

19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

**PROPOSALS FOR 2020 MODIFICATIONS
TO THE
EVENTING RULES**

14 October 2019

Dear National Federations,
Dear Stakeholders,

Further to the 1st draft (8 July 2019) of the proposed changes to the 2020 Eventing Rules, the Eventing Committee reviewed all comments received from NFs and MOUs signatories by 30th August 2019 in relation to the suggestions referenced in the 1st Draft.

The below document includes the Eventing Committee feedback and final proposed wordings to the Eventing rules for 2020.

Feedback received from the following NFs and stakeholders:

IEOC	IRL
EEF	JPN
AUS	NED
BEL	NOR
BRA	NZL
CZE	POR
FRA	RSA
GBR	SWE
GER	USA
ITA	

Rules revision procedure:

1 st March 2019	Deadline for NFs to propose rules modifications
1 st March – 8 July 2019	EC to review of all proposed rules changes First draft of the proposed rules changes
8 th July – 30 August 2019	NFs review the proposed amendments of the 1 st draft
30 August – 22 October 2019	Review of the NFs feedback and final draft
18 November 2019	Discussion of any proposed changes at the GA
Post General Assembly	Publication of the approved rules

Sincerely Yours,

Catrin Norinder
FEI Eventing Director

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Article No. 501.3.2 Individuals in Addition to Teams**Explanation for Proposed Change****PROPOSAL FROM TECHNICAL COMMITTEE FOR THE FOLLOWING REASON:**

Further to the review of the FEI Board of the overall concept of World Championships and should the WEG become a stand-alone Championship in the future, the Eventing Committee suggests in agreement with the Boards proposal that the host Nation should not be able to participate with higher number of Athletes compared to the other participating Nations.

Taking into account 80 entries is the target at major Eventing Championships, the Eventing Committee proposes to retain the possibility to allow each Nation to bring additional individual combinations as per the initial wording of article 502.3.2, retaining the principle of equal opportunity for all.

Proposed Wording

501.3.2 Individuals in Addition to Teams

At all Championships and Games, the host country will be limited to the same number of Athletes and Horses as the maximum number permitted for the foreign countries.

At least 3 nations must pass the Horse inspection for this event to be recognised as an FEI Championship (minimum 9 athletes). 90 athletes in the Championship event is the maximum.

~~The maximum number of individual Athletes authorised to take part in addition to each team is fixed as follows:~~

The number of individual Athletes authorised to take part in addition to each team is:

- a) ~~Seven or more teams entered - two individuals per country plus a further six individuals from the host country.~~
- b) ~~Five or six teams entered - three individuals per country plus a further eight individuals from the host country.~~
- c) ~~Four or less teams entered - four individuals per country plus a further ten individuals from the host country.~~

~~If there are less than 35 entries in total, the number of individuals entered from each country may be increased proportionally. In multidisciplinary championships (e.g World Equestrian Games), and Games (e.g Ponies, Juniors, Balkan or Regional Games), if Eventing is organised with other disciplines, the host country will be limited to the same number of Athletes and Horses as the maximum number permitted for the foreign countries.~~

National Federations will be advised by the Organising Committee at the closing of nominated entries.

Comments received- **GER NF**

This would probably reduce the interest in organising championships. We should keep at least 4 individuals. There should be at least some kind of incentive for the organising NF.

- **SWE NF**

We agree with the Eventing Committee proposal

FEI Feedback

The Eventing Committee decided to maintain the proposal, which allows for equal opportunities to all NFs.

Proposed Final Wording

The proposal as above is maintained

Article No. 502.1.2 Long Format Competition (CCIs-L) & 502.1.3 Short and Levels (CCIs-S)**Explanation for Proposed Change****PROPOSAL FROM TECHNICAL COMMITTEE FOR THE FOLLOWING REASON:**

The Eventing Committee suggests to provide the Organising Committees with more flexibility in regard to the timetable of their Event when several competitions are run simultaneously, further to several requests from OCs.

Proposed Wording**502.1.2 Long Format Competition (CCIs-L)**

A Long Format Competition may take place over three or more days. The Dressage Test will be spread over one or more consecutive days, depending on the number of competitors, directly followed on the next day by the Cross Country Test that will be directly followed on the next day by the Jumping Test. When multiple Competitions are running simultaneously a gap day between the Dressage Test and the next Test is permitted, with the approval of the FEI, in order to accommodate the timetable.

In the Long Format Competitions the Cross Country course will be of such a length that the Horse is required to be supremely fit and stamina will be required for success. The Cross Country Test will always take place before the Jumping Test.

502.1.3 Short Format Competition (CCIs-S)

A Short Format Competition may take place over one or more days. The Dressage Test will always take place first and will be followed on the same or following days by the Jumping and Cross Country Test. When multiple Competitions are running simultaneously a gap day between the Dressage Test and the next Test is permitted, with the approval of the FEI, in order to accommodate the timetable.

In the Short Format Competition the level of difficulty of the Cross Country course is similar to the Long Format according to the star system, but the course is shorter and the intensity of efforts will be higher. The Cross Country Test will preferably take place after the Jumping Test.

Comments received**- SWE NF**

We agree to art.502.1.2 of Eventing Committee proposal

Regarding 502.1.3, please see our proposal in below:

A Short Format Competition may take place over one or more days. The Dressage Test will always take place first and will be followed on the same or following days by the Jumping and Cross Country Test.

In the Short Format Competition the level of difficulty of the Cross Country course is similar to the Long Format according to the star system, but the course is shorter and the intensity of efforts will be higher.

The Cross Country Test ~~will preferably~~ shall always take place after the Jumping Test.

FEI Feedback

The Eventing Committee decided to maintain the proposal, The Committee reviewed the SWE NF proposal and agreed to keep the flexibility for the organisers to adjust the timetable for short format competition.

