championships include:

(a) 1* Championships of a minimum of 100 km and a maximum of 119km in one day.

(b) 2* Young Horse Championships with a minimum of 120 km and a maximum of 130 km in one day;

- (c) 2* Junior and Young Rider Championships of a minimum of 120 km and maximum of 130 km in one day;
- (d) 2* Senior Championships of a minimum of 120 km and maximum of 139 km in one day; and
- (e) 3* Senior Championships of 160 km in one day.

802.4.3 Championships at the Senior or Junior/Young Rider level may be organised on a regional, continental or world level, or as Games. Further details are set out in the FEI General Regulations.

802.5 **Test event for Championships:**

802.5.1 To ensure the smooth running of a Championship, the FEI Endurance Technical Committee will require (for 3* Championships) and may require (for all other Championships) the organiser of a Championship to host a test event around 12 months prior to the Championship (to ensure the test event takes place around the same time of year and with similar weather conditions as the Championship), which test event must have:

- (a) the same (or similar) distance, course, and panel of Officials as the Championship; and
- (b) the same provider for timing, data handling, and heart rate monitoring.

802.5.2 The FEI Endurance Technical Committee will decide whether or not the test event meets the above criteria. There shall be no appeal against that decision.

802.5.3 Any changes to the arrangements for the Championship under Article 802.5.1 made after the test event takes place are subject to the approval of the FEI Endurance Technical Committee and FEI Endurance Department, and may also be subject to the approval of FEI Headquarters.

802.5.4 If the OC does not organise a test event, or organises a test event that does not comply with the above requirements or the requirements set out in the applicable host agreement, the FEI may withdraw the allocation of the Championship from the OC.

802.6 **Combined National and FEI events:**

802.6.1 At the request of the National Federation concerned, the FEI may approve an FEI Event being combined with a National Event. If approved, CEI Combinations must be given priority over national-level Combinations for entries to such combined events.

802.6.2 The national and FEI Competitions may start at the same time where so requested by the OC, subject to the approval of the Technical Delegate and the President of the Ground Jury, subject to the maximum number of starters permitted under Article 847, and provided that the welfare of the Horses and the safety of the Athletes will not be compromised.

802.6.3 At any combined National and FEI event, national-level Combinations may not provide any form of assistance (in terms of pacing or otherwise) to FEI-level Combinations that might provide the FEI-level Combination with any unfair advantage. Breach of this Article will result in Disqualification of both Combinations.

803. STAR LEVEL OF EVENTS

803.1 CEIs, CEIOs and Championships are divided into three star levels (3* being the highest level):

803.1.1 **1***: Competitions between 100-119 km in one day.

803.1.2 **2***: Competitions between 120-139 km in one day, or between 70-89 km per day over two days with a minimum of two loops per day.

803.1.2.1 A CEI2* will be categorised as a CIM provided that it meets all of the following criteria:

- The distance is between 120 – 126km;
- The prize money is less than CHF 20,000 (including the value of prizes in kind);
- The number of entries is below 100.

Penalties can be imposed where an OC/NF runs an Event as a CIM if it later emerges that the above referenced criteria were not complied with (for example if the prize money limit was exceeded).

2* Championships are not considered as CIMs regardless of the distance or the prize money.

803.1.3 **3***: Competitions between 140-160 km in one day, or 90-100 km per day over two days, or 70-80 km per day over three days or more.

803.2 Unless specified otherwise, the requirements that apply to CEI star levels apply to CEIOs of the same star level.

803.3 The FEI will determine, in consultation with the FEI Endurance Technical Committee, the OC and relevant National Federations, what CEI star level requirements apply to any Event not covered under Article 803.1.

803.4 The FEI may create special categories of events for emerging programmes in developing nations or regions or for the purposes of research into potential changes to these Endurance Rules. The FEI may apply such CEI star level requirements to those events (including for Officials and eligibility to participate) as it considers appropriate regardless of the length of the course at the event. In such cases, the FEI will request ongoing input from National Federations and Technical Committees.

804. COMPETITION SCHEDULE

804.1 Competition Schedules must be approved by the FEI in accordance with the FEI General Regulations. The FEI will publish the Competition Schedule once approved.

- 804.2 The Competition Schedule must include (at a minimum): (i) the category of the Event, (ii) closing date for entries, (iii) entry fees, (iv) minimum weight requirements, (v) the total length of the course, and the length and number of Loops on the course, (vi) outline of the course (including any changes in altitude), (vii) number and location of crew points and horse drinking water points, (viii) speed restrictions (if applicable), (ix) time limits (in total and for each Phase, as applicable), (x) place and time of the start, (xi) rules for starting, (xii) method used to mark the course, (xiii) procedures at Vet Gates, (xiv) Hold Times, (xv) method of classification, and (xvi) prizes.
- 804.3 The Competition Schedule should also set out administrative information relevant to participants (e.g., transport facilities, accommodation for Athletes and Crew Members, stabling, forage, etc).

805. MINIMUM WEIGHTS

- 805.1 Athletes must comply with the following minimum weight requirements, which include all riding equipment except for the bridle:

Event	Minimum weight
Young Rider/Junior	
Young Rider/Junior Competitions and Championships	60 kg
Senior	
CEI 1* and CEI 2* / CEIO 1* and CEIO 2*	70 kg
CEI 3* / CEIO3*	75 kg
Championships	75 kg

- 805.2 If Juniors or Young Riders participate in Competitions for Seniors, they must comply with the minimum weight requirements applicable to Seniors for such Competitions.
- 805.3 Compliance with minimum weight requirements:
- 805.3.1 OCs must provide a reliable weighing machine with recalibration capability at the Event.
- 805.3.2 The Athlete must maintain the minimum riding weight at all times during the Competition while completing Loops of the course (including while riding or leading the Horse on the course).
- 805.3.3 Weight control must be carried out before the start of the Competition and (if so requested by an FEI Official) after the finish. Weight control inspections may also take place at random at any time during the Competition on request by an FEI Official.

805.3.4 Subject to Article 805.3.5 below, if an Athlete fails to comply with the minimum weight requirements or to submit to a weight control, the Athlete will be Disqualified for Underweight.

805.3.5 If an Athlete is weighed during a Competition and is under the minimum weight by less than 1kg, the Athlete will be permitted to continue. If during the same Competition the Athlete is weighed again and is under the minimum weight (by any amount), the Combination will be Disqualified.

806. ONE HORSE PER ATHLETE IN COMPETITION

No Athlete may compete with more than one Horse in any Competition.

807. METHOD OF STARTING

807.1 Subject to Article 807.2, the first day of a Competition (for multi-day Competitions), or the day of a Competition (for single-day Competitions), must have a mass start. Horses may not cross the starting line before the signal is given.

807.2 Staggered starts may be used for single day CEI 1* if there are at least 50 starting Combinations, provided that the interval between the first and last Combination to start does not exceed one hour.

807.3 In multi-day Competitions, a mass start or staggered start may be used on any day(s) subsequent to the first day. If a staggered start is used, Combinations must start the following day with the same time interval difference as was recorded at the finish of the day before. This will continue for a period of time (e.g., one hour) to be set at the discretion of the President of the Ground Jury and the Technical Delegate in consultation with the OC. Those remaining after that period will start together.

807.4 If a Combination makes a false start (i.e., crosses the start line of the first Loop before the start signal is given or crosses the start line of subsequent Loops before the Hold Time has been completed), the Combination must return and re-cross the start line. Failure to do so will result in Disqualification. The Combination's start time will continue to run from when the original start signal was given.

807.5 The start time of any Combination that does not present on time for the start of the Competition is recorded as if it had started on time. No Combination may start later than 15 minutes after the official start time of each Phase. Failure to comply with this provision will result in Disqualification.

808. TIME-KEEPING AND RECORD-KEEPING

808.1 Time is counted from the start signal until the Combination crosses the finish line. The OC must ensure that properly qualified persons (using synchronised time-keeping methods) accurately calculate and record the start and finish times and the speeds of each Combination for each Loop and Phase.

808.2 Where Stewards and/or timekeepers are responsible for time-keeping, they must record the times of each Combination at the start and finish of each timed Loop and Phase.

808.3 Each Combination will be issued a time card or acceptable and reliable alternative after each Phase.

808.4 When the primary time-keeping systems used are electronic (which is recommended for CEI 3*, CEIOs, and Championships), OCs must arrange for alternative power sources and a back-up system for time-keeping and record-keeping to be used if all power sources fail.

809. CLASSIFICATION

809.1 **Horse Inspections:** Only Combinations in which the Horse has passed all the Horse Inspections at all stages of the Competition are entitled to be included in the final classification.

809.2 **Individual classification:** Regardless of the order and rules for starting, each Athlete must carry out the entire Competition as if competing alone against the clock, taking account of the track, distance, terrain, and climate, and without compromising the welfare of the Horse. The Combination that finishes the course in the shortest time, while respecting all course requirements (including any applicable speed restrictions and minimum weight requirements), and passing all Horse Inspections, medication controls, and any other protocols in place for the safety of the Horse and Athlete under the FEI Rules and Regulations, will be classified as the winner of the Competition.

809.3 Team classification:

809.3.1 If a National Federation starts three or more Combinations, the Combinations will be eligible for team and individual classification and placing/awards. The winner of the team competition is the team with the best time after adding the final classification of the three highest placed Combinations in the team. If there is a tie for best time, the winner will be the team whose third Combination has the best time.

809.3.2 If a National Federation starts fewer than three Combinations, or fewer than three Combinations in a team are classified, that team may not be placed as a classified team, even if that leaves medal or award places vacant. The classified Combinations will be eligible only for individual classification and placing/awards.

809.3.3 In the World Equestrian Games, the teams in the Endurance Event will be classified as set out in this Article 809.3.

809.3.4 If any Combination whose result counted towards team classification is subsequently Disqualified, that Combination's result will be removed from the team result and replaced with the result of the next applicable team member (if any). This will not affect the individual classification of the other Combinations in that team.

809.4 **Dead heat:** When two or more Combinations start the Competition at the same time and finish with the same total elapsed riding time, the Ground Jury (assisted by the Stewards) must determine which Combination crossed the finish line first (whether based on plain sight or photo/video evidence) and that Combination will be classified ahead of the other Combination. Such determination must be based on the tip of the nose of the Horse that crosses the finish line first. There may not be any ties.

809.5 Failure to Qualify, Disqualification, withdrawal and retirement:

- 809.5.1 **Failure to Qualify** for the next Phase or for final classification occurs when a Combination is removed from the Competition for failure to pass a Horse Inspection, complete the full course as required, comply with applicable speed restrictions, and/or meet all time requirements for completion, or as a result of such other 'FTQ' designations as specified in Annex 3 (elimination codes).
- 809.5.2 **Disqualification** occurs when a Combination is removed from a Competition and/or Event (or its results are subsequently disqualified after the Competition and/or Event) for a violation of these Endurance Rules or other FEI Rules and Regulations or the Competition Schedule.
- 809.5.3 **Withdrawal** occurs when an Athlete withdraws their Horse from the Competition (without otherwise being removed from the Competition) at or prior to the First (Pre-Ride) Inspection.
- 809.5.4 **Retirement** occurs when an Athlete decides (without otherwise being removed from the Competition) not to continue in the Competition after their Horse passes the First (Pre-Ride) Inspection, provided that this happens (i) before the Combination crosses the start line, or (ii) at the end of a Phase provided that the Combination has successfully completed that and any previous Phases and passes all Horse Inspections after each of those Phases, including any compulsory re-inspection or vet-requested re-inspection (the Horse must be considered fit to continue in the Competition at each of those inspections). Should an Athlete wish to retire their Horse at the end of a Phase, the Horse must be presented to the Vetting Area and pass all required Inspections. The maximum time a Horse has for Retirement after completing a Phase is its hold time plus 15 minutes as per Article 807.5.

810. REMOVAL FROM COMPETITION

- 810.1 All Horses removed (voluntarily or otherwise) from Competition must be presented for Horse Inspection either to the FEI Veterinary Commission or the FEI Treatment Veterinary Panel immediately after removal, unless the President of the Veterinary Commission, President of the Treating Veterinary Commission, and Foreign Veterinary Delegate permit the Horse's immediate transfer from the Field of Play to a pre-authorized treatment centre and the Horse's veterinary records are updated accordingly. Failure to comply with this Article will result in the issue of a Yellow Warning Card to the Athlete and Trainer, Disqualification of the Combination for Horse Not Presented, imposition of a 60-day Mandatory Out of Competition Period for the Horse, and the penalty points set out in Article 864.
- 810.2 A Combination that is Disqualified or designated as Failed to Qualify for any reason must leave the course immediately and may not continue along the course unless there is no viable alternative (which must be agreed by a member of the Ground Jury or, if not available, a Steward).

811. PRE-RIDE BRIEFING

- 811.1 For all CEIs, a pre-ride briefing must be conducted. Attendance is mandatory for all Athletes, Trainers, Chefs d'Equipe (if applicable), Officials, and Veterinarians. Attendance is recommended but not required for Crew Members.
- 811.2 For Championships (and test events for those Championships), the pre-ride briefing must be conducted in English. There are no mandatory language requirements for the pre-ride briefing at CEIs.

812. VETERINARY CONTROL AND TREATMENT

Provisions on veterinary control and treatment during Competition are set out at Annex 5 and in the FEI Veterinary Regulations.

CHAPTER III: THE COURSE/FIELD OF PLAY

813. FIELD OF PLAY

813.1 The **Field of Play** includes all areas where the Competition and related veterinary inspections take place, including the:

813.1.1 **Course** (divided into Loops and Phases, as detailed in the Competition Schedule and the plan of the course, see Articles 814, 815, and 817-820);

813.1.2 **Crew points** (the designated areas with an identifiable 'start' and 'end' point on the course where the Crew Members may assist their Combination, as specified in the Competition Schedule, see Article 822.4.1);

813.1.3 **Vet Gate** (the designated area where Combinations have to stop after each Loop for Horse Inspections and mandatory rest periods, which includes the following areas):

(a) **Recovery area** (the area after the end of each Loop where the Horses can recover before entering the Vetting Area for Horse Inspection, see Article 816);

(b) **Vetting Area** (the area where Horses must undergo Horse Inspections after each Loop, see Article 816.3); and

(c) **Hold area** (the area where Horses can rest following Horse Inspections in the Vetting Area to complete the required Hold Time, see Articles 816.8 and 816.10).

813.1.4 **Training tracks/loops** (the area where Horses train before the start of the Competition which must be prepared to eliminate any dangerous obstacles, must be well marked and must be monitored by the OC or Stewards).

813.2 Access to the Field of Play:

813.2.1 Access to the Field of Play may be restricted as set out in these Endurance Rules, the FEI Veterinary Regulations, other applicable FEI Rules and Regulations, the Competition Schedule, or as announced by the Ground Jury.

813.2.2 Subject to Articles 816.4 (further restrictions for the Vetting Area) and 813.2.1, the maximum number of Crew Members allowed on the Field of Play is four per Horse.

813.3 Required identification on the Field of Play:

813.3.1 At all times on the Field of Play, the Athlete and Horse in a Combination, and the Crew Members assisting that Combination, must be identified with the same number which must be clearly visible from a distance.

813.3.2 Any person entering the Vetting Area must be clearly and officially identified by the OC (e.g., with a bib). Such person must wear the

official identification at all times in the Vetting Area. Any person accompanying a Horse in the Vetting Area must wear the number that corresponds to that Horse.

- 813.3.3 At Championships, Chefs d'Equipe, Team Veterinarians and Team Farriers must be clearly identified by the OC (e.g., with a bib). The Chefs d'Equipe and Team Veterinarians must wear the official identification at all times on the Field of Play.
- 813.3.4 If a person fails to wear the required identification on the Field of Play, they may be removed from the Field of Play, in addition to any other applicable sanctions. If a person assists an Athlete and/or Horse without wearing proper identification or the correct corresponding number, such assistance will be considered prohibited assistance under Article 822.5.
- 813.4 **Classes of Combinations:** The OC may distinguish different classes of Combinations on the Field of Play in a clear, visible and consistent manner, such as by using coloured bibs, arm bands, wrist bands, ribbons or a designated series of numbers.
- 813.5 **Horses must remain in clear view:** At all times on the Field of Play, Horses must be capable of being clearly observed by FEI Veterinary Officials, Ground Jury and/or Stewards. No screens, equipment or barrier of any kind (including a human barrier) may be used to obscure any part of the Horse and/or prevent such observation. Horses may not be put in lorries or trailers to while they are competing. Failure to comply with this Article may result in Disqualification and/or a Yellow Warning Card.
- 813.6 **Removal from the Field of Play:** If a Horse is removed from the Field of Play without following the proper procedures (including as set out in Article 810), the penalties in Article 864 will apply.

814. LOOPS

- 814.1 The total length of the course must be divided into a number of sections (**Loops**).
- 814.2 Loop time is calculated from the time the Combination crosses the start line of a Loop until it reaches the end line of that Loop. Loop time does not include any recovery time or time spent in the Vetting Area.
- 814.3 Loop speed is the average speed of the Combination over a Loop, calculated by dividing the length of the Loop by the time taken by the Combination to complete the Loop.
- 814.4 Requirements for Loops:
- 814.4.1 Subject to this Article 814.4 and Article 818.3, the OC will determine the length of each Loop and the number of Loops of the Competition, and must include this information in the Official Schedule.
- 814.4.2 The length of each Loop may vary (i.e., Loops do not have to be of an equal length). Each Loop must be a minimum of 20 km and a maximum of 40 km in length.