Proposed Final Wording

The proposal as above is maintained

Article No 503.2 Age of Athletes & 503.4 Age of Horses**Explanation for Proposed Change****PROPOSAL FROM TECHNICAL COMMITTEE FOR THE FOLLOWING REASON:**

The Eventing Committee reviewed the minimum age of Athletes and Horses to participate in a CCI1*-Intro competition and suggests to set the limit to 12 years old for Athletes and 5 years old for horses.

Proposed Wording**503.2 Age of Athletes**

An Athlete is considered a Senior from the beginning of the calendar year in which he reaches the age of 18. Championships and Games are limited to senior Athletes unless specifically organised for Juniors, Young Riders or Pony Riders. International Competitions are limited to Senior Athletes unless specifically organised for Junior, Young Riders or Pony Riders with the following exceptions:

- a) With the express permission of his National Federation, an Athlete may compete in a three star Competition from the beginning of the calendar year in which he reaches the age of 16.
- b) With the express permission of his National Federation, an Athlete may compete in a two star level Competition from the beginning of the calendar year in which he reaches the age of 14.
- c) With the express permission of his National Federation, an Athlete may compete in a one star level Competition from the beginning of the calendar year in which he reaches the age of 12.

503.4 Age of Horses

The following minimum age of Horses will apply for all Competitions.

- a) CCI1* Level Competitions: a Horse may compete in 1* Competitions from the beginning of the calendar year in which he reaches the age of five
- a)b) CCI1*/2*/3* level Competitions: a Horse may compete in 1*, 2*, 3* Competitions from the beginning of the calendar year in which he reaches the age of six.
- b)c) CCI4*level Competitions: a Horse may compete in Competitions of four star level from the beginning of the calendar year in which he reaches the age of seven.
- e)d) CCI5*level Competitions and Four star Level Championships: a Horse may compete in Competitions of five star level or four star Championship from the beginning of the calendar year in which he reaches the age of eight.

Comments received**- IRL NF**

The IRL NF does not agree with athletes aged 12 competing in one star level competitions and prefers to retain the minimum age of 14 for this category as well.

The IRL NF do not agree with 5-year-old horses competing at 1* level and recommends a minimum age of six years.

- SWE NF

We agree with the EC proposal

FEI Feedback

The Eventing Committee maintained the proposal without change. The rules encourage NFs to set stricter qualification criteria and could also impose limitation on riders age.

Proposed Final Wording

The proposal as above is maintained

Article No. 504.1.2 Participation restriction at CIOs

Explanation for Proposed Change

PROPOSAL FROM TECHNICAL COMMITTEE FOR THE FOLLOWING REASON:

The Eventing Committee reviewed the rules related to the Nations Cup Event and suggests to modify article 504.1.2 to allow Athletes competing with two Horses in a Nations Cup Event to start the Team horse last.

In addition, it is suggested that the competition format includes the Teams starting in reverse order at the end of the competition for the Cross Country and Jumping tests. This would help to differentiate the Individual competition from the Team competition and better promote the FEI Eventing Nations Cup Series.

Proposed Wording

504.1.2 CIOs

An Athlete may ride only one Horse as a member of a team and may ride in only one team.

~~Where an Athlete is entered with a Horse in a Team Competition, he must always ride that Horse before any additional Horse he is riding in the Individual Competition.~~

Where an Athlete is competing with two (or more) horses in the Competition, the Athlete must compete with non-team Horse(s) prior to competing with his team Horse, as the teams will start once all non-team Horses have competed.

Comments received

- EEF

Participating with several horses in a CIO (Art. 504.1.2)

The proposal of the FEI Eventing Committee is not supported. Giving an Athlete the opportunity to ride his individual horse prior to competing his team horse in the same competition is considered to give an unfair advantage to the rider. If there is the intention to better promote the FEI Nations Cup Eventing series then those competing with a team horse should either not be allowed to compete with an additional individual horse, or the team horse must start first.

- GBR NF

GBR feel that this may not be fair to all athletes. GBR suggest that the athlete should ride his team horse first to be fair to all competitors.

- GER NF

We strongly recommend not to have this as a compulsory starting order. For several OCs it is important to adjust to the wishes of TV broadcasters.

- ITA NF

Changing the rule allowing riders to ride their individual second or in some cases third horses first and then the team horses, surely gives an advantage to the riders with more horses. Could the team riders and horses not run first.

This would also safeguard the team riders in the case of a mishap with their individual horses.

- POR NF

We think that all riders must compete in the same conditions, so it will be better if all non-team horses compete before the team horses. In that way, the track will be "new" for all riders.

FEI Feedback

The Eventing Committee reviewed the comments and agreed that the importance should be given to the promotion of the Nations Cup, to increase understanding of the classification and improve media coverage by running the Team competition in a block. Athletes competing as Individuals will be placed as a separate block either before or after the Nations Cup block, according to the OC decision. This information will need to be included in the competition schedule.

Proposed Final Wording

504.1.2 CIOs

An Athlete may ride only one Horse as a member of a team and may ride in only one team. ~~Where an Athlete is entered with a Horse in a Team Competition, he must always ride that Horse before any additional Horse he is riding in the Individual Competition.~~

The Team competition must be included in the Dressage and Cross country starting lists as a block. Individual athletes will be included as a separate block preferably before the Team block or after according to the OC decision. This information will be included in the schedule

Article No.511.1 Judges (Requirements for Promotion)

Explanation for Proposed Change

PROPOSAL RECEIVED FROM NFs AND/OR SHs AND NOT AGREED TO BY TECHNICAL COMMITTEE:

- IEOC/GBR NF:

Having consulted with level 3 Eventing Judges, our concerns are that the current 2 levels of judges does not adequately cover the competency expected at the higher levels of competition. Going forward after 2019 in order to correctly assess judges transferring from Level 2 to Level 3 we should be considering the knowledge, expertise and experience necessary for the highest grade of competition at which they are licensed to officiate.

Under the present system those transferring from Level 2 to Level 3 find themselves being free to accept invitations to judge at CCI 5* events not only as a member of the Ground Jury but in fact as President of the Ground Jury. This is a huge leap from their experience gained on Level 2 at lower level competitions. There is nothing either to prevent them being placed on Championship juries without the experience enabling them to be a contributing member or indeed the leader of that jury.

We feel the competitors deserve a more robust and defensible system. With the introduction in 2019 of the new star Levels for competitions and the Assessment of officials for 2019 being under review there is an opportunity to look at having more Levels for judges in 2020. This would keep Eventing Judges in line with other FEI disciplines and would lead to clearer pathways and a more robust standard set for conformity and transfer assessments.

The Proposal is: We create a system of 4 FEI levels whereby existing officials can fit in to new Levels where they meet the new criteria. Those on Level 2 meeting the criteria for Level 3 should automatically transfer up, similarly from Level 3 to Level 4. For Level 5 they will transfer up if they meet the criteria or will transfer up to the new Level 4. Therefore no one should be downgraded.

All officials must be able to understand and speak English. Written English is recommended. National judges who are currently allowed to judge at FEI Competitions should have more robust entry requirements verified by their National Federation and should be accommodated in the new wording.

Proposed wording:

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National Judges (FEI Accredited National Judges.) can be a member of the Ground Jury at 1* & 2* competitions.

- a) National Judges: Must have been examined and attained a National Dressage level that includes: Working Paces, Leg yield, Lengthening, Stretching in Trot, Counter Canter etc. To be familiar with and fully understand the training scale as per the FEI Dressage Rules.
- b) Must be recommended by their National Federation stating their relevant experience of XC and SJ for example as a rider, trainer or National TD. National Federation to also confirm their National Dressage Qualifications and that they are an active National Eventing Judge.
- c) Must be able to understand and communicate in English. Written English is recommended.
- d) Must be fit and able to walk the Cross Country course.

Level 2 Judges : Can be President of the Ground Jury at CCI 2* and a member at CCI 3*
The requirements to be promoted to Level 2 are:

- a) Must have attained the same requirements as an FEI Accredited National Judge.
- b) To be Nationally certified in Dressage to judge Shoulder In and Half pass in Trot, Simple Changes, Turn about the Haunches, Medium Trot and Canter and Rein Back.
- c) To have gained regular experience as a National Eventing Judge on Ground Juries at 1* and 2* competitions some of which must have been CCI Long.
- d) To have fulfilled the educational requirements by attending an FEI Level 2 course with positive assessments in all 3 phases.
- e) Having two official positive assessments while being a member of the Ground Jury at an FEI CCI 2* from the President of the Ground Jury, Technical Delegate and Course Designer with a recommendation for promotion. 1 of which must be at a CCI Long

Level 3 Judges : Can be President of the Ground Jury at CCI 3* and a member at CCI 4*
The requirements to transfer to Level 3 are :

- a) To be listed as a Level 2 Judge.
- b) To be Nationally certified by the National Federation at Advanced or equivalent Dressage level and to have gained experience in judging PSG Dressage including Collection, Medium and Extension in walk, trot and canter, Flying Changes, Half-passes in Canter and Walk Pirouettes.
- c) To be proficient and practiced in course evaluation, with a working knowledge of Eventing Risk Management, dispute resolution and disciplinary matters.
- d) To have judged regularly at a minimum of four International Events of which at least one must be a CCI Long and one must be outside of own country during the current or preceding two years.
- e) Acted as President of the Ground Jury at two CCI 2* competitions.
- f) To have fulfilled the educational requirements by attending an FEI Level 2 course with positive assessments in all three phases.
- g) Having two official positive assessments while being a member of the Ground Jury at a CCI 3* from the President of the Ground Jury, Technical Delegate and Course Designer with a recommendation for promotion. One of which must be at a CCI 3* Long.

Level 4 Judges : Can be President of the Ground Jury at CCI 4* and CCI 2* and 3*
Championships and a member at CCI5*. The requirements to transfer to Level 4 are :

- a) To be listed as a Level 3 Judge.
- b) To be nationally certified as a PSG Dressage Judge, with verification from the National Federation.

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- c) Have a minimum of 2 years of experience at Level 3 with a minimum of four FEI competitions as a member of the Ground jury, one of which must be outside your own country and one must be a CCI 3* Long.
- d) Acted as president of the Ground Jury at two competitions at CCI3* Level.
- e) Have attained the educational requirements by attending an FEI Level 2 course with positive assessments in all three phases.
- f)) Having two official positive assessments while being a member of the Ground Jury at a CCI 4* from the President of the Ground Jury, Technical Delegate and Course Designer with a recommendation for promotion. One of which must be at a CCI 4* Long.

Level 5 Judges : Can be President of the Ground Jury at CCI 5* and all Championships
The requirements to transfer to Level 5 are :

- a) To be listed as a Level 4 Judge.
- b) Have a minimum of three years of experience at Level 4.
- c) Acted as Pres of GJ at a minimum of three CCI 4* competitions, one at least being a CCI 4* Long, with positive evaluations from the fellow officials.
- d) Have attained the educational requirements by attending an FEI course with exams for this Level with positive assessments in all three phases.

Have officiated on the Ground Jury as a member at CCI5* Long with two different Presidents of the Ground Jury from different nationalities to the candidate and received positive evaluations from the fellow officials.

FEI FEEDBACK:

The overall Eventing education system including the basic structure, requirement for transfer and assessment procedures is currently being reviewed by the FEI Education Department as well as a specific working group set by the FEI Eventing Committee. The proposal has been shared with the group to ensure that all possibilities have been assessed when providing the FEI with their final recommendations and proposals.