- 814.4.3 A Competition may be spread over one or more days, but each day of a multiday Competition must be divided into at least two Loops for a 2* multiday and three Loops for a 3* multiday Competition.
- 814.4.4 Subject to Article 814.4.3, each Competition must have the following minimum number of Loops, depending on the total length of the course for that Competition:

Length of course	Minimum number of Loops
100-119 km	Three
120-139 km	Four
140-160 km CEI 3*	Five
160 km 3* Championship	Six

- 814.4.5 Loops must not be specially designed or constructed for speeds that increase the risk of injury for the Horses. The Technical Delegate will make the final decision on this issue.
- 814.4.6 The more demanding part(s) of the course should be earlier in the ride.
- 814.4.7 The OC must ensure that there is access to water for the Horses on the course at least every 10 km.

815. PHASES

A **Phase** (or Phase time) includes the Combination's Loop time plus the Horse's recovery time after that Loop (see Article 816), except that the final Phase does not include any recovery time after the final Loop.

816. VET GATES

Recovery Area

- 816.1 Following each Loop, there must be a safe area where the Horses can recover (including to lower their heart rates to the necessary parameters) before entering the Vetting Area for Horse Inspection.
- 816.2 The time the Horse spends in the recovery area after crossing the end line of a Loop until it crosses the line into the Vetting Area to be presented for its Horse Inspection is referred to as its 'recovery time'. If the Horse's heart rate exceeds the maximum heart rate parameters, the initial time recorded on entering the Vetting Area is discarded. If the Horse is presented a second time for a heart rate re-inspection, the time is stopped again when the Horse crosses the line into the Vetting Area for the second time, and it is the second time that it crossed the line into the Vetting Area that is recorded as the recovery time.

Vetting Area

816.3 Horses must undergo Horse Inspections after the end of each Loop. There must be a safe area with restricted access for this purpose that is separate from the recovery and hold areas (the **Vetting Area**).

816.4 **Access to the Vetting Area:** Subject to any further restrictions set out in the Competition Schedule or specified by the Ground Jury, no more than two people (of which one is preferably the Athlete) may accompany a Horse in the Vetting Area. In addition, at Championships and CEIOs, the Team Veterinarian and/or Chef d'Equipe may access the Vetting Area during the Competition provided that they report their presence to the President of the Ground Jury and only if a Horse of their country is being presented. Any persons entering the Vetting Area must be properly identified in accordance with Article 813.3.

816.5 **Horse Inspections:**

816.5.1 A Horse Inspection will include an assessment of the Horse's fitness to continue in the Competition based on its heart rate recovery, metabolic status, gait and general condition. Save where specified otherwise in these Endurance Rules, all of the assessments of a Horse in a Horse Inspection must be performed by the same Veterinarian.

816.5.2 The Organising Committee must indicate in the Draft Schedule that is submitted to the FEI whether a one or two-phase veterinary inspection will be performed at the Competition. The OC must confirm in the Schedule the number of Heart Rate Assessment Veterinarians that will be present should a two-phase veterinary inspection be chosen. Where in the opinion of the President of the Ground Jury, in consultation with the Veterinary Commission, the type of veterinary inspection selected by the Organising Committee is not appropriate or would cause logistical issues, or that the number of Heart Rate Assessment Veterinarians is not sufficient, the President of the Ground Jury can decide to change the type of veterinary inspection initially selected by the Organising Committee (from one phase to two-phase, or vice versa). Any such change must be made prior to the start of the Competition and must be communicated at the pre-ride briefing.

(a) One phase veterinary inspection

When the Horse enters the Vetting Area, it must be taken directly from the Vetting Area entrance to a designated Veterinarian in the vet lane (as instructed by the Officials) showing constant forward motion. The inspection decorum in the Vetting Area must be respected at all times (see paragraph 10 of Annex 5).

(b) Two-phase veterinary inspection

When the Horse enters the Vetting Area, it must be taken directly from the Vetting Area entrance (as instructed by the Officials) to the designated Veterinarian in the vet lane showing constant forward motion. Should all the vetting lanes be occupied, the Horse will be assessed by a designated Heart Rate Assessment Veterinarian (who must be a member of the Veterinary Commission). If there is a

sufficient number of Heart Rate Assessment Veterinarians present, all Horses can present first to them and then proceed to the Veterinarian in the lane. The inspection decorum in the Vetting Area must be respected at all times (see paragraph 10 of Annex 5).

- (i) The Heart Rate Assessment Veterinarian will take the Horse's Heart Rate according to the protocol outlined in Annex 5, paragraph 9.3 (Heart rate assessment procedure).
- (ii) If the Horse meets the maximum heart rate parameters, it will then pass to the designated Veterinarian in the vet lane as instructed by the Officials showing constant forward motion in order to complete a full Veterinary Inspection including the CRI.
- (iii) The designated Veterinarian in the vet lane will carry out a full Veterinary Inspection including a CRI with the HR measurement recorded by the Heart Rate Assessment Veterinarian. To clarify, only the first heart rate measurement taken by the Heart Rate Assessment Veterinarian is considered.
- (iv) For the final inspection, the Horse must proceed to the designated Veterinarian in the vet lane.

816.5.3 Horses may also be required to undergo a re-inspection before leaving the Vet Gate for the next Loop (see paragraph 8 of Annex 5).

816.6 **Heart rate assessment:** The first assessment to be performed as part of a Horse Inspection is the heart rate assessment. Further detail on the procedure for heart rate assessments is set out in paragraph 9.3 of Annex 5.

816.6.1 For all Events (regardless of star level), Horses must be presented for a heart rate assessment with a heart rate of no more than:

- (a) 64 beats per minute (bpm) within 15 minutes of crossing the end line of each Loop (except the final Loop); and
- (b) 64 bpm within 20 minutes of crossing the finish line of the final Loop.

816.6.2 The presentation time limits in Article 816.6.1 start to count down from the time the Combination crosses the end line of a Loop and stops when the Horse crosses the line into the Vetting Area to be presented for its Horse Inspection (if the Horse is required to undergo a heart rate re-inspection, the presentation time limit will continue to count down from when the Horse fails the first heart rate inspection). If the Veterinarians responsible for the Horse Inspection are occupied with several other Horses when a Combination presents at the Vetting Area, then the presentation time will be stopped for that Combination while it waits for inspection.

816.6.3 If a Horse is removed from Competition before crossing the end line of a Loop, the Horse must be presented for a Horse Inspection immediately after such removal, in accordance with Article 810. The same maximum heart rate parameters apply in such circumstances.

- 816.6.4 Subject to Article 816.6.6, if the Horse's heart rate is higher than the maximum heart rate parameters, the Horse may leave the Vetting Area and be presented a second time for a heart rate re-inspection provided that it is still within the permitted presentation time. If a Horse does not pass the second presentation, it will be designated as Failed to Qualify (subject to the confirmation procedure in paragraph 9.3(f)(iv) of Annex 5). A third presentation is not permitted.
- 816.6.5 At the first Vet Gate and onwards, except for the Final Inspection, all Horses entering with more than 10 minutes recovery time must pass a compulsory re-inspection.
- 816.6.6 At the Final Horse Inspection, the Horse may be presented only one time. Horses that do not meet the maximum heart rate parameters at this presentation will be designated as Failed to Qualify (subject to the confirmation procedure in paragraph 9.3(f)(i) of Annex 5).
- 816.6.7 Failure to comply with the time limits for presentation of the Horse to the Vetting Area will result in Disqualification for Late Presentation. In such circumstances, the Horse must still be submitted to a Horse Inspection, and so an additional designation for Failure to Qualify for veterinary (or other) reasons may also apply in addition to the Disqualification.
- 816.7 **Metabolic, gait, and other assessments:** Following the heart rate assessment, the Horse must immediately undergo all the other aspects of the Horse Inspection (including trotting to check soundness) with the same Veterinarian that performed the heart assessment. Further details concerning these assessments are set out in paragraph 9 of Annex 5.
- 816.8 **Hold Time:** After each Loop (except for the final Loop) Horses must be given a mandatory rest period (**Hold Time**), which begins when the recovery time ends (see Article 816.2) and continues for the specified period. Hold Times are subject to the following requirements:
- 816.8.1 There must be a Hold Time for the Horse at each Vet Gate (except the final Vet Gate after the finish) of at least thirty minutes for distances of 20km to 29km loops, and one minute per 1 km completed for 30km Loops and above. (For example, following a 35 km Loop, there must be a minimum Hold Time of at least 35 minutes, following a 21km Loop, there must be a minimum Hold Time of at least 30 minutes).
- 816.8.2 In CEI 3* and Championships, there must be at least one Hold Time of a minimum of 50 minutes. In all other Events, there must be at least one Hold Time of a minimum of 40 minutes.
- 816.8.3 The maximum scheduled Hold Time for a single hold in a one-day Event is 60 minutes.
- 816.8.4 Where compulsory re-inspections are required, the Hold Time must be at least 40 minutes, and Horses are required to present for such re-inspections no more than 15 minutes before the end of that Hold Time.

816.8.5 The President of the Ground Jury, President of the Veterinary Commission and Foreign Veterinary Delegate must be consulted on Hold Times.

816.9 **Modifications to heart rate parameters, presentation times, and/or Hold Times to protect Horse and/or Athlete welfare:**

816.9.1 The Competition Schedule may set out maximum heart rates and presentation times that are lower/shorter than the stated maximums in Article 816.6.

816.9.2 To safeguard the welfare of the Horses and the safety of the Athletes, the President of the Ground Jury (in consultation with and based on advice from the President of the Veterinary Commission, the Foreign Veterinary Delegate, Ground Jury members and the Technical Delegate) may prior to or during an Event:

- (a) reduce the maximum heart rate parameters;
- (b) shorten the presentation times at Vet Gates; and/or
- (c) increase the Hold Times.

Modifications to the above parameters must be announced to all Athletes and/or Chefs d'Equipe before the start of the Loop concerned.

816.9.3 Throughout the Competition, the President of the Ground Jury, the Veterinary Commission, the Foreign Veterinary Delegate, the Ground Jury members and the Technical Delegate must monitor the ride conditions (including any extreme weather conditions or other exceptional circumstances) and the number of Horses that Fail to Qualify at each inspection. It is their responsibility to make changes to the inspection parameters to protect the Horses.

816.9.4 If parameters are reduced/shortened as set out above, then references to higher maximum parameters under these Endurance Rules will be replaced accordingly.

Hold Area

816.10 There must be a safe area where Horses can rest following the Horse Inspection to complete the required Hold Time (referred to as a hold area). The hold area and recovery area may be the same or separate areas.

817. PLAN OF THE COURSE

817.1 **Completion of course design:** The course of a Competition must be officially established at least seven days before the Competition begins, and must be approved by the Technical Delegate prior to handing over to the Ground Jury.

817.2 **Plans, maps and GPS:** Once the course is finalised, and no later than the pre-ride briefing, each Athlete must be given access to:

817.2.1 a plan (or map) showing the track of the course, including the start/end of each Loop, permitted crewing and water points, Vet

Gates, and any known hazards (for Championships, OCs must provide copies of such plans to each Athlete); and

817.2.2 a map in a scale of at least 1:50'000 and GPS equipment or a digital alternative that performs the function of mapping, tracking and navigation if available.

817.3 **Course modification:** After the course has been officially established, no changes may be made without the approval of the Technical Delegate and the President of the Ground Jury. The OC must notify such changes to Athletes and/or (if applicable) Chefs d'Equipe as soon as reasonably practicable.

818. COURSE DESIGN, TERRAIN, AND SAFETY

818.1 The OC, in consultation with the Technical Delegate, should assist in creating a technically challenging course across country (within the limits of the terrain and weather conditions) that will test the stamina and riding skills of the Combinations, without compromising the welfare of the Horses.

818.2 The course should include technically challenging factors including in relation to footing, terrain, altitude, and direction. To accomplish this, the course should include naturally occurring or man-made features such as tracks, ditches, steep climbs, descents, and water crossings. To the extent possible, the technical challenges must be left in their natural state, but they must be reinforced if necessary to ensure that they remain in the same state throughout the Competition.

818.3 The terrain of the course must comply with the following restrictions:

818.3.1 The terrain on the course may be modified only where necessary for the safety of Athletes and welfare of Horses. The course must have a minimum of 25% of unmodified terrain.

818.3.2 A maximum of 10% of the total course length may be made up of paved roads.

818.3.3 The type of terrain and altitude differentials must be clearly set out in the Competition Schedule.

818.4 The finish line at the final Loop must be long and wide enough to allow several Horses to finish safely without interference from each other, and there must be sufficient run-out to allow Combinations to come to a stop safely after crossing the finish line. The finish line must be located as close as possible to the Vet Gate.

818.5 Competitions will be organised to allow Athletes to compete at their own pace, subject to any applicable speed restrictions, and subject further to adverse conditions and trail safety:

818.5.1 If adverse conditions or other considerations such as extreme weather conditions arise that might compromise the ability of Combinations to complete a course safely, the President of the Ground Jury and the President of the Veterinary Commission, in consultation with the OC and the Foreign Veterinary Delegate, may require compulsory halts or establish a maximum time for a Loop/Phase and/or the closing times of Vet Gates, to ensure that Combinations do not fall

too far behind the other Combinations and to ensure the safety and welfare of Horses and Athletes.

818.5.2 In circumstances related to trail safety, depending on the given circumstances of a particular course, as well as the time of day, the OC, in consultation with the Technical Delegate, may require compulsory halts or establish sections of a course where controlled gaits of the Horse and/or speed restrictions apply.

819. MARKING THE COURSE

- 819.1 The course markings must be clearly, distinctly and consistently marked to indicate the correct direction and easy to see so that there is no doubt as to how to proceed on the course. In particular, a distance marker must be placed every 10 km, and the start and end of each Loop must be clearly and distinctly marked. The markings may be flags, ribbons, signs, lime, paint, etc.
- 819.2 If the OC is aware of a possible short cut on the course, the OC must have a Steward in place at that location to ensure that the Combinations do not take that short cut.
- 819.3 The course markings must be respected, and failure to do so may result in Disqualification.

820. ORDER OF THE COURSE

- 820.1 A Combination must complete the entire course in the correct order and direction as marked on the course plan/map. Subject to Article 820.2, if a Combination fails to do so, it will be Disqualified.
- 820.2 If a Combination makes an error on the course, the Ground Jury may (if it considers it feasible to do so) allow that Combination to correct the error by returning to the place where the error started. If the Combination fails to do so, it will be Disqualified. If the Ground Jury considers that correcting an error on course is not feasible and/or in the best interests of the Horse, it may determine an alternative that will require the Combination to complete an equivalent distance over the same type of terrain, such distance to be made up within the same Loop, so that the Combination still passes through each Vet Gate in the correct order and within the relevant time limits. In such cases, the Combination will receive a certificate of completion and be designated as 'Finished not Ranked'. The Athlete and Horse may not be considered for the Best Condition Award, and its performance may not count for individual or team classifications.

821. POSTPONEMENT/CANCELLATION OF EVENTS

- 821.1 An Event may be postponed and/or cancelled as set out in the FEI General Regulations. OCs are encouraged to anticipate the possible need to delay (by up to 30 hours), reschedule, and/or cancel an Event and evacuate the venue. For CEIOs and Championships, the OC should include reference to such potential in its Competition Schedule.
- 821.2 A decision to postpone and/or cancel an Event must be notified as soon as reasonably practicable to the Athletes and/or (if applicable) Chefs d'Equipe, as well as the OC, time-keeping team, and all Event Officials, and in any event

before the start of the Competition or (if the Competition has started) before the next Loop.

822. ASSISTANCE ON COURSE & FAIR PLAY

822.1 An Athlete may lead or follow their Horse on the course, but must be mounted to pass through the start line of any day and the end line of the day's final Loop. Failure to comply with this provision will result in Disqualification.

822.2 Once the Combination has started, no one other than the Athlete may lead or ride the Horse on the course. Failure to comply with this provision will result in Disqualification.

822.3 A Combination that wilfully obstructs an overtaking Combination will be Disqualified. This is not intended to prevent a contest for placing, but rather is intended to apply where the slower Combination is being lapped or passed because (for example) it is travelling at a significantly slower pace or having equipment issues.

822.4 Permitted assistance:

822.4.1 The Competition Schedule must detail what assistance (crewing) may be given to Combinations during a Competition, and in particular where such assistance is allowed on the course and within Vet Gates. The designated areas on a course where crewing is permitted are called '**crew points**'.

822.4.2 There must be at least 5km between crew points. Crewing outside the designated crew points is prohibited and will result in Disqualification. However:

(a) It remains the responsibility of the Athlete to manage their Horse according to the climate and conditions, and if a Horse needs urgent assistance to protect its welfare, the Athlete must stop their Horse to obtain such assistance. A failure to do so, or otherwise preventing the Horse from obtaining such assistance, may be considered as Horse Abuse. Misuse of this provision to gain an unfair advantage will result in Disqualification. A Horse that receives urgent assistance may be designated as Failed to Qualify for veterinary (or other) reasons.

(b) A Combination may be assisted at any time if an Athlete falls or is otherwise separated from their Horse, or if the Horse loses a shoe. The Athlete must remount and/or continue in the Loop from the point at which the Athlete dismounted, left the course or required intervention. An Athlete that provides assistance to a fellow Athlete who has fallen or has been otherwise separated from their Horse will not Fail to Qualify for being Out of Time (FTQ-OT), should they pass their permitted time due to providing such assistance, provided that the President of the Ground Jury is satisfied that the sole reason for the Athlete exceeding the allocated time is due to the assistance given to another Athlete pursuant to this Article.