Proposed Wording

No change to original wording at this time, as proposal still needs to be developed.

Comments received

- **IEOC**

We would very much like to see the findings and recommendations of the working party before any rule change occur.

FEI feedback

No change to the wording of current regulations at this time as the basic education structure, requirement for transfer and assessment procedures are currently reviewed in general for all disciplines by the FEI Education Department and the Eventing Officials working group as referred to above. A proposal will be made by the end of the year. The priorities have been to produce the competency test and Job descriptions for all functions.

Proposed Final Wording

Maintain wording as per the rules until the new proposal is finalized

Article No. –511.2 and 511.3 Requirements for Promotion of Technical delegates and Course Designers**Explanation for Proposed Change**

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PROPOSAL RECEIVED FROM NFs AND/OR SHs AND NOT AGREED TO BY TECHNICAL COMMITTEE:**- IEOC /GBR NF:**

A similar format to that is proposed for Judges in 511.1 (above) is also proposed for TDs and CDs on the same principals.

Whilst we understand that the FEI likes to standardise procedures across disciplines, it must be recognised that eventing is different, and therefore we would ask the FEI to consider introducing a highest level of TDs/CDs for officiating at CCI5* competitions where performance is monitored and the process for promotion and demotion is clearly defined.

It is also suggested that there must be the opportunity for Officials working towards the highest level to work alongside Officials at the top level of the sport in order to gain experience to put themselves in a better position for promotion.

It is felt that the highest level of competition, where the competitors are primarily professional athletes, should be governed by expert officials.

FEI FEEDBACK:

The overall FEI Education system is currently being revised to set up a basic educational framework for all disciplines including main principles, terminology and structure.

The Eventing Committee has created a Eventing education working group to review the education system including competency in general, Officials responsibility, how to raise the standard of Officials with less opportunities, use of education tools including eLearning, assessment and maintenance of status criteria – this will allow the proposal of different levels to be included

The Eventing Committee will the make a proposal including the education working group recommendations.

Proposed Wording

No change to original wording at this time, as proposal still needs to be developed.

Comments received

No comment received

FEI feedback

See 511.1 Judges (Requirements for Promotion) above.

Proposed Final Wording

Maintain wording as per the rules until the new proposal is finalized

Article No. 512 Requirements for Maintenance of Status**Explanation for Proposed Change****PROPOSAL RECEIVED FROM NFs AND/OR SHs AND NOT AGREED TO BY TECHNICAL COMMITTEE:**

The IEOC would also ask for the proposed competency test for Officials approaching 70 is urgently addressed as it is some eighteen months overdue.

Continuing annual competency tests for all Officials are supported but rather than follow Dressage proposals, Eventing should draw up their own, maybe in consultation with Dressage and SJ along with tests for progression as trialled at Warendorf 2018.

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FEI FEEDBACK:

The overall FEI Education system is currently being revised to set up a basic educational framework for all disciplines including main principles, terminology and structure.

The Eventing Committee has created a Eventing education working group to review the education system including competency in general, Officials responsibility, how to raise the standard of Officials with less opportunities, use of education tools including eLearning, assessment and maintenance of status criteria – this will allow the proposal of different levels to be included

The Eventing Committee will the make a proposal including the education working group recommendations.

Proposed wording

No change to original wording at this time, as proposal still needs to be developed

Comments received

No comments received

FEI feedback

See 511.1 Judges (Requirements for Promotion) above.

Proposed Final Wording

Maintain wording as per the rules until the new proposal is finalized

Article No. 512 Requirements for Maintenance of Status**Explanation for Proposed Change****PROPOSAL RECEIVED FROM NFs AND/OR SHs AND AGREED TO BY TECHNICAL COMMITTEE:****- IRL NF**

Inclusion of "Completed an online educational questionnaire every year with a positive assessment

FEI FEEDBACK

The Eventing Committee agrees and will await the progress report of FEI campus.
The age limit as agreed by GA 2018 is deleted.

Proposed Wording

512 Requirements for Maintenance of Status

512.1 Judges

512.1.1 Level 2 Judges

The requirements to be maintained as a FEI Level 2 Judge are as follows:

a) Completed a yearly on-line competency-based evaluation test with a positive assessment

ab) To have fulfilled the educational requirements (at an in-person maintenance course) every three years with a positive assessment and recommendation for maintenance.

bc) To have regular practice as a National Eventing Judge over the last three years including acting as a member of the Ground Jury at a minimum of two international Events of which at least one must be Long Format Competition.

~~c) To be not more than 70 years of age.~~

Level 2 Judges who do not meet the requirements will be dropped from the FEI Judges list.

512.1.2 Level 3 Judges

The requirements to be maintained as a FEI Level 3 Judge are as follows:

a) Completed a yearly on-line competency-based evaluation test with a positive assessment

ba) To have fulfilled the educational requirements (at an in-person maintenance course) every three years with a positive assessment and recommendation for maintenance.

cb) To have judged regularly at both national and international Events with a minimum of four international Events of which at least one must be Long Format Competition during the last three years.

~~c) To be not more than 70 years of age.~~

Level 3 Judges who do not meet the technical requirements may be moved to the Level 2 Judges list or dropped from the list, at the discretion of the FEI Eventing Committee.

512.2 Technical Delegates

512.2.1 Level 2 Technical Delegates

The requirements to be maintained as a FEI Level 2 Technical Delegate are as follows:

a) Completed a yearly on-line competency-based evaluation test with a positive assessment

ba) To have fulfilled the educational requirements (at an in-person maintenance course) every three years with a positive assessment and recommendation for maintenance.

cb) To have regular practice as a National Technical Delegate over the last three years including acting as Technical Delegate at a minimum of two international Events.

~~e) To be not more than 70 years of age.~~

Level 2 Technical Delegates who do not meet the requirements will be dropped from the FEI Technical Delegates list.

512.2.2 Level 3 Technical Delegates

The requirements to be maintained as a FEI Level 3 Technical Delegates are as follows:

a) Completed a yearly on-line competency-based evaluation test with a positive assessment

ba) To have fulfilled the educational requirements (at an in-person maintenance course) every three years with a positive assessment and recommendation for maintenance.

cb) To have acted as a Technical Delegate at two international Events of which at least one must be a Long Format Competition during the last three years

~~e) To be not more than 70 years of age.~~

Level 3 Technical Delegates who do not meet the technical requirements

512.3 Course Designers

512.3.1 Level 2 Course Designers

The requirements to be maintained as a FEI Level 2 Course Designer are as follows:

a) Completed a yearly on-line competency-based evaluation test with a positive assessment

ba) To have fulfilled the educational requirements (at an in-person maintenance course) every three years with a positive assessment and recommendation for maintenance.

cb) To have regular practice as a National Course Designers over the last three years including acting as Course Designer at a minimum of one international Event.

~~e) To be not more than 70 years of age.~~

Level 2 Course Designers who do not meet the requirements will be dropped from the FEI Course Designers list.

512.3.2 Level 3 Course Designers

The requirements to be maintained as a FEI Level 3 Course Designers are as follows:

a) Completed a yearly on-line competency-based evaluation test with a positive assessment

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~~ab~~) To have fulfilled the educational requirements (at an in-person maintenance course) every three years with a positive assessment and recommendation for maintenance.

~~bc~~) To have acted as a Course Designer at two international Events during the last three years.

~~c) To be not more than 70 years of age.~~

All Course Designers designing a 4 or 5 star course for the first time must be mentored and shadowed by an experienced Course Designer at the same level.

Level 3 Course Designer who do not meet the technical requirements may be moved to the Level 2 Course Designers list or dropped from the list, at the discretion of the FEI Eventing Committee.

Comments received

- USA NF

The USEF supports this Article in principle and believe the concept is beneficial. However, it is not possible to give unconditional support without knowing more detail; for example the annual tests must be realistic in terms of the time required to complete them. It is requested that NFs be consulted prior to Test being implemented.

- IEOC

Could there be more details of the content of the on line competency test - is there going to be any physical test required for Eventing officials?

- GBR NF

GBR welcome these positive improvements. Will the competency tests be ready for 2020? An additional comment is that the online competency tests should be complimented by on-event evaluations/assessments to monitor performance.

- GER NF

Some of the German Officials think that it is not easy to properly evaluate officials by an online competency test, maybe an assessment could be an alternative?

- NED NF

In itself we support the removal of the age limit for judges as suggested. However, this gives us some reason for concern. The age limit provides a continuing and steady flow within the population and therefore creates possibilities for judges to progress to the next level. There is a risk that an entire generation of judges may be passed over as judges will possibly stay on longer. We would like to know how the FEI provides for this not to happen.

- SWE NF

We agree to the EC proposal

FEI feedback

The competency evaluation system is ready and will be tested in October 2019.

Proposed Final Wording

The proposal as above is maintained

Article No. 513 Appointment of Officials

Explanation for Proposed Change

PROPOSAL FROM TECHNICAL COMMITTEE FOR THE FOLLOWING REASON:

In order to clarify the appointment for CCI4*-L & S competition a clarification is added to ensure that all Ground Jury members are appointed from FEI Eventing Officials Level 2 or 3 lists.

Proposed Wording

19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

Article No. 513 Appointment of Officials

Officials will be appointed by the FEI or by the Organising Committee according to the different types and level of Competitions and in accordance with the following tables.

National Officials can only be appointed for CCI1*, 2* and 3* if specifically mentioned in the tables below. If National Officials are appointed, In the case of appointment of National these must be from the Host country (except for Assistant Technical Delegate, Assistant Course Designer & Assistant Steward providing they have insurance coverage) unless directly appointed by the FEI for the purpose of an Educational Program.

Note: ~~The Committee proposes that For~~ events with several competitions/sections, OCs can offer alternative composition of Officials to the requirements listed in the below tables and/or provisions in Art 513.9 with the objective to reduce costs. Such proposals shall be provided with the Schedule and approved by FEI HQ.

Comments received**- GBR NF**

GBR makes no comment on the proposed rule change, but as a matter of process, we would like to see the FEI encouraging NFs to try to ensure all of their listed officials are appointed to officiate and the pool of officials is maintained. Also to encourage appointments and opportunities for new officials and those trying to build on their education and experience.

- USA NF

The USEF requests clarification that the proposed change only applies to Ground Jury Members. As written there appears a contradiction between the first and second sentence; National Officials can only be appointed **for as Ground Jury Members for** CCI1*, 2* and 3* if specifically mentioned in the tables below. If National Officials are appointed, ~~In the case of appointment of National Officials~~ these must be from the Host country (except for Assistant Technical Delegate, Assistant Course Designer & Assistant Steward providing they have insurance coverage) unless directly appointed by the FEI for the purpose of an Educational Program.

FEI feedback

The Eventing Committee agreed to maintained the wording as the proposal was only to clarify the officiating rights of National Officials in 1*, 2* and 3* only in their host country and no rule change. The Eventing Committee also agreed to the comments made by the GBR NF and the USA NF, however, regarding the comment received form USA NF, the wording proposed cannot be included as such as the president of the Ground Jury at CCI1* competitions can be national providing the Technical delegate is FEI Level 2 or 3.

Proposed Final Wording

The proposal as above is maintained

Article No. 513.2 Long Format (CCIs-L and CCIOs-L) Appointment of Officials**Explanation for Proposed Change**

19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

PROPOSAL RECEIVED FROM NFs AND/OR SHs AND NOT AGREED TO BY TECHNICAL COMMITTEE:**- USA NF**

Requiring 2 judges from the FEI Level 3 list presents a hardship for Organizers of 4*-L competitions.