- 822.4.3 There are also separate areas on the course at least every 10 km where drinking water must be available for Horses (see Article 814.4.7), subject to Article 1026 of the FEI Veterinary Rules. It is advised that, if possible, large water troughs are strategically placed so that the Athlete has the opportunity to gather water using a personal bucket.
- 822.5 **Prohibited assistance:** An Athlete or Trainer who receives or provides the following assistance will receive a Yellow Warning Card, and in the event of a breach of Articles 822.5.5, 822.5.6 and/or 822.5.7 will also be Disqualified:
- 822.5.1 being followed, preceded or accompanied on any part of the course by any person on foot, on bicycle, or in a motorised vehicle;
- 822.5.2 being followed, preceded or accompanied by any motorised vehicle on any access track adjacent to the course;
- 822.5.3 encouraging a Horse during the trot in the Vetting Area (except that the person trotting the Horse may use limited verbal encouragement);
- 822.5.4 cutting wire fences or altering a part of an enclosure on or within the course so as to clear a way, or cutting down trees or eliminating challenges or altering technical aspects of the course;
- 822.5.5 providing or accepting any assistance on any part of the course not specifically designated for such assistance;
- 822.5.6 a person on the course (other than the Athlete) encouraging the Horse by any means whatsoever; or
- 822.5.7 accepting any intervention by a person not authorised to assist the Combination, whether solicited or not, with the object of advantaging the Athlete or their Horse.
- 823. DRESS CODE**
- 823.1 Any person who mounts a Horse at an Event must wear:
- 823.1.1 protective Headgear that is securely fastened and that is of a recognised equestrian/endurance standard; and
- 823.1.2 safe riding footwear with smooth soles and heels of 12 mm or more, or alternatively caged/boxed stirrups or equestrian safety stirrups.
- 823.2 At all Events, participants (including those covered in this Article 823) must wear clean and tidy attire that is appropriate and not detrimental to the image of the discipline of Endurance. In addition:
- 823.2.1 Athletes must wear appropriate team or individual riding attire (including a shirt or polo shirt with a collar) while on the Field of Play and during the First (Pre-Ride) Inspection, opening and closing ceremonies, Best Condition Award, and prize-giving ceremonies.
- 823.2.2 Team officials and Crew Members must wear appropriate team or individual team attire while on the Field of Play and during the First

(Pre-Ride) Inspection, opening and closing ceremonies, Best Condition Award, and prize-giving ceremonies.

- 823.2.3 FEI Officials must wear appropriate working attire (no shorts or sandals) at all times during the Event when performing their duties, including on the Field of Play. For the First (Pre-Ride) Inspection, opening and closing ceremonies, Best Condition Award, and prize-giving ceremonies, FEI Officials must wear a jacket (where appropriate considering the weather) and (men only) a tie.
- 823.2.4 Shorts are not permitted in the Vetting Area or during opening and closing ceremonies, the Best Condition Award, and/or prize-giving ceremonies. For safety reasons sandals are not permitted anywhere on the Field of Play. Depending on weather conditions and at the discretion of the OC and Officials, knee-length dress shorts may be allowed.
- 823.3 The FEI General Regulations set out the rules in relation to permitted branding/advertising on clothing.
- 823.4 The President of the Ground Jury and/or the Chief Steward may require a person who is in breach of the dress code to change attire and (if that person fails to do so) may require that person to leave (or be removed from) the Field of Play.

824. DYES AND SKIN CREAMS

Dyes (including henna) may not be used on the Horse at any time on the Field of Play as it may obstruct the veterinary inspection and identification of the Horse. Barrier cream or other topical skin cream may be used on the Horse, provided that it is removed before presentation for Horse Inspections or at the request of any Veterinarian or Official anywhere on the Field of Play. Failure to comply with this provision will result in Disqualification.

825. TACK AND EQUIPMENT

- 825.1 **Tack condition:** Horse tack must be in a safe condition and correctly fitted to avoid the risk of pain or injury to the Horse. Officials may require any ill-fitting tack/equipment to be removed or altered. The use of any ill-fitting equipment that risks causing (or causes) pain or injury to the Horse may be considered as Horse Abuse (see also the FEI Veterinary Regulations).
- 825.2 **Permitted tack:** The FEI may issue further detailed rules regarding permitted tack. Subject to the foregoing and Article 825.1, the following tack is required or permitted (as specified below) on the Field of Play:
- 825.2.1 A correctly fitted bridle and saddle are required on the course.
- 825.2.2 Gags and 'bitless bridles' are permitted.
- 825.2.3 Martingales are permitted, provided that they do not unduly restrict the free movement of the head of the Horse.
- 825.2.4 Reins must be attached to the bit or (for bitless bridles) directly to the bridle.

- 825.2.5 Any shank (lever arm) on any bit may not exceed 10 cm. Any evidence of soreness, lacerations and/or wounds in the mouth, must be recorded on the Vet Card. If participation or continuing in the Competition is likely to aggravate any such soreness, lacerations or wounds or in any way endangers (or risks endangering) the welfare of the Horse, the Horse will not be allowed to continue and will be designated 'Failed to Qualify – Minor Injury' (FTQ-MI) (see Annex 5, 9.8).
- 825.2.6 Leather or plastic nosebands are permitted. A noseband may never be so tightly fixed that it risks causing (or causes) irritation to the skin. It must be adjusted to allow at least two fingers under the noseband on the front of the nose.
- 825.2.7 Cheek pieces (meaning two strips of sheepskin or similar material that is attached to the cheek pieces of the bridle) are permitted. See Annex 8 for a diagram.
- 825.2.8 Unless specified otherwise in the Competition Schedule, Blinkers and visors (similar to Blinkers, but with holes cut in one or both cowls permitting limited side or rear vision) are permitted, provided that they allow full forward vision without any interference. They must be removed during Horse Inspections. See Annex 8 for diagrams showing permitted/prohibited variations.
- 825.2.9 Fly masks are permitted only if specifically authorised by the Ground Jury to take account of the local conditions, and provided that they (i) do not unduly obstruct the Horse's vision or hearing, (ii) do not serve any purpose other than to protect the Horse from insects, and (iii) are removed during Horse Inspections.
- 825.2.10 Equi-boots and pads are permitted.
- 825.2.11 Head collars are permitted in the Vetting Area only if the Horse can be adequately controlled and does not pose any safety risk to any person or other Horse. Otherwise (and in most cases) a bridle must be used.
- 825.2.12 A curb chain may never be so tightly fixed that it risks causing (or causes) irritation to the skin. It must be observed to have laxity when the reigns are loose.
- 825.3 **Prohibited tack/equipment:** Use of the following is prohibited at all times on the Field of Play and in training areas and, subject to Article 825.6, in the event of a breach of this Article, the Combination will be Disqualified:
- 825.3.1 any type of rein that might unduly restrict the free movement of the head of the Horse, including draw (running) reins/French reins;
- 825.3.2 rein additions such as handles;
- 825.3.3 metal chain nosebands;
- 825.3.4 whips (including any other item that is used as a whip);
- 825.3.5 spurs;

- 825.3.6 anything placed inside or covering the Horse's ears (for example, ear plugs or similar and ear bonnets/hoods), except for fly masks as set out in Article 825.2.9; and
- 825.3.7 subject to Articles 825.2.8 and 825.2.9, any material covering the Horse's eye(s) or otherwise obstructing the Horse's vision, including eye covers or eye shields (these are similar to Blinkers, but in place of the eye cowls, the eyes are covered with mesh or other transparent material or by an opaque cover). See Annex 8 for diagrams.
- 825.4 **Safety equipment:** The Competition Schedule may require the use of specific safety equipment, such as reflective items.
- 825.5 **Mobile phones and GPS:** The use of mobile phones and GPS devices is permitted. All other forms of communication devices must be approved by the Ground Jury prior to the Competition.
- 825.6 **Failure to comply:** An Official may inspect a Combination's tack/equipment on the Field of Play at any time. If an Official determines at or prior to the First (Pre-Ride) Inspection or prior to or at the start of the Competition that a Combination's tack/equipment is in breach of Article 825.2 (permitted tack) and/or 825.3 (prohibited tack), the Official may request that such tack/equipment be altered or removed. Failure to comply with the Official's instructions will result in Disqualification.

CHAPTER IV: ELIGIBILITY**826. MINIMUM AGE REQUIREMENTS FOR ATHLETES AND TRAINERS**

- 826.1 A person may participate as an Athlete in an Endurance Event from 1 January in the year when this person reaches the age of 14.
- 826.2 To be registered with the FEI as the Trainer of a Horse, the Trainer must be 18 years old or older.

827. MINIMUM AGE REQUIREMENTS FOR HORSES

- 827.1 The minimum age requirements for Horses are set out below:

Level of Event	Required minimum age
Novice	5 years old
CEI 1*	6 years old
CEI 2*	7 years old
CEI 3*	8 years old
CEIOs and Championships (other than Young Horse Championships, see Article 827.2)	Horse must be at least one year older than the minimum age requirement that applies to a CEI of the same star level as the Championship. (For example, to participate in a 2* Championship, the Horse must be 8 years old or older)

- 827.2 Horses must be eight years old to participate in the Young Horse Championships. (For the avoidance of doubt, eight years is a required age, not a minimum age).
- 827.3 A Horse is deemed to have its birthday on 1 January in the year that it was born.
- 827.4 The age of the Horse is determined as of the date of the Event for which eligibility to participate is sought, and must be confirmed either through reliable registrations or written veterinary opinion, which may be recorded in the Horse's Passport.

828. REGISTRATION

- 828.1 To participate in Competitions, all Athletes, Horses, and Trainers must be registered with the FEI and the applicable registration fees must have been paid to the FEI, in accordance with the FEI General Regulations.
- 828.2 When Endurance Horses are registered with the FEI, the name of the Trainer for that Horse must also be registered and a registration fee paid (except that if the registered Trainer is also a registered Athlete, no additional Trainer registration fee will be charged).

- 828.3 Any change in the Trainer of the Horse must be notified to the FEI without delay. If the registered Trainer of a Horse changes, the Horse may not participate in any Competition for a period of 14 days, starting from the date of notification of the change to the FEI.

Transitional Provision – 828.3

Any change in the Trainer of the Horse as of 1 January 2024 will result in the Horse not being able to participate in any Competition for a period of 14 days as per these Endurance Rules. For the avoidance of doubt, all Trainer changes that happen prior to 01 January 2024 will result in the Horse not being able to participate in any Competition for a period of 30 days as per the 2023 FEI Endurance Rules.

829. PREGNANT MARES

A mare in advanced pregnancy, meaning over 120 days, or with foal at foot, may not be entered (or participate) in any Event.

CHAPTER V: QUALIFYING FOR AND COMPETING IN FEI EVENTS

830. OVERVIEW

In order to promote good horsemanship and protect Horse welfare, the qualification system to compete in FEI Events at different star levels is based on (and rewards) successful completions of Competitions, which will be tracked for each Athlete and Horse. Similarly, repeated 'Failure to Qualify' and/or Disqualification, in particular where such designations are combined with high average speeds over the course, will be penalised to ensure that the Athlete learns to ride safely over a course at lower speed (see Article 837).

831. SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION

A '**successful completion**' of a Competition means that the Combination finished all of the Phases of the course in accordance with the applicable course requirements (maximum allotted time, correct order without short cuts, no prohibited assistance, etc), passed all of the Horse Inspections, complied with minimum weight requirements and any applicable speed restrictions, did not withdraw or retire, was not designated as 'Failed to Qualify', was not Disqualified during or after the Competition, and complied with any applicable Mandatory Out of Competition Period(s).

832. NOVICE QUALIFICATIONS

832.1 Subject to Article 832.4, all Horses and Athletes must have successfully completed their novice qualifications to be eligible to advance through the CEI star level qualification process.

832.2 Novice qualifications must be administered by each National Federation. The novice qualification eligibility form must be filled in on the FEI online platform prior to the relevant National Federation making the first FEI entry for the Athlete or Horse.

832.3 **Novice qualification procedure:** Horses and Athletes must have successfully completed (not necessarily as a Combination) two novice rides of 40-79 km (in one day) and two novice rides of 80-100 km each restricted to a speed of no more than 16 km/hour (calculated in accordance with Article 838.2). The required 80-100 km rides may be completed either as (i) two single-day events, or (ii) one single-day event and one multi-day event (for the multi-day event, 40-50km must be completed per day for two consecutive days at the same Competition). All qualifying novice rides must be completed within a three-year period.

832.4 Exemptions from novice qualification requirements:

832.4.1 A National Federation may ask the FEI to exempt an Athlete or Horse from the novice qualifications if they meet the conditions in Articles 832.4.2 (Horse) or 832.4.3 (Athlete).

832.4.2 The Horse will be granted an exemption from the novice qualifications if (i) it is eight years or older at the time of the request, and (ii) in the three years prior to the request it has successfully completed a cumulative minimum of 480 km in Competitions over distances of

80 km, including at least one competition of 80km or more at the age of eight or older.

- 832.4.3 The Athlete will be granted an exemption from the novice qualifications if the Athlete has successfully completed a cumulative minimum of 480 km in Competitions over 80 km or more in the three years prior to the request.

833. CEI QUALIFICATIONS

833.1 The CEI star qualification level of an Athlete or Horse must be determined according to the FEI's records and database, and attested to by each National Federation.

833.2 Once an Athlete or Horse has qualified for a CEI star level, they/it may be referred to as an Athlete or Horse (as applicable) of that star level.

833.3 The qualification procedure for CEI star levels is set out below:

833.3.1 **CEI 1*:** Athletes and Horses are qualified to compete at the CEI 1* level once they have successfully completed all the novice qualifications, but no earlier than six months (for Athletes) and one year (for Horses) with a margin of five days after the successful completion of their first novice ride. Athletes and Horses must successfully complete a CEI 1* within three years of qualifying for the CEI 1* level. If they fail to do so, they will lose their CEI 1* qualification and must update their novice qualifications to re-qualify for the CEI 1* level.

833.3.1.1 All 6-year-old Horses entering in their first CEI1* must complete it with a speed restricted to no more than 16 km/hour (calculated in accordance with Article 838.2). This Horse will be restricted at 16 km/hour until it has successfully completed a CEI1* or until the Horse is older than 6 years old.

Transitional Provision – 833.3.1.1

Article 833.3.1.1 does not apply retroactively. All 6-year-old Horses who have already qualified at the CEI1* level without a restricted speed will retain their qualification

833.3.2 **CEI 2*:** Athletes and Horses are qualified to compete at the CEI 2* level once they have successfully completed two CEI 1* within a three-year period.

833.3.3 **CEI 3*:** Athletes and Horses may only compete at the CEI 3* level if they are qualified as a Combination. To so qualify, they must have successfully completed (i) two CEI 2*, and (ii) one CEI1* or one CEI 2* together as a Combination (except for Athletes with Elite Status who are exempt from the Combination ride requirement, see Article 861), all within a three-year period. (The Combination ride may be one of the two qualifying successful rides or may be a separate third ride).

834. COMPETING AT CEI EVENTS ONCE QUALIFIED

- 834.1 Once qualified for the CEI 1* and CEI 2* levels, there are no further requirements to compete at those levels within the given validity period (Article 835).
- 834.2 If the Athlete and Horse are both individually qualified for the CEI 3* level, but in other Combinations (i.e., with other partners), they have to successfully complete one CEI1* or CEI 2* as a Combination to compete together in a CEI 3*. (Further to Article 833.3.3, Athletes with Elite Status are exempt from this Combination requirement).

835. VALIDITY OF CEI STAR LEVEL QUALIFICATION

- 835.1 Each CEI star level qualification achieved will be valid:
- 835.1.1 for Athletes, for five years; and
 - 835.1.2 for Horses, for three years.
- 835.2 The validity period will begin to run from the day that a qualification is granted or renewed and (subject to Article 833.3.1) expire at midnight GMT on the last day of the applicable time period.
- 835.3 Each time an Athlete or Horse successfully completes a Competition at the level for which the Athlete/the Horse has qualified or the level below, the Athlete's/Horse's qualification at their/its current level will be automatically revalidated by the FEI (for that level which has been completed) for the period set out in Article 835.1.
- 835.4 If an Athlete or a Horse fails to successfully complete a Competition at the level for which Athlete/the Horse has qualified within the period set out in Article 835.1, the Athlete/Horse will automatically drop down one level of qualification.
- 835.5 If an Athlete or Horse fails to revalidate a qualification within the period set out in Article 835.1 (and so drops down a level), to regain the expired qualification the Athlete or Horse must successfully complete one Competition at the lower level.

836. CHAMPIONSHIPS

- 836.1 To qualify for Championships, Horses and Athletes must have:
- 836.1.1 graduated through the qualifying processes for novice and CEI star qualifications, up to and including the star level of the Championship

(for example, for a 2* Championship, the Athlete and Horse must each be qualified for the CEI 2* level); and

836.1.2 successfully completed the relevant additional number of CEIs (or CEIOs of the same star level) specified in the table below. Of those additional rides:

- (a) one or two (as specified in the table) must have been undertaken by the relevant Athlete and Horse as a Combination; and
- (b) that ride (or one of those two rides) must have (i) been a single-day event over the same distance as the Championship (or greater distance), and (ii) taken place prior to, but no more than two years prior to, the deadline for Nominated Entries for the Championship or 60 days prior to the Championship (whichever comes first).