FEI FEEDBACK

The Eventing Committee takes note of the proposal, however it wishes to maintain the provision of at least two level 3 Judges are appointed for all CCI4*-L competitions, taking into account that these competitions are qualifiers for the Olympic Games and other major Championships.

Proposed Wording

No change to original wording

Comments received

No comments received

FEI feedback

The Eventing Committee reiterates the importance of FEI educated and listed Judges to officiate in the higher level events.

Proposed Final Wording

No change to current rules

Article No. 513.4.1 CCI5*-L appointment of Officials**Explanation for Proposed Change****PROPOSAL RECEIVED FROM NFs AND/OR SHs AND NOT AGREED TO BY TECHNICAL COMMITTEE:****- USA NF**

The procedure for consultation between OCs of CCI5*-L competitions and the FEI regarding the appointment of the Ground Jury and Technical Delegates is unclear. Is this required prior to submission of the initial draft schedule?

FEI FEEDBACK

The guidelines for appointment of 5* Officials has been updated by the Eventing Committee, sent to the CCI5*-L Organising Committee and will be published on the FEI website. The Organising Committees would have to submit their proposals to the FEI before contacting the Officials and providing the FEI with the initial competition schedule.

Proposed Wording

No change to original wording

Comments received

No comments received

FEI feedback

No change

Proposed Final Wording

No change to current rules

19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

Article No. 514.2 Conflict of Interest-Eventing
Explanation for Proposed Change
PROPOSAL FROM THE FEI BOARD / LEGAL DEPARTMENT FOR THE FOLLOWING REASON:
The FEI Board confirmed that the FEI Officials' Code of Conduct should apply in the same way for officials in all disciplines. As Article 514.2 is not compatible with the FEI Officials' Code of Conduct, it is therefore proposed to delete 514.2 in its entirety.
Proposed Wording
514.2 Intentionally Omitted
Comments received
No comment received
FEI feedback
Proposal to delete article is confirmed
Proposed Final Wording
Art.514.2 to be deleted

Article No. 514.2.3 Other Conflicts - Technical Delegates and Course Designers
Explanation for Proposed Change
PROPOSAL RECEIVED FROM NFs AND/OR SHs AND AGREED TO BY TECHNICAL COMMITTEE:
<p>- IRL NF</p> <p>Course designers be allowed to design and compete over their courses, regardless of the level of competition. This would help to attract new CD's into the sport particularly at 1/2/3/*S and 2*L who although still competing have the desire to come onto or are already on FEI CD lists.</p> <p>- AUS NF</p> <p>Submission on behalf of the Equestrian Australia Eventing Committee concerning a perceived conflict of interest regarding Course Designers not being allowed to compete over the courses that they design.</p> <p>In Australia, we do allow Course Designers to compete over courses that they design up to 4* level, at National Events.</p> <p>We believe that there is a large pool of talent in senior riders wanting to move into Course Designing, but they are being hamstrung by NOT being allowed to compete over the courses that they design.</p> <p>We would ask the FEI Eventing Committee to reconsider its position on this matter. We believe that CD's at 1*2*3* -S and perhaps 2* and 3*-L should be able to compete over courses that they design at these levels.</p> <p>Our sport worldwide is running very short of good CD's and such a position can only be good for the long term benefit of our sport.</p> <p>We must get new blood into the ranks of course designing and we believe that such a move would open the sport up to a large group of potential course designers.</p>
FEI FEEDBACK

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The proposal of Course Designers being able to ride their own courses without it being considered as a conflict of interest, at lower level events, provisions made to Series and Championships was made by the Eventing Committee for the 2019 Eventing Rules. However it was overturned by the FEI Board last year.

This proposal was put to the FEI Board at its in-person meeting in June 2019 by the Eventing Committee. The FEI Board did not agree to the proposed change.

Proposed Wording

No change to original wording

Comments received- **IEOC**

The IEOC feel that a course designer at the lower levels should be allowed to ride his course as it can only be beneficial to the education of cross country riding of others? Could this be reconsidered?

FEI feedback

The FEI Board confirmed that the FEI Officials' Code of Conduct should apply consistently for officials in all disciplines, and it should not be allowed for course designers to ride their own track. A further request based on the input from the above stakeholders has been forwarded to the FEI Board.

Proposed Final Wording

Art 514.2 to be deleted

Article No. 514.3 Independent Review Panel**Explanation for Proposed Change****PROPOSAL FROM THE FEI BOARD / LEGAL DEPARTMENT FOR THE FOLLOWING REASON:**

As per the comment to Art 514.2 above, this article is not compatible with the FEI Officials' Code of Conduct and it is, therefore, proposed to delete it. The concept of an independent review panel no longer exists.

Proposed Wording

514.3 Intentionally Omitted

Comments received

No comment received

FEI feedback

Proposal to delete this article is maintained

Proposed Final Wording

Art 514.3 to be deleted

Article No. 516-522 (Chapter 5: Technical Requirements for participation)**Explanation for Proposed Change****PROPOSAL RECEIVED FROM NFs AND/OR SHs AND NOT AGREED TO BY TECHNICAL COMMITTEE:**

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USA NF: It is difficult to verify qualifications of Athletes/Horses for 2019 with results from previous years which have not been updated to align with the new star levels. This will become more confusing when 2019 results are recorded using the current nomenclature.

FEI FEEDBACK

The Eventing Committee agrees that the shift of levels includes such as verifying qualifications, nevertheless several options have been reviewed and the option of changing the category of past results would be source of additional errors and confusion.

Proposed Wording

No change to original wording

Comments received

No comment received

FEI feedback

No change

Proposed Final Wording

No change to current rules

Article No. 518 Minimum Eligibility Requirement Validity period**Explanation for Proposed Change****PROPOSAL RECEIVED FROM NFs AND/OR SHs AND NOT AGREED TO BY TECHNICAL COMMITTEE:**

GBR NF: In the past a horse/athlete combination went to Luhmühlen 4*CCI having done no events since Rio Olympic Games the year before. This for me is a loophole that needs to be plugged and should not be allowed.

I have not worked out a detailed proposal but horses/athletes must show some currency and have obtained a MER at what is now 4* level within an agreed timeframe before they can start at a 5*L competition

It does have challenges given the calendar and opportunities worldwide for this to happen but if we believe in the principle a solution needs to be found. It could even be that CNC4*s have to be counted in order to make it happen.

We have to look at this in light of risk management and also we know that horse and athlete form can change from one year to the next

FEI FEEDBACK

The suggestion was reviewed carefully by the Eventing Committee, however, it is felt that for the first CCI5*-L of the season a fair implementation would be difficult. The responsibility to enter only Athlete/Horse combinations fit to compete belongs to the National Federations.

Proposed Wording

No change to original wording

Comments received

No comment received

FEI feedback

The Committee confirmed the above comment that the implementation of an eligibility period of time to obtain qualifying results for CCI5*-L could not be imposed for the first

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Events in the season such as Lexington CCI5*-L. It is the responsibility of the NFs to only enter combinations that are fit to compete.

Proposed Final Wording

No change to current rules

Article No. 519 Athletes Categories (MERs)

Explanation for Proposed Change

PROPOSAL RECEIVED FROM NFs AND/OR SHs AND NOT AGREED TO BY TECHNICAL COMMITTEE:

IRL NF: It was the general consensus at the Risk management seminar that the MERs need to be reviewed Especially at CCI1* and CCI2* level but also for the higher levels as it was felt that there are some combinations competing at 4 and 5* level that don't have the experience. There was a task force set up to look at this.

The IRL NF suggest that 8 years for a FEI MER is too long. MERs qualifications should be dependent upon the FEI rating of an athlete. An A categorised athlete may have MERs for 8 years as they are professional riders/horses. A D categorised rider should only have MERs for three to five years. This is why we had trouble with a couple of athletes in the past is because they were using MERs that were 8 years old. Too long for an amateur rider whose horse and rider have aged in that time.

FEI FEEDBACK

The Eventing Committee reminded that Minimum Eligibility Requirements for CCI1* and CCI2* competitions cannot be modified as the National results cannot be implemented in the FEI system.

There is currently no validity period to MERs, and the responsibility to set stronger National Requirements and enter only Athlete/horse combinations fit to compete belongs to the National Federations.

For the reasons above, the Eventing Committee agreed to maintain the Rule as currently implemented with the 8 year period for athlete categorisation.

Proposed Wording

No change to original wording

Comments received

No comment received

FEI feedback

The Eventing Committee agreed to maintain the 8 years validity for MERs, it was decided however to further investigate the possibility in the future to correlate the requirements for the categorisation with the experience (past results) of the Athlete.

Proposed Final Wording

No change to current rules

Article No. 520.2 Athletes already categorised at the level of the Competition

Explanation for Proposed Change

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PROPOSAL FROM TECHNICAL COMMITTEE FOR THE FOLLOWING REASON:

The current minimum requirements for A Athletes willing to participate in a CCI5*-L competition implies that it could take more than a year to qualify a new horse for a 5 star competition even if the horse is already experienced at that level.

The Eventing Committee therefore suggests that an A Categorised athlete wanting to participate in a current CCI5*-L with a horse having already obtain a CCI5*-L MER with another athlete, would have the possibility to qualify for a CCI5*-L with 2 CCI4*-S MERs as a combination instead of a CCI4*-L MER as a combination.

Proposed Wording

Long format: incl. MER obtained as per NF Requirements:

CCI2*-L	All Athletes	NF requirements only
CCI3*-L	C or B or A FEI Athletes	1 CCI2*-L or 1 CCI3*-S (Horse only)
CCI4*-L	B or A FEI Athletes	1 CCI3*-L (Horse only)
CCI5*-L	A FEI Athletes <u>with Horses having not obtained yet a MER at a CCI5*-L competition</u>	1 CCI4*-L (as a combination)
CCI5*-L	<u>A FEI Athletes with Horses having already obtained a MER at a CCI5*-L competition</u>	2 CCI4*-S (as a combination)

Comments received- **GBR NF**

GBR would request publication of any evidence behind this proposal.

- **SWE NF**

We agree to this proposal

FEI feedback

The above proposal was based on a study made by EquiRatings on the request of the Committee which identified that when a horse is already qualified at the level, additional MERs obtained as a combination at CCI4*-L do not reduce the risk of fall.

Proposed Final Wording

The proposal as above is maintained

Article No. 522.1 Reverse Qualification- Horse**Explanation for Proposed Change****PROPOSAL FROM TECHNICAL COMMITTEE FOR THE FOLLOWING REASON:**

The modification proposed is to line up with the current 2019 competition structure. This suggestion takes into account a horse reverse qualified at 2* could either be cleared at one star level or at National level.

The same principal would apply to Pony competitions as there are to few CCIP1*competitions to restore Pony Reverse qualifications at CCIP2 level. The Eventing Committee proposes the following wording:

Proposed Wording

(...)

If a reverse qualification is triggered following eliminations at ~~1 star level~~ or 2 star level (any format) then the NF must assess the Horse at National level or at a CCI1* competition and provide a written report to the FEI Eventing Department before the Horse may again take

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part in any international Eventing Competition. The same principal applies to ponies reverse qualified at CCIP2 level

Comments received

No comments received

FEI feedback

The above proposal was by the Eventing Committee and will be submitted to the General Assembly.