Championship	Additional CEIs to be successfully completed and Combination requirements
1* Championships	Two CEI 1* or higher, including one in Combination
2* Young Horse Championships	One CEI 2* in Combination
2* Young Rider/Junior Championships	Two CEI 2* or higher, including two in Combination, only one in Combination for 2* Bronze Elite Junior/Young Riders or higher
2* Senior Championships	Two CEI 2* or higher, including two in Combination, only one in Combination for 2* Bronze Elite Senior Riders or higher
3* Senior Championships	Two CEI 3*, including one in Combination

837. CONSEQUENCES FOR REPEATED FTQ AND/OR DSQ DESIGNATIONS WITH AVERAGE SPEEDS EXCEEDING 21 KM/HOUR

837.1 If an Athlete or Horse (in any Combination) is designated as Failed to Qualify (**FTQ**) or Disqualified (**DSQ**) at a number of Competitions within a one-year rolling period, and the average speed of the Athlete or Horse over the course at each of those Competitions exceeded 21 km/hour, the consequences (and conditions for lifting the speed restriction) set out in the table below will apply to the Athlete and Horse in question. It is the responsibility of the Athlete to know if a speed restriction applies to them:

Number of FTQ and/or DSQ in a one-year rolling period with average speed > 21 km/hour	Consequences	Conditions for speed restriction to be lifted
Two (but only if at consecutive Competitions)	Speed restricted to no more than 18 km/hour at future Competitions.	Successful completion of one Competition (at any CEI star level) within the speed restriction.
Three	Speed restricted to no more than 18 km/hour at future Competitions.	Successful completion of two Competitions (at any CEI star level) within the speed restriction.
Four	Speed restricted to no more than 18 km/hour at future Competitions.	Successful completion of four Competitions (at any CEI star level) within the speed restriction.
Five	Speed restricted to no more than 18 km/hour at future Competitions.	Successful completion of five Competitions (at any CEI star level) within the speed restriction.

837.2 Average speed over a course and speed restrictions are calculated as set out in Article 838.

837.3 If the Athlete or Horse satisfies the relevant conditions for lifting the speed restriction, then their/its number of FTQ/DSQ designations will be reset to zero for the purposes of this Article 837.

Transitional Provision – 837

If as of 1 January 2024 an Athlete or a Horse has an existing speed restriction (due to repeated FTQ and/or DSQ with an average speed exceeding 20 km/hour), the Athlete must complete the required rides as set out in Article 837.1 in order to lift the speed restriction. The consequences under Article 837 will apply for repeated FTQ and/or DSQ with average speeds exceeding 21 km/hour, and will be imposed based only on results obtained from 1 January 2024 onwards.

838. CALCULATING AVERAGE SPEED AND SPEED RESTRICTIONS

838.1 The average speed of a Combination over a course (including for the purposes of determining if 21 km/hour has been exceeded, further to Articles 837.1 and 839.2.1) is the average speed over all completed Loops (including any Loop that ends in a 'Failed to Qualify' designation). If a Loop is not completed, then the speed of that partial Loop does not count towards the average. If a Horse fails to complete the first Loop, no average speed will be recorded.

838.2 To comply with the speed restriction of 16 km/hour (in Article 832.3) or of 18 km/hour (in Article 837.1), the average speed of a Combination in each Loop must be no more than the applicable speed restriction. It is not enough for the Combination to keep its average speed over all of the Loops combined under the speed restriction. If the average speed of a Combination exceeds the applicable speed restriction on any Loop, the Combination will be classified as Failed to Qualify-Speed (FTQ-SP). If the Horse fails a Horse Inspection after such Loop, the Combination will also be classified according to any other elimination codes (see Annex 3) that apply for veterinary reasons.

839. MANDATORY OUT OF COMPETITION PERIODS

839.1 Standard MOOCP:

After competing in a National Event or FEI Event, a Horse may not compete in any National Event(s) or FEI Event(s) for the following Mandatory Out of Competition Period:

Distance completed	Mandatory Out of Competition Period
From crossing the start line up to 54 km	5 days
Over 54 km to 106 km	12 days
Over 106 km to 126 km	19 days
Over 126 km to 146 km	26 days
Over 146 km	33 days

839.2 Additional MOOCP:

839.2.1 In addition to the period set out in Article 839.1, the following Mandatory Out of Competition Periods and other consequences will apply where the following circumstances occur at an FEI Event or National Event (where more than one of the circumstances below apply, the additional Mandatory Out of Competition Periods will be cumulative):

Incident	Additional Mandatory Out of Competition Period and other consequences
Horses that exceed an average of 20 km/hour over completed Loops of a course (calculated in accordance with Article 838)	7 days
Second FTQ-ME (Failure to Qualify – metabolic) in a rolling year	14 days

Third (or subsequent) FTQ-ME (Failure to Qualify – metabolic) in a rolling year	60 days (subject to extension under Article 839.2.3)
Third (or subsequent) FTQ-GA (Failure to Qualify – irregular gait) in a rolling year	a) 180-day Mandatory Out of Competition Period; and b) Horse must undergo a specific examination protocol before being eligible to compete in any FEI Events (the protocol for this examination is set out in Annex 7).
Serious Injury (musculoskeletal)	180 days (subject to extension under Article 839.2.3)
Serious Injury (metabolic)	60 days (subject to extension under Article 839.2.3)
Disqualification for Hyposensitivity	4 weeks (28 days)
Failure by the Person Responsible to provide a copy of the veterinary report from a designated/approved referral centre to the FEI Veterinary Department in accordance with Article 840	180 days (and Horse will not be permitted to compete until the veterinary report is provided)

839.2.2 It is the responsibility of the President of the Veterinary Commission, President of the Treating Veterinary Commission, and Foreign Veterinary Delegate to review the treated Horses at the end of the Competition on a case by case basis, and to specify if those Horses must (i) have an additional Mandatory Out of Competition Period under Article 839.2.1, or (ii) receive authorised treatment, without requiring such additional Mandatory Out of Competition Period.

839.2.3 The Mandatory Out of Competition Period for Serious Injuries or repeated FTQ-ME may be extended further at the discretion of the FEI Veterinary Department based on a diagnosis by a designated referral centre or other approved clinic (see Article 840).

839.3 Consequences during MOOCP:

839.3.1 For Article 839.1, the standard Mandatory Out of Competition Period starts to run from 00:01 GMT the day after the relevant ride finishes (the end of the ride is determined by the maximum ride time allowed), and finishes at midnight GMT on the last day of the Mandatory Out of Competition Period. For Article 839.2, any additional Mandatory Out of Competition Period starts to run from 00:01 GMT the day after the standard Mandatory Out of Competition Period expires, and finishes at midnight GMT on the last day of the additional Mandatory Out of Competition Period. In any case, the published ride start time of the Horse’s next competition (national

or international) must fall after the expiry of the applicable Mandatory Out of Competition Period.

839.3.2 FEI-registered Horses may not compete in any National Events or FEI Events during any Mandatory Out of Competition Period. Failure to comply with this provision will result in the penalties set out in Article 864.

839.3.3 If a Horse participates in a National Event or FEI Event during any Mandatory Out of Competition Period, the Athlete who rode the Horse (and the Trainer of the Horse, if applicable) will receive an official notification from FEI Headquarters. The penalty points and suspension set out in Article 864 will take effect as of the date of the FEI notification. The results obtained by that Horse (and by any Athlete riding that Horse) in the National Event or FEI Event concerned (and in any subsequent National Events/FEI Events up to the date of notification) will be Disqualified.

840. VETERINARY REFERRAL CENTRE AND REQUIRED REPORTING

840.1 The President of the Veterinary Commission, President of the Treating Veterinary Commission, and Foreign Veterinary Delegate will refer a Horse to a referral centre (designated/approved at their discretion) if they consider that the Horse requires further assessment and continued veterinary care beyond the period of Competition.

840.2 If a Horse is referred to a referral centre, the Person Responsible must provide the FEI with the veterinary report from that referral centre within 72 hours of the release of the Horse from that centre, or (in the event the Horse dies) within 72 hours of the death of the Horse. This obligation is separate and in addition to the obligations set out in the FEI Veterinary Regulations.

841. APPROVED RECORDS OF RESULTS

Approved records must be provided for Athlete/Horse results for insertion into the FEI database/FEI passports as required. The National Federation is ultimately responsible for proof of results.

842. ~~TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS~~ ("INTENTIONALLY OMITTED")

CHAPTER VI: INVITATIONS AND ENTRIES**843. INVITATIONS****843.1 CEIs:**

843.1.1 The number of Athletes that may be accepted for a Competition will be stated in the Competition Schedule and the official invitation to National Federations.

843.1.2 The number of Officials and Athletes (whether competing as individuals or as members of a team) to whom hospitality will be extended is at the discretion of the OC.

843.2 CEIOs and Championships:

The Competition Schedule and the official invitation sent to each National Federation participating in the Event must allow for each team to have seven Athletes and seven Horses (which includes up to two reserve Horses/Combinations), a non-riding Chef d'Equipe, and an FEI-registered Veterinarian as Team Veterinarian. Further details on teams are set out in the FEI General Regulations.

For the avoidance of doubt, a National Federation may enter less than seven Athletes that are qualified with more than one Horse as a Combination.

An OC of a Young Horses Championship may allow individual Athletes in addition to the team, subject to FEI approval.

843.3 World Equestrian Games:

843.3.1 The Competition Schedule and the official invitation sent to each National Federation participating in the World Equestrian Games must allow for each team to have four Athletes and four Horses, plus a reserve Combination, a non-riding Chef d'Equipe, and a Veterinary Surgeon as Team Veterinarian. Any reserve Combination at the World Equestrian Games may not compete if it is not in the starting team.

843.3.2 National Federations that enter a team in the World Equestrian Games may not send other individual Athletes to compete in those Games.

843.3.3 There is a maximum of two individual Athletes per National Federation.

843.4 Crew Members:

The OC must accept a minimum of two Crew Members per Horse at all Events.

843.5 Expenses & privileges:

843.5.1 The OC of World Equestrian Games must accept responsibility for meeting the living expenses of Athletes, Horses, Crew Members and team officials (Chefs d'Equipe and Veterinarians) from the day before the First (Pre-Ride) Inspection until the day after the end of the Championships. This must be published in the Competition Schedule and in the official invitation sent to National Federations.

843.5.2 The OC of World and Continental Championships may accept responsibility for meeting the travelling and living expenses of Athletes, Horses, Crew Members and team Officials (Chefs d'Equipe and Veterinarians) from the day before the First (Pre-Ride) Inspection until the day after the end of the Championships. This must be published in the Competition Schedule.

844. ENTRIES

844.1 Number of entries:

844.1.1 The number of Horses that may be entered for an Event must comply with the Competition Schedule.

844.1.2 Subject to Articles 843 and 847, under no circumstances may the OC limit the number of entries of eligible Athletes or teams for an FEI Championship.

844.2 National Federations:

844.2.1 Only National Federations may enter Athletes and their respective Horses in an Event. National Federations may enter only Athletes and Horses who meet the qualification criteria set out in these Endurance Rules or other applicable FEI Rules and Regulations.

844.2.2 The OC may not accept any entries other than those received from National Federations. The OC must accept any entries by National Federations from nations other than the nation where the Event will be staged (i.e., the OC must accept entries for foreign Athletes).

844.2.3 A National Federation may not make Definite Entries for the same Athletes, Horses or Combinations for Events held on the same dates. If it does, the Athlete, Horse or Combination (as applicable) will be Disqualified from the Event in which it participates.

844.3 Deadlines for Nominated and Definite Entries:

844.3.1 For Championships and World Equestrians Games:

- (a) Nominated Entries and Definite Entries must be made in accordance with the FEI General Regulations. All reserve Horses must be on the Nominated Entries list.
- (b) Where a National Federation has made a Nominated Entry of a team and finds that it will be unable to send a team, it must immediately inform the OC.
- (c) After the Definite Entries have been sent in, substitutions of Horses and/or Athletes may only be made in exceptional circumstances and with the express permission of the OC (see Article 846). Substitutions can only be made with duly entered Athlete/Horses from the Nominated Entries list.

844.3.2 For CEIs and CEIOs:

- (a) There are no Nominated Entries.

- (b) Definite Entries must reach the OC at the latest four days prior to the beginning of the Event. After the Definite Entries have been sent in, substitutions of Horses and/or Athletes may only be made in exceptional circumstances and with the express permission of the OC (see Article 846).

844.4 Details to be included with entries:

Entries for Athletes and Horses must include their names, Trainer, FEI registration numbers (FEI ID), and, where appropriate, qualifications.

844.5 Reserve Horses:

844.5.1 For CEIs, each Athlete may bring one reserve Horse to the Competition, subject to the ability of the OC to accommodate the Horse (this must be clearly indicated on the Competition Schedule). These reserve Horses must be duly entered in the Competition under the Athlete's name, identification number and a second entry fee, to be determined by the OC, must be paid by the Athlete. The Athlete may trot up both of their Horses at the First (Pre-Ride) Inspection (provided that the Horses are duly entered in their name). If a Horse is entered by more than one Athlete for a Competition, it will only be required to undergo the First (Pre-Ride) Inspection once.

844.5.2 For CEIOs and Championships, each National Federation may send Horses up to the maximum shown in the Competition Schedule from the list of Definite Entries, subject to the ability of the OC to accommodate them. The OC must allow each team up to two reserve Horses.

844.5.3 Each Athlete, other Person Responsible, and Chef d'Equipe (if applicable) is responsible for arranging the proper supervision, care, and feeding of any reserve Horse(s) that are present at but not participating in the Event.

844.6 Withdrawals and no shows:

844.6.1 Subject to Article 809.5.3, an Athlete may withdraw any or all their Horses from a Competition, but the Athlete may not add a Horse not previously entered for that Competition without the approval of the OC and the Ground Jury.

844.6.2 Teams or Athletes in the Definite Entries for an Event that fail to take part without valid excuse must be reported by the Foreign Judge/Technical Delegate to the FEI Secretary General, who may take action against them before the FEI Tribunal. Competing at another Event staged at the same time is not a valid excuse for failure to participate at an Event.

844.6.3 Athletes must reimburse the OC for the financial loss incurred by the OC (i.e., stabling and hotel expenses) as a result of late withdrawal or no shows after the date of Definite Entries.

845. DECLARATION OF STARTERS

- 845.1 At CEIs, immediately following the First (Pre-Ride) Inspection, each Athlete must declare to the Ground Jury which Horse (entered in their name) the Athlete will ride in the Competition.
- 845.2 At CEIOs and Championships, when there are multiple possibilities, the Chefs d'Equipe must declare in writing to the Secretariat of the OCs (i) the names of the Athletes definitely starting, and (ii) the names of the Horses partnered with those Athletes, chosen from the names included on the official entry forms. In the event that more than five Combinations are starting from a National Federation in a Young Horses Championship, the composition of the team (minimum three, maximum five), and an indication of the individuals must be made at the latest at the declaration of starters. Declaration of starters by the Chef d'Equipe or their representative will take place within one to three hours after the First (Pre-Ride) Inspection of the Horses, at the discretion of the President of the Ground Jury.

846. SUBSTITUTIONS

- 846.1 After the deadline for Definite Entries:
- 846.1.1 substitution of Horses and/or Athletes may only be made with the permission of the National Federation and the OC, such consent not to be unreasonably withheld. All substituted Horses and/or Athletes must be correctly qualified for the Competition;
- 846.1.2 the registered Trainer of a Horse taking part in the Competition may not be substituted. In the event of a change in registered Trainer, Article 828.3 applies.
- 846.2 If an accident or illness of an Athlete or a Horse occurring between the declaration of starters and the start of the Competition makes it impossible for that Athlete or Horse to take part in the Competition, substitutions may be made up to two hours before the start of the Competition. The following conditions must be met: (i) a certificate of the condition from an officially recognised physician for the Athlete, or from a Veterinary surgeon/Team Veterinarian for the Horse, (ii) the substitution Athlete and/or Horse is correctly qualified for the Competition, and (iii) permission of the President of the Ground Jury.
- 846.3 An Athlete and/or a Horse may be replaced only by another Athlete or Horse or by a Combination that has been duly entered in the Competition, and provided that the Horse has passed the First (Pre-Ride) Inspection.

847. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF ENTRIES

For each Event, there may be a maximum of 200 entries per Competition and a maximum of 400 entries per day, subject in each case to space at the venue and an appropriate ratio of Athletes to Officials (see Annex 6).

CHAPTER VII: OFFICIALS FOR ENDURANCE EVENTS

848. APPOINTMENT OF OFFICIALS

- 848.1 Criteria in respect of appointment, promotion and maintenance of status for all FEI Endurance Officials will be published regularly on the FEI website in accordance with the published education and standards criteria.
- 848.2 The appointment and number of Officials for each Event is set out in Annex 6. For any combined National and FEI events, see Article 802.6.
- 848.3 Except for the Foreign Veterinary Delegate and Foreign Judge, where two Officials have equivalent qualifications and experience, preference should be given to the Official of the country where the Event is staged.
- 848.4 Where a Foreign Official is required for an Event, such Foreign Official may not be a national or resident of the country where the Event is staged, unless that person is resident in a different time zone to the time zone of the Event location or in a different province/state that is at least 500 kms/8 hrs by road from the location where the Event will take place.
- 848.5 At Events other than CEIOs and Championships, at the request of the National Federation concerned the FEI may authorise a Judge sitting on the Ground Jury to carry out functions for both the National Event and FEI Event (which would otherwise be prohibited under the FEI General Regulations).

849. ROTATION OF OFFICIALS

- 849.1 For the purposes of this Article 849, a 'key Official' includes the President of the Ground Jury, the Foreign Judge, the Technical Delegate, the Chief Steward, and the President of the Veterinary Commission.
- 849.1.1 The Foreign Veterinary Delegate is excluded from the above rule on the basis that the appointment/rotation of the Foreign Veterinary Delegate must be in accordance with Article 1119 of the FEI Veterinary Regulations.
- 849.2 Where only one Event is held each year at a particular venue, a person may serve as a key Official in the same function at that Event no more than three times in any five-year rolling period.
- 849.3 Where more than one Event is held each year at a particular venue, a person may serve as a key Official in the same function at that venue for no more than three Events per year.

Transitional Provision – 849.2 and 849.3

As of 1 January 2024, all Officials will be reset to zero rides counting towards their rotation.

850. DUTIES OF OFFICIALS

- 850.1 The FEI Officials' Code of Conduct is set out as an appendix to the FEI General Regulations.

850.2 All FEI Endurance appointed Officials must be present and reachable throughout the Event according to their duties.

851. OFFICIALS' PER DIEMS AND EXPENSES

851.1 Officials are entitled to the following:

851.1.1 Daily per diems are not mandatory at FEI Events. If any per diems are paid to Officials, they cannot exceed a maximum of CHF 500 per day (or equivalent local monetary value).

851.1.2 The OC must confirm in writing to the Officials (in advance of the Official's acceptance of the appointment) the level of daily per diem that will be paid (if any) and the number of days that will be covered (including e.g., travel days, Competition days, and/or other days when the Officials are required to be present at the venue).

851.1.3 The OC must advise whether such per diem is subject to withholding tax or similar within the country of the Event.

851.1.4 The OC and Official must agree (in advance of the relevant Event) the basis upon which travel to and from the venue will be arranged or reimbursed. Travel arrangements must be such that Officials (i) arrive no later than the day before the First (Pre-Ride) Inspection (if it takes place in the morning) or the morning on the day of the First (Pre-Ride) Inspection (if it takes place in the afternoon), and (ii) have sufficient time to fully complete their duties on-site before they have to leave the Event venue. In CEI 3* and Championships, the Foreign Veterinary Delegate and President of the Ground Jury must be available at the Event Venue at least until the morning after the Event finishes (or, where the Competition takes place overnight, the specified Officials must be available at least until 12 hours after the ride has finished). The OC must arrange and reimburse accommodation and meals for all Officials approved and listed in the Competition Schedule at the relevant Event (accommodation arrangements must be made before the Official travels to the relevant Event).

851.1.5 Payment of per diems and reimbursement of agreed expenses will only be made after the Event is completed and all results have been signed off by the President of the Ground Jury.

851.2 Subject to Article 851.1, no other gifts or fees may be provided to Officials.

851.3 Any per diem or reimbursement of expenses may be paid and arranged only by the OC, and not (for example) by any other person, organisation, sponsor, etc.

852. TECHNICAL DELEGATE

852.1 The Technical Delegate must approve the technical and administrative arrangements for the conduct of the Event, including (among other things) the correct entry procedures, examinations and inspections of Horses, accommodation (for Horses, Athletes and Crew Members), and stewarding for the Event.

- 852.2 Prior to approving the arrangements for the conduct of the Event, the Technical Delegate has overall control and responsibility for the arrangements of the Event. Once the Technical Delegate is satisfied with the arrangements for the Event, the Technical Delegate must inform the Ground Jury accordingly and at that point overall control and responsibility for the conduct of the Event transfers to the Ground Jury. The Technical Delegate will continue to supervise the technical and administrative conduct of the Event until its conclusion and will advise and assist the Ground Jury, the Veterinary Commission, and the OC.
- 852.3 The Technical Delegate must check and approve the layout of the course and ride conditions to protect the welfare of Horses and safety of Athletes based on the level of the Competition(s), the degree of difficulty of the course, and the complicating weather conditions.
- 852.4 The Technical Delegate will supervise the briefing(s) and the conduct of all technical personnel.
- 852.5 The Technical Delegate will report to and advise the Ground Jury on all aspects relating to the technical and administrative arrangement of the Event, and assist as needed so that the Ground Jury can make any necessary decisions.
- 852.6 At any CEI, the Technical Delegate, if suitably qualified, may also serve on the Ground Jury.
- 852.7 At CEI 1*, 2* and 3*, provided there are 30 or fewer Horses entered in the Event, the Technical Delegate may also (if suitably qualified) serve as President of the Ground Jury or Chief Steward, subject to the approval of the FEI.

853. GROUND JURY

- 853.1 The Ground Jury will supervise all arrangements made by the OC for the veterinary control, stewarding, and time-keeping at the Competition.
- 853.2 Once the Technical Delegate has reported to the Ground Jury that the Technical Delegate is satisfied with all the arrangements for the Event, the Ground Jury is responsible for the overall control and conduct of the Event.
- 853.3 The OC must enlist the assistance of an appropriate number of other officials, Stewards and Veterinarians, depending on the number of entries (see Annex 6).
- 853.4 The Foreign Judge or President of the Ground Jury (as indicated in the table below) must provide a report to the FEI containing the information set out in the FEI General Regulations within 15 days of the relevant Event:

Event	FEI Official responsible for providing report
CEI1*, CEI2* CIM and Regional Championships/Games	President of the Ground Jury
CEI2*, CEI3* and Championships	Foreign Judge

853.5 The President of the Ground Jury may, in their sole discretion, eliminate a Combination at any point during the Competition if they decide that this would be in the best interest of the wellbeing and/or safety of the Horse and/or Athlete.

854. VETERINARY COMMISSION

854.1 The Veterinary Commission is responsible for making decisions in relation to, and advising the Ground Jury on all matters concerning, Horse health, safety, and welfare at Events.

854.2 The President of the Veterinary Commission and the Foreign Veterinary Delegate should be consulted by the OC and the Technical Delegate as early as practicable regarding the planning for Vet Gates and other Horse safety issues at the Event.

854.3 At CEI1* and CEI2* CIM, the President of the Veterinary Commission will also be responsible for the duties normally undertaken by a Foreign Veterinary Delegate.

855. CHIEF STEWARD

855.1 The Chief Steward is responsible for the organisation of stewarding throughout the Event across the entire Field of Play.

855.2 The Chief Steward must ensure that stable security is adequate for the level of the Event and that sufficient stewards are available at each Vet Gate and on the course.

855.3 The Chief Steward will assist the OC, Ground Jury and Technical Delegate to ensure the smooth running of all scheduled functions during an Event, such as opening and closing ceremonies or any official function organised during the Event.

855.4 The Chief Steward is responsible for the overall security and welfare of participants at the Event across the Field of Play.

855.5 The Chief Steward must liaise closely with the President of the Ground Jury, the Technical Delegate and the President of the Veterinary Commission, and should be consulted by the OC and the Technical Delegate as early as practicable regarding planning for the Event.

856. INDEPENDENT GOVERNANCE ADVISORS

856.1 At all FEI Events, the FEI has the right to appoint an Independent Governance Advisor to attend the Event and to report back to the FEI in relation to (i) the organisation of the Competitions, the venue and the course, (ii) the performance of the Officials, and (iii) suggested areas for improvement. Independent Governance Advisors must provide their reports to the FEI Endurance Department, which will share a copy of those reports with the FEI Endurance Technical Committee on request. The FEI Endurance Department will publish an annual report summarising the key findings of the Independent Governance Advisors (taking account of any confidentiality requirements). The FEI Endurance Technical Committee will also consider the Independent Governance Advisors' evaluation of the performance of Officials when appointing such Officials for Events.

856.2 The FEI will appoint Independent Governance Advisors as follows:

- 856.2.1 Appointments are subject to the approval of the FEI Endurance Technical Committee.
- 856.2.2 The FEI may appoint veterinary and non-veterinary Independent Governance Advisors.
- 856.2.3 Independent Governance Advisors must at a minimum be qualified as level 3 Officials and have ten years' active experience officiating at that level.
- 856.2.4 Independent Governance Advisors will be appointed for a term of one year, and may be re-appointed without term limits.
- 856.2.5 During any period in which a person acts as an Independent Governance Advisor, this person may not accept any other FEI Official positions except for in their country of residence and with the approval of the FEI Endurance Department.
- 856.3 Independent Governance Advisors will attend Events unannounced, i.e., no prior notice of their attendance may be given to the OC.
- 856.4 The FEI will pay the costs of the Independent Governance Advisors to attend the selected Events, including per diems (as per the applicable FEI policy) and expenses (economy travel, accommodation and meals).
- 856.5 The Independent Governance Advisors will not act (or be considered) as Officials at the Event, but may provide expert guidance or assistance if so required.
- 856.6 Serving as an Independent Governance Advisor will count for the purposes of maintaining an FEI Official star rating.

CHAPTER VIII: AWARDS AND PRIZE-GIVING CEREMONIES

857. PRIZE MONEY AND AWARDS

- 857.1 The FEI General Regulations govern the distribution of prize money.
- 857.2 An award recognising completion (e.g., medal, ribbon, plaque, etc) must be given to all Athletes who successfully complete the course. There is no minimum value for such awards.
- 857.3 All Athletes participating in a team that is classified for medals will receive a team medal.

858. RANKINGS

“Intentionally Omitted”

Please refer to FEI Endurance Rankings document.

859. PRIZE-GIVING CEREMONIES

- 859.1 The Veterinary Commission must exclude any unfit Horse from participation in the prize-giving ceremony.
- 859.2 Athletes and other persons participating in prize-giving ceremonies must comply with the dress code set out at Article 823.

860. BADGES OF HONOUR

Badges of Honour will be awarded as follows to Athletes who successfully complete World Championships:

- a) A Gold Badge for three successful completions.
- b) A Silver Badge for two successful completions.
- c) A Bronze Badge for one successful completion.

861. ELITE ATHLETE STATUS

- 861.1 Athletes who meet the criteria below will receive the recognition of Elite Athlete Status. Elite Athlete Status will not result in automatic qualification for any Championships. The Elite Athlete level refers to the achievements of the Athlete and not necessarily their current qualification level.

- 861.1.1 Athletes can hold multiple Elite Athlete Statuses at the same time (for example, an Athlete could be a 2* Gold Elite Athlete as well as a 3* Bronze Elite Athlete simultaneously).

Star Level	Bronze	Silver	Gold
1*	10 successful completions of CEI1*	20 successful completions of CEI1*	30 successful completions of CEI1*
2*	10 successful completions of CEI2*	20 successful completions of CEI2*	30 successful completions of CEI2*
3*	10 successful completions of CEI3*	20 successful completions of CEI3*	30 successful completions of CEI3*

861.2 **Juniors and Young Riders:** To achieve Junior/Young Rider Elite Athlete Status, Athletes must have successfully completed a minimum of ten CEI1*, CEI2* or CEI3*.

861.3 **Seniors:** To achieve Senior Elite Athlete Status, Athletes must have successfully completed a minimum of ten CEI1*, CEI2* or CEI3*.

861.4 **Consequences of EADCMR and suspensions of Elite Athlete Status:**

Athletes who receive any form of a suspension as defined under the FEI General Regulations or commit an offence under the FEI Equine Anti-Doping and Control Medication Regulations will automatically lose their Elite Status and will be required to re-qualify again by completing all required CEIs starting (as applicable) either from the date the period of final suspension is imposed or the 'fast track' decision is finalised.

If an Athlete who has not yet achieved Elite Status (but who is in the process of qualifying for Elite Status) receives any form of a suspension as defined under the FEI General Regulations or commit an offence under the FEI Equine Anti-Doping and Control Medication Regulations will be required to re-qualify again by completing all required CEIs starting (as applicable) either from the date the period of suspension is imposed or the 'fast track' decision is finalised.

Transitional Provision – 861

In order to calculate the new statuses of Athletes in Article 861 under these Endurance Rules, due to the availability of historical data and based on the Notes for Guidance from 2013 and 2014, the rides that count towards Elite Status are as of 2002.

All CEI3* rides count towards the Elite Status regardless of their distance and whether or not the ride was held as a multi-day Competition.

862. BEST CONDITION AWARD

862.1 The OC may organise a Best Condition Award at any Competition for the Horse that is in the best condition of the Horses finishing in one of the top ten classification positions after completing the Competition. FEI guidelines for determining the Best Condition Award are set out in Annex 2. Athletes are not obliged to enter their Horses in the Best Condition Award.

862.2 All Horses entered in the Best Condition Award remain subject to doping/medication control. They are deemed to still be in the Competition until after the prize giving ceremony for the Best Condition Award.

CHAPTER IX: DISCIPLINARY**863. PROCEDURE**

- 863.1 Any breach of these Endurance Rules or other FEI Rules and Regulations will be dealt with in accordance with the procedures set out in these Endurance Rules or (where there are none) in accordance with the procedures set out in the FEI General Regulations or other applicable FEI Rules and Regulations.
- 863.2 The sanctions listed in these Endurance Rules are not exhaustive. They apply in addition to any other sanctions set out in other applicable FEI Rules and Regulations.

864. ATHLETE AND TRAINER PENALTY POINTS

- 864.1 Subject to Article 864.3, in order to (i) protect Horse welfare and deter any failure to comply strictly with Article 801¹, and (ii) deter any conduct that could constitute Incorrect Behaviour, an Athlete and Trainer will each automatically receive the following number of penalty points for each incident set out below. It is the responsibility of an Athlete and Trainer to know their status of penalty points:

Incident	Penalty points
Disqualification for Late Presentation	10
Failure to Qualify – metabolic (FTQ-ME)	10
Failure to Qualify – Serious Injury (metabolic)	25
Failure to Qualify – Serious Injury (musculoskeletal)	80
Failure to Qualify – Catastrophic Injury	100 (the additional penalties set out in Article 866.1 will also apply)
Horse participating in an FEI Event or National Event during the applicable Mandatory Out of Competition Period	100 (the additional penalties set out in Articles 839.3.3 and 866.1 will also apply)
Horse is not presented for Horse Inspection before leaving the Field of Play, except if Horse is immediately transported for emergency medical treatment	100 (the additional penalties set out in Articles 810 and 866.1 will also apply)
Failure by the Person Responsible to provide a copy of the veterinary report from a designated/approved referral centre to the FEI in accordance with Article 840	80

¹ Including, without limitation, to deter poor training practices, poor horsemanship, failure to safely manage the Horse over the course, and prioritising competitive or commercial influences over Horse welfare.

- 864.2 Athletes and Trainers accumulate penalty points over a rolling period of one year. Penalty points will be removed from the running total one year from the date on which they were incurred. The successful completion of a ride will result in the deduction of five penalty points from the Athlete's and Trainer's total of penalty points. Where the Athlete is also the Trainer of the Horse, the deduction will be applied to the Athlete's penalty points total. In the case where the Athlete and the Trainer of the Horse are not the same person, the deduction will apply to both their penalty points totals individually. For the avoidance of doubt, the number of penalty points can never be reduced below zero. Should a Combination be subsequently disqualified, the deduction of the five penalty points will be reversed.
- 864.3 In exceptional circumstances, Athletes and/or Trainers may appeal the penalty points imposed on them for a Failure to Qualify (Serious Injury (musculoskeletal) and Failure to Qualify (Catastrophic Injury) designations (only) pursuant to Article 864.1 on the sole ground that they bear 'No Fault or Negligence' for the incident in respect of which the penalty points were imposed. The appeal shall be filed with the FEI Tribunal in accordance with Article 162.5 and 162.6 of the FEI General Regulations.
- 864.3.1 In the context of this Article 864.3, 'No Fault or Negligence' means that the Athlete and/or Trainer could not have taken any steps, even with the exercise of good training practices and horsemanship, to prevent the incident in question.²
- 864.3.2 The Athlete or Trainer challenging the imposition of the penalty points bears the burden of proving (on the balance of probabilities) that they bear 'No Fault or Negligence' for the incident.
- 864.3.3 If the FEI Tribunal considers that an Athlete and/or Trainer has demonstrated (on the balance of probabilities) that they bear 'No Fault or Negligence' for the relevant incident, it may rescind the imposition of the penalty points on that party.
- 864.3.4 Except as specifically provided for in Article 864.3 above, Athletes and Trainers may not Protest, appeal or otherwise challenge the imposition of penalty points under Article 864.1.

Transitional Provisions – 864

As of 1 January 2024, Athlete and Trainer penalty points will be separated into two distinct counters (Athlete and Trainer) based on which role the points were incurred under. For the avoidance of doubt, if penalty points are incurred at an Event where the Athlete is also the Trainer of the Horse, the points will go into their 'Athlete counter' only. For penalty points carried over from 2023, should an Athlete also have been the Trainer of the Horse at the Event where the penalty points were incurred, the penalty points will go into their 'Athlete counter' as of 1 January 2024.

² For example, if a Horse suffers an aneurysm on a course and consequently sustains a Catastrophic Injury, provided that the Athlete and Trainer can provide veterinary records to establish that the Horse did indeed suffer an aneurysm and that the aneurysm caused the Catastrophic Injury, the Athlete and Trainer penalty points for the FTQ-Catastrophic Injury will be rescinded because they could not have known about or prevented an aneurysm, even applying good training practices and horsemanship.

'No Fault or Negligence' may not be established where the Athlete fails to safely manage the Horse over the course (including where they fail to avoid any natural elements that may pose a risk to the horse especially when travelling at speed, such as visible animal holes and burrows, uneven surfaces, large stones, tree roots, etc).

The deduction of five penalty points is applied at the time of the successful completion of the ride once the results are processed and published.

Article 864.3, which gives the possibility for the Athlete/Trainer to appeal against the imposition of penalty points for FTQ-SI-MUSCU and FTQ-CI only where exceptional circumstances exist and where they can establish that they bore 'No fault or Negligence', is not applicable retroactively and only applies as of 1 January 2024.

865. WARNING CARDS

865.1 **Yellow Warning Card:** The President of the Ground Jury, the Chief Steward or the Technical Delegate may issue a Yellow Warning Card to a Person Responsible for offences relating to Horse Abuse, Incorrect Behaviour, failure to comply with the protective headgear requirements, or otherwise where specified in these Endurance Rules.

865.2 "Intentionally Omitted"

865.3 **Notification:** The person receiving a warning card must be notified during the period of the Event that this person will receive a Yellow Warning Card, which will be delivered either by hand or by any other suitable means. If after reasonable efforts the person cannot be notified during the period of the Event, the person must be notified in writing within 14 days of the Event. A Yellow Warning Card may be issued in addition to any other sanction(s) issued in accordance with these Endurance Rules, FEI General Regulations, or other applicable Rules and Regulations.

866. SUSPENSIONS

866.1 If an Athlete or Trainer incurs 100 or more penalty points, the Athlete/Trainer will receive an automatic two-month suspension. After the suspension is served, the Athlete's/Trainer's penalty points total will be reduced by 100 points.

866.2 The consequences during any period of suspension are set out in the FEI General Regulations.

866.3 If a Horse ridden by an Athlete suffers a Serious Injury and/or a Catastrophic Injury within one year of any other Horse ridden by the same Athlete also suffering a Serious Injury and/or a Catastrophic Injury, that Athlete will be automatically suspended for six months.

867. PROTESTS

The procedure for protests is set out in the FEI General Regulations.

ANNEX 1: DEFINITIONS

A.1 Defined terms used in these Endurance Rules (denoted by initial capital letters) have the meaning given to them in this Annex 1, or (if not listed in this Annex 1) have the meaning given to them in the FEI Statutes, FEI General Regulations, FEI Veterinary Regulations, or other applicable FEI Rules and Regulations.

Athlete: as defined in Article 800.4.2.

Best Condition Award: the award described in Article 862 and Annex 2.

Blinkers: a garment fitted over a Horse's head with holes for the eyes and ears, one or both eyeholes being fitted with cowls cutting out all vision to the rear but permitting full forward vision.

Catastrophic Injury: an injury that, in the opinion of the President of the Veterinary Commission, the President of the Treating Veterinary Commission, and the Foreign Veterinary Delegate requires immediate euthanasia or contributes to the death of a Horse in Competition or as a result of injuries sustained during a Competition, howsoever caused. (For the procedures in the event of a Horse fatality, see Article 840, paragraph 6 of Annex 5, and the FEI Veterinary Regulations).

CEI: as described in Articles 802.1.1 and 802.2.

CEIO: as described in Articles 802.1.2 and 802.3.

Championships: the Endurance championships outlined in Article 802.4.2.

Combination: a Horse and Athlete pair competing in a Competition.

Competition: an FEI Endurance ride in which Athletes are placed in order of merit and for which prizes may be awarded.

Crew Member: a person nominated and permitted to provide assistance to a Combination on the Field of Play.

Definite Entries: the list of confirmed Athlete/Horse entries submitted by a National Federation to participate in a Competition (for Championships and FEI World Equestrian Games, the Athletes/Horses must be selected from the list of Nominated Entries).

Disqualification: as defined in Article 809.5.2.

Elite Athlete Status: the status/recognition given to Athletes who meet the criteria of Article 861.

Endurance: as described in the Preamble to these Endurance Rules.

Yellow Warning Card: as described in Article 865.1.

Event: as defined in Article 800.1 (an Event may include one or more Competitions).

Failure to Qualify: as defined in Article 809.5.1, and as further detailed in Annex 3 (elimination codes).

FEI Calendar: the calendar of FEI sanctioned events available at: <https://data.fei.org/Calendar/Search.aspx>.

FEI Rules and Regulations: as defined in Article 800.1.

Field of Play: as defined in Article 813.

Final Horse Inspection: the mandatory Horse Inspection that takes place at the end of the Competition.

First (Pre-Ride) Inspection: the first Horse Inspection that takes place at the start of the Competition, before the first Loop.

Foreign Veterinary Delegate: as defined in the FEI Veterinary Regulations. Subject to Article 854.3, if no Foreign Veterinary Delegate is appointed, that role will be fulfilled by the Primary Veterinary Delegate.

Hold Time: as described in Article 816.8.

Horse Abuse: see definition of 'Abuse of Horse' under the FEI General Regulations and Article 801 of these Endurance Rules. (Horse Abuse is also referred to as 'Abuse of a Horse').

Loop: as defined in Article 814.1.

Mandatory Out of Competition Period (or MOOCP): the mandatory period during which a Horse may not compete in any National or FEI Events, as described in Article 839.

National Event: endurance rides organised at the national-level under the jurisdiction of National Federations.

Nominated Entries: the list of Athletes and Horses nominated by a National Federation to participate in a Competition from which the Definite Entries and any substitutions must be chosen.

OC: the committee responsible for organising an Event.

Official Team Competition: a team competition at a CEIO.

Phase: as defined in Article 815.

Serious Injury: a serious injury of a Horse may be classified as musculoskeletal or metabolic:

Serious musculoskeletal injuries include but are not limited to fractures, serious tendon or ligament damage, or muscle injuries that preclude normal ambulation. A Horse that is non-weight-bearing, even if the cause is undiagnosed, must be classified as having a Serious Injury (musculoskeletal).

Serious metabolic injuries include any condition that requires urgent treatment or fails to be completely resolved by treatment at the venue, and (following a vote with at least 2/3 majority) in the opinion of the President of the Veterinary Commission, the President of the Treating Veterinary Commission, and the Foreign Veterinary Delegate requires further assessment and continued appropriate veterinary care beyond the period of Competition. Examples include but are not limited to persistent colic, acute kidney injury, myopathy, collapse, heat stroke, and other metabolic conditions that may compromise the Horse's health and well-being. If the condition is such that referral is recommended, it must be considered a Serious Injury (metabolic).

Trainer: as defined in Article 800.4.1.

Vet Gate: as defined in Article 813.1.3.

Vetting Area: as defined in Article 816.3.

- A.2 In these Endurance Rules, unless expressly specified otherwise:
- A.2.1 words importing one gender include the other genders;
 - A.2.2 words in the singular include the plural, and words in the plural include the singular;
 - A.2.3 references to Articles and Annexes are references to articles of and annexes to these Rules; references to 'paragraphs' are references to provisions in the Annexes;
 - A.2.4 any reference to a provision in a rule or regulation includes any modifications or successor provisions made or issued from time to time;
 - A.2.5 any reference to legislation includes any modification or re-enactment of legislation enacted in substitution of that legislation, and any regulation, order-in-council or other instrument from time to time issued or made under that legislation;
 - A.2.6 any reference to an agreement includes that agreement as modified, supplemented, novated or substituted from time to time;
 - A.2.7 a reference to 'writing' or 'write' includes fax and email;
 - A.2.8 a reference to 'may' means 'in the sole discretion of such person'; a reference to 'may not' is a prohibition;
 - A.2.9 a reference to a person includes natural persons, corporate bodies, and unincorporated bodies (whether or not having separate legal personality), and also includes the legal personal representatives, successors and permitted assigns of such person;
 - A.2.10 a reference to a 'day' means any day of the week and is not limited to working days, and a reference to 'one day' or a 'single day' means a consecutive 24-hour period (for a ride to be completed in one – or a single – day, there may not be any breaks between the start and finish of the ride within the 24-hour period);
 - A.2.11 an expression of time refers to Greenwich Mean Time (GMT);
 - A.2.12 headings and tables of content are for reference only and shall not affect the proper interpretation and application of the Rules or Regulations in question; and
 - A.2.13 any words following the terms 'including', 'include', 'in particular', 'such as', 'for example', or any similar expression, shall be construed as illustrative and shall not limit the sense of the words, description, definition, phrase or term preceding those terms.
- A.3 In the event of any inconsistency between these Endurance Rules and the FEI Statutes, the FEI Statutes shall prevail. Unless expressly specified otherwise, in the event of any inconsistency between these Endurance Rules and the FEI General Regulations, the FEI General Regulations shall prevail.

ANNEX 2: FEI GUIDELINES FOR BEST CONDITION AWARD

The OC may use the following guidelines for a Best Condition Award (if held by the OC):

1. The Best Condition Award will be determined on the day (or last day) of the Competition by a panel of three members (including a chair), made up of (i) two Official Veterinarians and one Judge, or (ii) three Official Veterinarians, as selected by the President of the Veterinary Commission. Details of the criteria used to judge the award must be announced prior to the start of the assessment.
2. Only the Horses classified in the top ten finishing positions of the Competition may participate in the Best Condition Award, provided that they have successfully completed the Competition in a time that is within an additional percentage of the winning time (such percentage to be determined by the Ground Jury).
3. The procedure for assessing the Horses for the Best Condition Award will be as follows:
 - 3.1 First stage: Prior to any examination under the saddle, the Horse will be assessed unmounted for gait, metabolic parameters, and surface injuries.
 - 3.2 Second stage: If not eliminated at the first stage, the Horse must be trotted 40 metres out and back, followed by trotting in a figure eight.
 - 3.3 Third (optional) stage: The Best Condition Award may include a mounted phase. If a mounted phase is included, and provided the Horse is not eliminated at the previous stages, the Athlete will be required, on the instructions of the chair of the Best Condition Award panel, to demonstrate their equitation skills in a free range ridden display of the Athlete's choice. The purpose of this display is to exhibit the soundness of the Horse, including its fitness, agility and willingness to compete. This free range equitation display may not exceed five minutes.
 - 3.4 If the panel considers that the Horse has an irregular gait, is unable to complete the trot out due to lack of impulsion or exhaustion, or fails to meet the metabolic criteria, the Horse will be eliminated from the Best Condition Award.
4. The scoring is divided into four sections of equal points (100 points for each section):
 - 4.1 Section 1: points are awarded based on the position of the Horse compared to the first Horse to finish.
 - 4.2 Section 2: points are awarded based on the recovery time of the Horse for each Phase, except for the finish. The recovery time is the time between when the Athlete completes the Loop and presents for the Horse Inspection (for the avoidance of doubt, the Horse must pass the inspection for the phase to be considered completed).
 - 4.3 Section 3: points are awarded based on the Horse's results during the veterinary inspection (taking place as part of the Best Condition Award) and are scored as follows:

Skin Test		Cap. Refill		Muc. Membrane		Gut Sounds		Surface Factors	
Seconds	Points	Seconds	Points	Seconds	Points	Seconds	Points		
1	10	1 to 2	10	A	10	Normal	10	No Lesions	10
2	7.5	2 to 3	7.5	B	7.5	Mid Decrease	7.5	Mild Lesions	7.5
3	5	3 to 4	5	C	5	Moderate Decrease	5	Moderate Lesions	5
4	2.5	4 to 5	2.5	D	2.5	Marked Decrease	2.5	Severe Lesions	Eliminate
Score		Score		Score		Score		Score	

4.4 Section 4: this section is optional. Points are awarded by subtracting the weight of the Athlete under examination from the weight of the heaviest Athlete whose Horse is being considered for the Best Condition Award. The score is obtained by subtracting this difference from 100.

5. The Horse with the highest score after adding the points under the four sections above will be declared the winner of the Best Condition Award.

ANNEX 3: ELIMINATION CODES

WD: Withdrawn

- The Combination decides not to participate in the Competition at or prior to the First (Pre-Ride) Inspection in accordance with Article 809.5.3.

RET: Retired

- The Combination decides not to continue in the Competition in accordance with Article 809.5.4.

DSQ: Disqualified

- A Combination is Disqualified in accordance with Article 809.5.2.
- A Horse may be Disqualified and also designated as Failed to Qualify for a veterinary or other reason (see list under FTQ below).
- In addition to other reasons for Disqualification, the following reasons may apply:
 - o Underweight (UW)
 - o Late Presentation (LP)
 - o Hyposensitivity (HYPO)
 - o horse Abuse (HA)
 - o Horse Not Presented (HNP)

FNR: Finished Not Ranked

- FNR means that the Combination has (or is deemed to have) completed a Competition (including all Horse Inspections) but is not ranked in the final classification (see e.g., Article 820.2 regarding an error on course).
- A Combination may be designated FNR with the approval of the President of the Ground Jury and/or the Technical Delegate. The Officials must provide reasons for the FNR designation.
- If in addition to the FNR designation the Combination receives a certificate of completion from the Officials at the Event, the Competition will count as a 'successful completion' for qualification purposes.

FTQ: Failed to Qualify

The FTQ designation must be accompanied by one or more of the additional codes below:

- **SP:** Speed (not respecting any applicable speed restriction)
- **GA:** Irregular gait
- **ME:** Metabolic
- **MI:** Minor Injury (e.g., slight soreness, wound, etc.)
- **SI-MUSCU:** Serious Injury (musculoskeletal injury)
- **SI-META:** Serious Injury (metabolic injury)
- **CI:** Catastrophic Injury
- **OT:** Out of Time (failure to complete a Loop within the allocated time, but passes the Horse Inspection after that Loop)
- **FTC:** Failed to Complete (non-completion of a Loop, but passes the Horse Inspection after that Loop). The Officials must provide reasons for the FTC designation, and an explanation of what happened to the Combination.

The above FTQ codes may be cumulative, as shown in the table below:

Code #1		Code #2		Code #3
SP				
GA ME GA + ME MI CI SI-MUSCU SI-META OT FTC	+	SP		
GA ME GA + ME MI CI SI-MUSCU SI-META FTC	+	OT	+	SP
SI-MUSCU	+	ME	+	SP
SI-META	+	GA	+	SP

ANNEX 4: FEI WORLD ENDURANCE RANKINGS

“Intentionally Omitted”

Please refer to FEI Endurance Rankings document.

ANNEX 5: HORSE INSPECTIONS, EXAMINATIONS, CONTROL OF MEDICATION**PART A: VETERINARY CONTROL****1. Veterinary Commission and Horse welfare**

- 1.1 As set out in Article 854.1, the Veterinary Commission is responsible for making decisions in relation to, and advising the Ground Jury on all matters concerning, Horse health, safety, and welfare at Events.
- 1.2 Unless specified otherwise, any decisions required to be taken by a panel of three Veterinarians will be based on a majority vote. Where the panel is required to determine whether or not a Horse should be designated as 'Failed to Qualify', each of the three Veterinarians must independently (without conferring with each other) write their decision on a confidential voting slip (marked pass or fail) and provide it directly to a member of the Ground Jury.
- 1.3 The Ground Jury will make decisions concerning Horse welfare based on the decisions and advice of the Veterinary Commission. Any decision of the Veterinary Commission or the Ground Jury taken on the direct advice of the Veterinary Commission is final, and may not be appealed.
- 1.4 Where the Ground Jury designates a Horse as 'Failed to Qualify', it must provide the reasons for doing so, which must be recorded in accordance with paragraphs 3.1 and 3.4(c), below.

2. Foreign Veterinary Delegate / Primary Veterinary Delegate

Subject to Article 854.3, if no Foreign Veterinary Delegate is appointed for an Event, that role will be fulfilled by the Primary Veterinary Delegate.

3. Horse records

- 3.1 For each Event, individual Vet Cards must be issued for each Horse before the First (Pre-Ride) Inspection and must be completed for all subsequent Horse Inspections. The Vet Cards may be in paper or electronic form, provided that only the FEI-issued paper/electronic forms are used, and (if the OC opts to use the electronic form) then the OC must specify this in the Competition Schedule.
- 3.2 All the relevant information required at the Horse Inspections (see paragraph 9.2) and any other details from other veterinary inspections/examinations or as otherwise required under this Annex 5 or the FEI Veterinary Regulations must be recorded on the Vet Card for each Combination and must be available at all subsequent inspections and examinations.
- 3.3 Athletes are entitled to see and copy the record referring to their Horses immediately after each Horse Inspection.
- 3.4 After each Event:
 - (a) details of a Horse's completed distance to the nearest Vet Gate, reasons for non-classification (metabolic, irregular gait or both), treatments at the venue, referral for hospitalisation, Mandatory Out of Competition Period(s) and any other comments necessary to protect the Horse's future

safety and welfare deemed necessary by the Veterinary Commission must be recorded on the Vet Card;

- (b) all Vet Cards must be sent to the FEI Veterinary Department in electronic form within 72 hours of the end of the Event, but copies may also be retained by the OC (if paper cards are used during the Event, they must be scanned or photographed or the details must be manually entered into an electronic form, e.g., Word); and
- (c) the Veterinary Report for the Event must be sent to the FEI Veterinary Department in electronic form in accordance with the FEI Veterinary Regulations and any other requirements for reporting set out in the FEI Veterinary Regulations. This report must include details of any injury or disease suffered by a Horse and the treatment provided for such injury/disease.

3.5 Only the Veterinary Commission and/or President of the Ground Jury may make entries in the official record.

4. Veterinary supervision at Events

To ensure that Horses have adequate rest between travel and Competition, and to ensure adequate veterinary supervision before and after a ride, at all CEI 2*, CEI 3*, and Championships, subject to the discretion of the Veterinary Commission, all competing Horses must remain in the stable area at the Event under veterinary supervision (by the President of the Veterinary Commission, the Foreign Veterinary Delegate, a member of the Veterinary Commission, and/or a Treating Veterinarian) for (i) a minimum of eight hours before the First (Pre-Ride) Inspection for CEI 2* and CEI 3* (subject to published closing times for the stables), and (ii) a minimum of eight hours after the scheduled finish for the Competition.

If a Horse has not completed all Phases of the Competition, the President of the Veterinary Commission, Foreign Veterinary Delegate and President of the Ground Jury may authorise the release of a Horse at an earlier time.

Horses participating at a Championship must be stabled at the venue overnight and must enter the stables at the latest 4 hours before the official closing time of the stables the night before the First Inspection.

In the event of unforeseen and exceptional circumstances a Horse may present up to one hour before closing time of the stables subject to the specific approval of both the Technical Delegate and Foreign Vet Delegate.

5. Veterinary services and aftercare

5.1 The President of the Veterinary Commission or Foreign Veterinary Delegate are required to provide for appropriate aftercare and veterinary services as set out in the FEI Veterinary Regulations. For Championships, triage and emergency treatment facilities must be provided on site, and arrangements must also be made with a designated referral centre to refer Horses for further assessment and treatment if necessary. Such arrangements must be clearly written in the Competition Schedule and approved by the Technical Delegate in collaboration with the President of the Veterinary Commission and Foreign Veterinary Delegate prior to the Examination on Arrival.

5.2 After the First (Pre-Ride) Inspection, the President of the Veterinary Commission and Foreign Veterinary Delegate in consultation with the Ground Jury may

recommend changes in the treatment arrangements including the placement of members of the Veterinary Commission, or scheduling of their availability, for help in the treatment/aftercare area. Such arrangements must identify the Treating Veterinarian(s) and the treatment group must include a Veterinarian licensed to practice Veterinary medicine in that geographical location.

6. Horse fatality

- 6.1 If a Horse dies for any reason at the Event, the Foreign Veterinary Delegate must ensure that the procedures set out in the FEI Veterinary Regulations are carried out.
- 6.2 If a Horse that has competed in an Event dies for any reason that is related to its participation in that Event (including where the Horse suffers a Catastrophic Injury or Serious Injury requiring referral to a designated referral centre), the Person Responsible (as defined in the FEI General Regulations) and the Horse's administering National Federation must notify the FEI Veterinary Department as required under the FEI Veterinary Regulations, and also comply with the procedures set out in Article 840 of the Endurance Rules and in the FEI Veterinary Regulations.

PART B: HORSE INSPECTIONS AND EXAMINATIONS

7. Examination on Arrival

- 7.1 Examination on Arrival must be carried out at all FEI Events and take place in a designated Examination on Arrival area as described in the FEI Veterinary Regulations. The Foreign Veterinary Delegate (or their appointee, who must be an FEI Veterinarian) must examine all Horses arriving at the Event venue and collect their FEI passports, before they are allowed to enter the stables.
 - (a) For CEIs, the Examination on Arrival may be coupled with the First (Pre-Ride) Inspection, but (for biosecurity reasons) Horses may not enter the stables at the Event before the Examination on Arrival is completed.
 - (b) At CEIOs and Championships, the Examination on Arrival and First (Pre-Ride) Inspection must occur separately and far enough in advance to allow for isolation of compromised Horses and their travelling partners until health questions or concerns are satisfied. The OC must provide adequate isolation facilities for those purposes.
- 7.2 During the Examination on Arrival, a member of the Veterinary Commission must:
 - (a) verify the identity of the Horse from its FEI passport, using the diagram, description, and (if applicable) the microchip number;
 - (b) check that the Horse has been vaccinated against equine influenza in accordance with the FEI Veterinary Regulations;
 - (c) verify whether all details relating to the Horse's identification, vaccination record and other health requirements are correctly recorded in the Horse's Passport;
 - (d) ensure that the Horse does not have any clinical signs of infectious disease. This may include a clinical examination to assess the heart,

- respiratory rate, body temperature and the checking of any other clinical parameters; and
- (e) palpate the limbs and/or body only when there is a concern of a suspected injury or illness sustained during travel.
- 7.3 Following the Examination on Arrival, any Horse considered not fit to compete must be reported to the Ground Jury before the First (Pre-Ride) Inspection. The Veterinary Commission/Foreign Veterinary Delegate must discuss the matter with the Ground Jury, and the Ground Jury (if it considers necessary) may remove the Horse from the Competition before the First (Pre-Ride) Inspection.
- 7.4 Horses that are not vaccinated against Equine Influenza as required under the FEI Veterinary Regulations or whose vaccination status cannot be confirmed (e.g., failure to produce an FEI passport) must be refused permission to enter the Event stables and stabled in the isolation stables.
- 7.5 Horses that have any clinical findings consistent with non-infectious diseases or injury must be reported to the Veterinary Commission/Foreign Veterinary Delegate as soon as possible.
- 7.6 Horses must be stabled in the isolation stables if they show any clinical signs of infectious disease, or have been in contact with other Horses that show clinical signs of infectious disease. These Horses must be refused permission to enter the Event stables and stabled in isolation stables pending recovery, or until alternative arrangements have been made.
- 7.7 Any biosecurity concern must be immediately reported to the Veterinary Commission/Foreign Veterinary Delegate.

8. Horse Inspections

- 8.1 Following the Examination on Arrival, all Horse Inspections during the Competition will be performed by the Veterinary Commission and will follow the same format. If there are any changes to how the Horse Inspections will be conducted, that must be announced prior to the Competition by the Ground Jury or published in the Competition Schedule.
- 8.2 **First (Pre-Ride) Inspection:** The First (Pre-Ride) Inspection will take place either on the day preceding or early on the day that the first Loop of the ride starts.
- 8.3 **Horse Inspections at each Vet Gate:** Horse Inspections will take place in the Vetting Area at the Vet Gate after the end of each Loop.
- 8.4 **Compulsory re-inspections:** The Veterinary Commission, in consultation with the Ground Jury, may require that all Horses in the Competition (or all Horses meeting certain criteria, see e.g., Article 816.6.5) be presented for a compulsory re-inspection at specified Vet Gates. Compulsory re-inspections will take place in the last 15 minutes of a Combination's Hold Time at the relevant Vet Gate.
- 8.5 **Requested re-inspections:** Any member of Veterinary Commission may ask an Athlete to present their Horse for re-inspection at any Vet Gate if it has any concerns about the Horse. Vet-requested re-inspections will take place in the last 15 minutes of a Combination's Hold Time at the relevant Vet Gate.

8.6 **Final Horse Inspection:** The Final Horse Inspection will take place after the Horse crosses the finish line of the ride.

8.7 **Veterinary inspection in case of visible blood:**

If blood is visible on a Horse during a Horse Inspection, the Horse must be examined by a panel of three Veterinarians. If the panel of Veterinarians determines (i) that the Horse has free-flowing blood from an injury or orifice, or (ii) that continuing in the Competition will in any way endanger (or risk endangering) the welfare of the Horse, the Horse must be designated as Failed to Qualify. The Horse may continue in the Competition only if the panel of Veterinarians determines that the blood is not free-flowing and that continuing in the Competition does not in any way endanger (or risk endangering) the welfare of the Horse (for example, where the Horse suffers a minor scratch from a tree branch). The Veterinary Delegate must report any blood visible on the Horse (regardless of the panel's determination) in the Veterinary Report for the Event (see the FEI Veterinary Regulations), including the Horse's FEI registration number, a description of the injury, a photograph of the injury, the determination of the panel with reasons, and the names and FEI registration numbers of each of the three panel members that examined the Horse).

8.8 **Other veterinary inspections:**

The Veterinary Commission or Ground Jury may select any Horses at random at any time to submit to a Horse Inspection during the Competition.

9. Assessments during Horse Inspections

9.1 The Veterinarians' responsibilities to evaluate a Horse are the same for all Horse Inspections, i.e., the same standards apply to judging fitness to continue in the Competition with respect to heart rate, metabolic status, gait and general condition up to and including the Final Horse Inspection.

9.2 **Assessments for all Horse Inspections:** The Veterinarian conducting the Horse Inspection will assess the Horse's general condition and its metabolic status, while taking into account the Horse's recovery time (see Article 816.2). The assessments will include heart rate, mucous membrane characteristics, capillary refill time, intestinal activity (gut sounds), estimated hydration status, and demeanour. The Veterinarian will also evaluate the Horse's gait and assess any soreness on palpation of the back and girth, the texture and any sensitivity of the muscles, and any minor injuries including in the mouth or around the saddle and girth area. These assessments and any other observations regarding the Horse's condition must be recorded on the Vet Card.

9.2.1 Subject to the prior approval of the President of the Ground Jury, a Treating Veterinarian who has been appointed on the approved Event Schedule, may assist in conducting the veterinary inspections on the vet lanes when there is a high number of Horses arriving together, provided this Treating Veterinarian has the required level (EOV) to perform this function, and provided there are no Horses that need treatment, and that this Veterinarian has not already treated a Horse. As soon as this Treating Veterinarian is needed to treat a Horse, they may no longer be part of the Veterinary Commission on the vet lane. Priority must always be given to Horses in need of treatment.

9.3 Heart rate assessment procedure:

- (a) All heart rate assessments must be undertaken by a member of the Veterinary Commission. Heart rate is the first parameter to be examined and recorded during the Horse Inspection. It is an essential criterion to accurately assess the Horse's recovery and fitness to continue. The recovery time of the Horse must also be made available to the Veterinarian conducting the Horse Inspection.
- (b) The maximum heart rate parameters are set out in Article 816.6.1 (which are subject to modification pursuant to Article 816.9). Horses with heart rates higher than maximum heart rate parameters will not be allowed to continue in the Competition and will be designated as 'Failed to Qualify – metabolic' (FTQ – ME). Any abnormal heart sounds must be recorded on the Vet Card.
- (c) Every effort should be taken to accurately record the heart rate. If the examination of the heart rate is disrupted due to movement or excitement of the Horse rendering the examination impossible or inaccurate, the examination will be stopped and recommenced when the Horse is settled. If the Athlete, Crew Member, or other Person Responsible (as defined in the FEI General Regulations) deliberately disrupts the Horse Inspection, the Horse will fail the inspection.
- (d) The heart rate of the Horse must be measured using either a stethoscope or an FEI-approved electronic heart rate monitor. When the Horse is presented for inspection, the stethoscope or the electronic heart rate monitor must be applied to the left side of the chest wall at approximately the level of the elbow. The examiner should locate the best position to measure the heart rate.
- (e) Starting and timing the assessment:
 - (i) Where a stethoscope is used, a stop watch must be used to time the count. An assessment must be taken after 15 seconds and then (if necessary further to the provisions below) at 60 seconds. To evaluate the heart rate after 15 seconds under paragraph (f)(i) below, the number of heart beats counted in 15 seconds must be multiplied by four. The stop watch must be started when the heart beat is audible and then the count starts on the next heartbeat.
 - (ii) Where an electronic heart rate monitor is used, the monitor must provide an assessment at the following intervals displaying readings at: 15, 30, 45 and 60 seconds only. The assessment starts when the monitor makes contact with the Horse's chest and picks up the first heartbeat.
- (f) Determining whether the Horse's heart rate complies with the maximum heart rate parameters:
 - (i) The Horse's heart rate will be measured for a minimum of 15 seconds and a maximum of 60 seconds at 15-second intervals.
 - (ii) If at any of these 15-second intervals, the heart rate reading complies with the maximum heart rate parameter, then the reading may be recorded and the inspection completed. *15 (or less) beats within the first 15 seconds, which would be the*

equivalent of 60bpm (or less) at 60 seconds, 32 beats (or less) within 30 seconds or 48 beats (or less) within 45 seconds, or 64 beats (or less) within 60 seconds).

- (iii) If the heart rate reading at the above-mentioned intervals are greater than their corresponding values of the maximum heart rate parameter, the heart rate assessment must continue for another 15 seconds until it reaches the 60 second mark.
- (iv) If the heart rate is greater than the maximum heart parameter after the 60-second assessment:
 - (A) Except for the Final Horse Inspection (where only one presentation is permitted), if there is time remaining for a second presentation (see Article 816.6), the Horse may leave the Vetting Area and be presented a second time for a heart rate re-inspection. The same procedures under paragraphs (a)-(f) above will apply to the second presentation.
 - (B) If there is no presentation time remaining for a heart rate re-inspection or the Horse fails to meet the maximum heart rate parameters at the heart rate re-inspection or at the Final Horse Inspection (where only one presentation is permitted), then a confirmation procedure must be completed to confirm the failed assessment. For the confirmation procedure, the Horse must be presented to a second Veterinarian immediately after the failed assessment. If an electronic heart rate monitor was used for the failed assessment, then a second electronic heart rate monitor (or, if not available, a stethoscope) must be used. The Veterinarian will assess the Horse's heart rate for 15 seconds only. If the Horse is to be designated as 'Failed to Qualify', then the Horse's heart rate during the confirmation procedure must either be made available on a public electronic display or notified to a member of the Ground Jury. If the Horse's heart rate is greater than the maximum heart rate parameter during the confirmation procedure, the Horse will be designated as 'Failed to Qualify – metabolic' (FTQ-ME).

(g) **Cardiac Recovery Index (CRI):**

As part of the metabolic assessment of the Horse, the Cardiac Recovery Index (CRI) of the Horse will also be measured (and recorded) at each Horse Inspection. Once the heart rate of the Horse has been recorded following the procedure above under paragraph 9.3, the Veterinarian will assess the gait of the Horse through a trot-up in the vet lane. The Athlete/Crew Member must trot the Horse 80 m (40 m out and 40 m back). The Veterinarian will start a stop watch at the start of the trot, stop it at one minute, and then measure the Horse's heart rate for up to 60 seconds using a stethoscope. The difference between the first and second heart rates is the CRI. While measuring the second heart rate, the Veterinarian will also consider whether there are any pathological signs (e.g., such as heart murmurs or rhythm abnormalities) that may indicate that the Horse is unfit to continue. The Veterinarian may not perform any manipulation prior to taking the second heart rate that is likely to cause

the heart rate of the Horse to become artificially elevated (such as by examining the Horse's head).

- 9.4 **Respiratory system:** Abnormalities in rate or character of the breathing deemed by the Veterinary Commission to be of such a nature as to endanger the safety of the Horse will result in a Failure to Qualify designation.
- 9.5 **General condition and metabolic status:** Horses in a generally poor condition or with an abnormally high temperature will be designated as Failed to Qualify – metabolic (FTQ-ME).
- 9.6 **Metabolic status:** The metabolic status will be assessed by the examination and recording of those parameters that indicate the Horse's fitness to continue in the Competition including mucous membranes characteristics, capillary refill time, hydration, intestinal activity (gut sounds), demeanour and Cardiac Recovery Index. Failure to Qualify due to metabolic status, musculoskeletal injuries or other reasons will require a review by a panel of three Veterinarians.
- 9.7 **Irregular gait:** During any inspection during the course, a Horse with an irregular gait that is observable through evaluation by trotting the Horse on a loose lead in hand straight out and back, without prior flexion or deep palpation, which is observed to cause pain, or threaten the immediate ability of the Horse to continue safely the Competition, will be removed from Competition and will be designated as Failed to Qualify – irregular gait (FTQ-GA). To assess irregular gait:
- (a) The inspection must be carried out on a flat firm surface. The person trotting the Horse must lead the Horse from the Horse's left-hand side on a loose rein beside the Horse and not in front or behind the Horse (see Annex 8).
 - (b) If after having once trotted the Horse, the observing Veterinarian questions the Horse's fitness to continue, the Horse will be re-trotted before a panel of three Veterinarians accompanied by a Ground Jury member.
 - (c) Any of the three Veterinarians may call for a single additional trot up prior to voting if the Veterinarian so wishes, giving the Horse and Athlete the benefit of the doubt, and will communicate that request to the member of the Ground Jury present who will request the Horse be trotted again.
 - (d) If following three attempts the gait cannot be evaluated due to poor presentation of the Horse or an inability of the Horse to trot the full distance, or the Horse is deemed not fit to continue due to irregular gait, the Horse will be designated as 'Failed to Qualify – irregular gait' (FTQ-GA).
 - (e) Any unusual feature about a Horse's gait must be noted on the Vet Card of the Horse, whether it is deemed grounds for a 'Failed to Qualify' designation or not. Where electronic systems are used, there must be provision for this.
- 9.8 **Soreness, laceration and wounds:** Any evidence of soreness, lacerations and/or wounds in the mouth, on the limbs and/or on the body (including girth and saddle sores) must be recorded on the Vet Card. If participation in or continuation of the Competition is likely to aggravate any such soreness, lacerations or wounds or in any way endangers (or risks endangering) the welfare of the Horse, the Horse

will not be allowed to continue and will be designated 'Failed to Qualify – minor injury' (FTQ-MI).

9.9 **Shoes and feet:** Horses may be ridden without shoes, but if shod they must be correctly shod and the shoes must be in a suitable condition for the Competition. Horses that are shod at the First (Pre-Ride) Inspection may cross the finish line without one or more shoes. However, if the Horse's feet or shoes hinder its ability to compete safely or appear to be causing the Horse pain, then the Horse will be designated as Failed to Qualify – irregular gait (FTQ-GA). Equi-boots and pads must be removed at the Horse Inspection if so requested by the Veterinary Commission.

9.10 **Specific additional procedures for the Final Horse Inspection:**

- (a) The purpose of the Final Horse Inspection is to determine whether the Horse is still fit to continue after a normal rest period for another full Loop.
- (b) The assessments will be performed in the same manner, and applying the same criteria, as previous Horse Inspections during the course, save that there will be only one opportunity to qualify for presentation and the first trot-up of all Horses must be in front of a panel of three members of the Veterinary Commission accompanied by a member of the Ground Jury. A member of the panel may ask to see the Horse trot only one more time before voting takes place.

10. Decorum during Horse Inspections:

- 10.1 The Ground Jury, Stewards and Veterinary Commission members are responsible for enforcing the Horse Inspection decorum.
- 10.2 The Horse Inspection areas should (as far as practicable) be quiet and without distraction out of respect for the Athletes and Horses under the stresses of intense competition and for the welfare of the Horses.
- 10.3 Athletes and other persons assisting the Athletes during the Horse Inspection must respect the Horse Inspection decorum and not do (or fail to do) anything that might have a negative impact on the Horse Inspection or on any of the Horses in the Horse Inspection area.
- 10.4 Horses must be presented for inspection in a bridle or (subject to Article 825.2.11) head collar, but without any other tack, including saddle, boots, fly masks, Blinkers/visors and other tack. The tack must be removed in the recovery area before entering the Vetting Area. If there has been any topical application of any kind to the skin of the Horse, the Veterinary Commission will require that it be removed before the Horse may be presented for the Horse Inspection (see Article 824). If a Horse is presented at the Vetting Area with tack on (other than the bridle or head collar) or any topical application of any kind to the skin that has not been removed further to instructions of the Veterinary Commission then that Horse will fail the first presentation. The time into the Vetting Area will be cancelled and the Horse will be required to exit the Vetting Area and present for a second (final) presentation (except that there shall be no opportunity to re-present at the Final Horse Inspection).
- 10.5 Horses presented for vetting must proceed, as instructed, directly from the Vetting Area entrance to the designated Veterinarian in the vet lane (as instructed by the Officials) showing constant forward motion. No action may be taken to hold back the Horse or to prevent the constant forward motion of the Horse. The Horse may

not enter the vet lane until its heart rate has been assessed, and may not be trotted until so instructed by the relevant Veterinarian. In the event of breach of this provision, the Athlete will be given a fixed time penalty of five minutes and/or a Yellow Warning Card.

- 10.6 No gamesmanship will be tolerated in terms of delaying or interfering with a Horse Inspection. From time to time, the FEI may provide a list of conduct that is specifically prohibited during Horse Inspections. Prohibited conduct in relation to the heart rate assessment includes kneeling in front of the Horse, pulling the Horse's head down, feeding the Horse, or in any way touching the Horse to attempt to influence the outcome of the heart rate assessment. Prohibited conduct in relation to the presentation of the Horse for the gait assessment includes unduly restricting the Horse's head movement and/or encouraging the Horse to trot (other than as permitted under Article 822.5.3). Repeated failure to present a Horse properly for the gait assessment may result in a Horse being designated as 'Failed to Qualify' as set out under paragraph 9.7(d) above. Whistling or any other behaviour within the Vetting Area to encourage a Horse to urinate is prohibited.
- 10.7 Failure to comply with the Horse Inspection decorum, or the list of prohibited conduct that may be provided by the FEI, may (in addition to any specific penalties set out in this paragraph 10) result in Disqualification or other disciplinary action and/or such other measures as the Ground Jury and Stewards consider appropriate in the circumstances. The Ground Jury and Stewards have a wide margin of discretion to determine what steps are appropriate in relation to any misconduct during Horse Inspections.

PART C: VETERINARY TREATMENT DURING COMPETITION

See Chapter V (Veterinary Medication) of the FEI Veterinary Regulations for detail on permitted/prohibited veterinary treatments during Events.

ANNEX 6: OFFICIALS REQUIRED FOR EVENTS

The tables below set out the requirements for the appointment of Officials at Events, including (i) the minimum number of Officials required (and any additional Officials required based on the ratio of Officials to entries), (ii) the required qualification level of those Officials (i.e., 'minimum rate'), and (iii) which body is responsible for appointing those Officials. If FEI Headquarters is responsible for appointing any Official, it may consult as necessary with the FEI Endurance Technical Committee and/or the OC. For the purposes of this Annex 6, and save where stated otherwise, CEIOs must comply with the requirements applicable to CEIs of the same star level. For Shows with multiple star level of Events, the requirements of the highest star level must be adhered to as set out below.

The OC must enlist the assistance of an appropriate number of other Officials, Stewards and Veterinarians, depending on the number of entries.

Technical Delegates:	Technical Delegate		
	Minimum level	Number	Appointment
WEG/World Championships	4	1	FEI Headquarters
Regional Games/Continental Championships; Championships for Seniors, Juniors/Young Riders, or Young Horses	4	1	FEI Headquarters
Regional Championships	3	1	OC, subject to FEI approval
CEI 3* / CEI 2*	3	1	FEI Headquarters
CEI 2* CIM	3	1	OC, subject to FEI approval
CEI 1*	3	1	OC, subject to FEI approval

Stewarding team:

	Stewarding Team						
	Chief Steward			Stewards			
	Minimum level	Number	Appointment	Minimum level	Number	Additional member per entries	Appointment
WEG/World Championships	4	1	FEI Headquarters	2	1 up to 29 entries	1 per additional 15 entries	OC, subject to FEI approval
Regional Games/Continental Championships; Championships for Seniors, Juniors/Young Riders, or Young Horses	4	1	FEI Headquarters	2	1 up to 29 entries	1 per additional 15 entries	
Regional Championships	3	1	OC, subject to FEI approval	National or above	1 up to 39 entries	1 per additional 20 entries	
CEI 3*/ CEI 2*	3	1	FEI Headquarters	National or above	1 up to 39 entries	1 per additional 20 entries	
CEI 2* CIM	3	1	OC, subject to FEI approval	National or above	1 up to 39 entries	1 per additional 20 entries	
CEI 1*	3	1	OC, subject to FEI approval	National or above	1 up to 39 entries	1 per additional 20 entries	

Ground Jury:

	Ground Jury										
	President (see note 1)			Foreign Judge (see note 1)			Members				
	Minimum level	Number	Appointment	Minimum level	Number	Appointment	Minimum level	Minimum number / entries	Appointment	Additional member per entries	
WEG/World Championships	4	1	FEI Headquarters	4	1	FEI Headquarters	3	3 up to 59 entries	FEI Headquarters	1 per additional 30 Entries	
Regional Games/ Continental Championships; Championships for Seniors, Juniors/Young Riders, or Young Horses	4	1	FEI Headquarters	4	1	FEI Headquarters	3	2 up to 59 entries	FEI Headquarters	1 per additional 30 Entries	
Regional Championships	3	1	OC, subject to FEI approval	Not required			National or above	1 up to 59 entries	OC, subject to FEI approval	1 per additional 30 Entries	
CEI 3* / CEI 2*	3	1	FEI Headquarters	3	1	FEI Headquarters	National or above	1 up to 59 entries	OC, subject to FEI approval	1 per additional 30 Entries	
CEI 2* CIM	3	1	OC, subject to FEI approval	Not required			National or above	1 up to 59 entries	OC, subject to FEI approval	1 per additional 30 Entries	
CEI 1*	3	1	OC, subject to FEI approval				National or above	1 up to 59 entries	OC, subject to FEI approval	1 per additional 30 Entries	

(1) The FEI reserves the right to appoint the President of Ground Jury and the Foreign Judge at all CEIOs (regardless of star level).

Veterinary Commission:

	Veterinary Commission									
	President			Foreign Veterinary Delegate			Members			
	Minimum level	Number	Appointment	Minimum level	Number	Appointment	Minimum level	Minimum number / entries	Appointment	Additional member per entries
WEG/World Championships (see note 2)	EOV 4	1	FEI Headquarters	EOV 4	1	FEI Headquarters	EOV 3	3 up to 29 entries	FEI Headquarters	1 per additional 15 entries
Regional Games/Continental Championships; Championships for Seniors, Juniors/Young Riders, or Young Horses (see note 2)	EOV 4	1	FEI Headquarters	EOV 4	1	FEI Headquarters	EOV 3	3 up to 29 entries	FEI Headquarters	1 per additional 15 entries
Regional Championships	EOV 3	1	OC, subject to FEI approval	Not required			EOV 2	2 up to 39 entries	OC, subject to FEI approval	1 per additional 20 entries
CEI 3* / CEI 2*	EOV 3	1	FEI Headquarters	EOV 3	1	FEI Headquarters	EOV 2	1 up to 39 entries	OC, subject to FEI approval	1 per additional 20 entries
CEI 2* CIM	EOV 3	1	OC, subject to FEI approval	Not required			EOV 2	2 up to 39 entries	OC, subject to FEI approval	1 per additional 20 entries
CEI 1*	EOV 3	1	OC, subject to FEI approval				EOV 2	2 up to 39 entries	OC, subject to FEI approval	1 per additional 20 entries

(2) The FEI reserves the right to appoint the President of the Veterinary Commission and Foreign Veterinary Delegate at all CEIOs (regardless of star level). Where a Foreign Veterinary Delegate is not required, a Primary Veterinary Delegate must be appointed to fulfil the role of the Foreign Veterinary Delegate.

Treating Veterinarians:

	Treating Veterinary Commission									
	President (see note 4)			Members				Veterinary Service Manager		
	Minimum level	Number	Appointment	Minimum level	Minimum number / entries	Appointment	Additional member per entries	Minimum level	Number	Appointment
WEG/World Championships	EVT 4	1	FEI Headquarters	EVT 3	1 up to 39 entries	FEI Headquarters	1 per additional 20 entries	EVT 3	1	OC, subject to FEI approval
Regional Games/Continental Championships; Championships for Seniors, Juniors/Young Riders, or Young Horses	EVT 4	1	FEI Headquarters	EVT 3	1 up to 39 entries	FEI Headquarters	1 per additional 20 entries	EVT 3	1	OC, subject to FEI approval
Regional Championships (see note 3)	EVT 3	1	OC, subject to FEI approval	PTV	N/A	OC, subject to FEI approval	1 per additional 50 entries	EVT 2	1	OC, subject to FEI approval
CEI 3* / CEI 2* (see note 3)	EVT 3	1	FEI Headquarters	PTV	1 up to 59 entries	OC, subject to FEI approval	1 per additional 30 entries	EVT 2	1	OC, subject to FEI approval
CEI 2* CIM (see note 3)	EVT 3	1	OC, subject to FEI approval	PTV	N/A	OC, subject to FEI approval	1 per additional 50 entries	EVT 2	1	OC, subject to FEI approval
CEI 1* (see note 3)	EVT 3	1	OC, subject to FEI approval	PTV	N/A	OC, subject to FEI approval	1 per additional 50 entries	EVT 2	1	OC, subject to FEI approval

(3) Permitted Treating Veterinarians can be appointed as members of the Treating Veterinary Commission in regions/countries with an insufficient number of licensed Endurance Veterinary Treatment Officials, otherwise preference should be given to Level 2 Endurance Veterinary Treatment Officials.

(4) The President or a Member of the Treating Veterinary Commission (if suitably qualified as per the requirement outlined in the table above, by being level EVT2 minimum) can be appointed as the VSM.

ANNEX 7: EXAMINATION AFTER THIRD (OR SUBSEQUENT) FTQ-GA

For Horses that wish to participate in National rides, or Horses that have lost their CEI qualification:

- After the 180 days MOOCP has been completed, the Horse may enter a CEN ride subject to the usual national veterinary controls.
- Should this Horse wish to participate again in CEI rides, the Athlete's (or the Trainer's) National Federation must notify the FEI Endurance Department of the Horse's next Competition at least four weeks prior to the Horse's next Competition, and the below examination procedure will apply.

Further to the table at Article 839.2.1, after a Horse Fails to Qualify for irregular gait (FTQ-GA) for a third (or subsequent) time in a rolling year, the following procedure must be applied before the Horse may return to Competition to ensure that the Horse has properly recovered before competing again:

1. Notification:

- 1.1 The Horse must be flagged in the FEI database as having Failed to Qualify for irregular gait three (or more) times in a rolling year.
- 1.2 If an Athlete intends to ride a Horse that has had three (or more) Failures to Qualify for irregular gait in a rolling year, that Athlete (or the Trainer) must notify the FEI Endurance Department of the Horse's next Competition at least four weeks prior to the Horse's next Competition.
- 1.3 The FEI Endurance Department will inform the FEI Veterinary Department of the Horse's status and ask for it to arrange for the Horse to be examined in accordance with this Annex 7.
- 1.4 The FEI Veterinary Department will inform the President of the Ground Jury, the Foreign Veterinary Delegate and Veterinary Commission of the Horse's status and the required additional examination.

2. Examination procedure:

- 2.1 Before the First (Pre-Ride) Inspection, a panel of three Veterinarians (including the President of the Veterinary Commission, Foreign Veterinary Delegate, and a member of the Veterinary Commission) must carry out a detailed examination to determine if the Horse is fit to compete.

In CEI1* events the examination procedure must be done by the President of the Vet Commission and two members of the vet commission. Examination must be done at CEI events.

- 2.2 The examination must consist of, but is not limited to:
 - (a) Walk and trot on a straight line;
 - (b) Walk and trot both ways in a circle; and
 - (c) Palpation of relevant tissues.
- 2.3 The panel of Veterinarians must notify the Ground Jury of the results of the examination (in accordance with the FEI Veterinary Regulations).

- 2.4 If the Horse passes the Annex 7 Examination, and with the approval of the Ground Jury, the Horse can continue to the First (Pre-Ride) Inspection and participate in the Event. If the Horse successfully completes the ride, the block will be removed from the Horse's profile when the results of the Event are validated.
- 2.5 During the Competition, the Veterinary Commission must closely monitor the Horse.

ANNEX 8: DIAGRAMS

The following provides illustrations of permitted/prohibited Blinkers and cheek pieces, as described in Articles 825.2.7, 825.2.8 and 825.3.7.

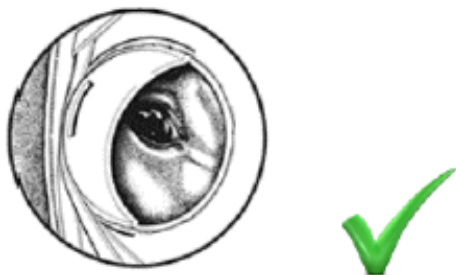
BLINKERS



CHEEK PIECES



VISOR



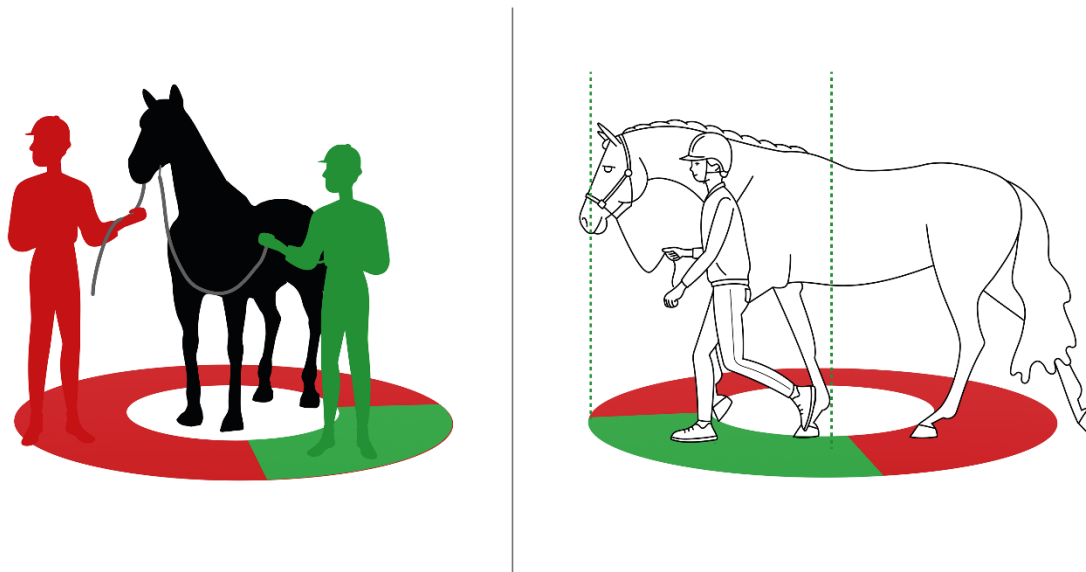
EYESHIELD



EYECOVER



The following provides illustrations of the correct way to trot the Horse as described in Annex 5, point 9.7 (a).



ANNEX 9: THE ENDURANCE AWARDS

The *Combinations Award* will be awarded as follows to Combinations who successfully complete Competitions:

- a) Gold status for eight successful completions;
- b) Silver status for six successful completions;
- c) Bronze status for four successful completions.

The *Consecutive Completions Award* will be awarded as follows to Athletes who successfully consecutively complete Competitions:

- a) Gold status for fifteen consecutive successful completions;
- b) Silver status for ten consecutive successful completions;
- c) Bronze status for five consecutive successful completions.

The *Best Condition Award* will be awarded as follows to Athletes and Horses who receive multiple Best Condition awards:

- a) Gold status for six Best Condition awards received;
- b) Silver status for four Best Condition awards received;
- c) Bronze status for two Best Condition awards received.

Prize Money (if applicable) will be apportioned as follows:

- Gold Combinations Award: 1/3
- Gold Consecutive Completions Award: 1/3
- Gold Best Condition Award: 1/3