Proposed Final Wording

The proposal as above is maintained

Article No. 525.1 Definition (Dangerous Riding)

Explanation for Proposed Change

PROPOSAL FROM THE FEI BOARD / LEGAL DEPARTMENT FOR THE FOLLOWING REASON:

It is suggested to separate and redefine Recorded Warnings from Yellow Card sanction. Recorded warnings would be Eventing specific and Yellow cards would line up with the other disciplines and apply for the same offences.

The Eventing Committee supports the proposal as well as an increase of the responsibility of the Athlete riding a tired horse on course and proposes the following sanctions depending on the severity.

Proposed Wording

525 Dangerous Riding

525.1 Definition

Any Athlete who, at any time during the Competition deliberately or unintentionally by incompetence is exposing himself, his Horse or any third party to a higher risk than what is strictly inherent to the nature of the Competition will be considered to have acted dangerously and will be penalised accordingly to the severity of the infringement.

Such acts may include without limitation any of the following:

- a) Riding out of control (Horse clearly not responding to the Athletes restraining or driving aids).
- b) Riding fences too fast or too slow.
- c) Repeatedly standing off fences too far (pushing the Horse to the foot of the fence, firing the Horse to the fence).
- d) Repeatedly being ahead or behind the Horse movement when jumping.
- e) Series of dangerous jumps.
- f) Severe lack of responsiveness from the Horse or the Athlete.
- g) Continuing after three clear refusals, a fall, or any form of elimination ~~will entail a Yellow Warning Card~~
- h) Endangering the public in any way (e.g. jumping out of the roped track).
- i) Jumping obstacles not part of the course.
- j) Wilful obstruction of an overtaking Athlete and/or not following the instructions of the Officials causing danger to another Athlete.

k) Pressing a tired horse.

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Any individual member of the Ground Jury and the Technical Delegate have the right and the duty to monitor possible cases of dangerous riding and, if appropriate and practical, to stop and eliminate an Athlete on the cross country course for dangerous riding.

If not directly witnessed by the Ground Jury, the incident must be reported as soon as possible to the Ground Jury who will decide if and how to penalise the Athlete.

The President of the Ground Jury can in addition designate one or more assistants (e.g. experienced Eventing Officials who are not in an Official function at the Competition, experienced Athletes or/and trainers not directly involved in the Competition) to help to monitor possible cases of dangerous riding in the cross country.

The President of the Ground Jury will decide their specific role, authority and reporting procedure. It is recommended that these additional Officials be grouped in pairs on the Cross Country course.

Comments received

- IEOC

There should be more clarification guide lines on what constitutes a "tired" horse.

- GER NF

Most of the German Officials would still like to be able to have a variety of sanctions for dangerous riding as there is a variety in the severity of dangerous riding. It is important that a recorded warning is only given for serious cases otherwise the consequences are harder than for a yellow card.

FEI feedback

The Committee added that in the meantime, the difference between tired and exhausted horse has been clarified through a video, available to FEI Officials on Social Media platforms managed by the FEI Eventing department.

Proposed Final Wording

The proposal as above is maintained

Article No. 525.2 Warnings and Penalties

Explanation for Proposed Change

PROPOSAL FROM THE FEI BOARD / LEGAL DEPARTMENT FOR THE FOLLOWING REASON:

It is suggested to review to separate and redefine Recorded Warnings from Yellow Card sanction. The recorded warnings would be Evening specific and the Yellow cards would apply for the same offences as for all disciplines.

The Eventing Committee supports the proposal and suggests to include an increase in responsibility and sanction to the Athlete riding a tired horse

Proposed Wording

525.2 Warnings and Penalties

All cases of Dangerous Riding will incur an Eventing Recorded Warning.

In addition, depending on the circumstances of the case, one or both of the following measures may be imposed:

- a) 25 penalties
- b) Elimination

~~Different cases of dangerous riding will be dealt with one of the following provisions:~~

- ~~a) Eventing Recorded Warning.~~
- ~~b) Yellow Warning Card.~~
- ~~c) 25 penalties.~~

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- ~~d) 25 penalties + Yellow Warning Card.~~
~~e) Elimination.~~
~~f) Elimination + Yellow Warning Card.~~

25 penalties will count as Cross Country obstacles penalties in the results.

Any of the above sanctions applied must always be reported by the Technical Delegate to the FEI and added on the Athlete sanction list

Comments received

- GER NF

Most of the German Officials would still like to be able to have a variety of sanctions for dangerous riding as there is a variety in the severity of dangerous riding. It is important that a recorded warning is only given for serious cases otherwise the consequences are harder than for a yellow card.

FEI feedback

The Eventing Committee clarified that the 25 penalties for dangerous riding can be given at any time of the Competition. The 25 penalties was an addition to the scoring.

Proposed Final Wording

525.2 Warnings and Penalties

All cases of Dangerous Riding will incur an Eventing Recorded Warning.

In addition, depending on the circumstances of the case, one or both of the following measures may be imposed:

- a) 25 penalties
- b) Elimination

~~Different cases of dangerous riding will be dealt with one of the following provisions:~~

- ~~g) Eventing Recorded Warning.~~
- ~~h) Yellow Warning Card.~~
- ~~i) 25 penalties.~~
- ~~j) 25 penalties + Yellow Warning Card.~~
- ~~k) Elimination.~~
- ~~l) Elimination + Yellow Warning Card.~~

Note: 25 penalties are considered as an addition to scores and can be given at any time during the competition. The penalties must be reported in the results as a Cross Country obstacle penalties, Dressage penalties or Jumping obstacle penalties. will count as Cross Country obstacles penalties in the results.

Any of the above sanctions applied must always be reported by the Technical Delegate to the FEI and added on the Athlete sanction list

Article No. 525.3 Elimination Before Cross Country

Explanation for Proposed Change

PROPOSAL FROM THE FEI BOARD / LEGAL DEPARTMENT FOR THE FOLLOWING REASON:

It is suggested to review to separate and redefine Recorded Warnings from Yellow Card sanction. The recorded warnings would be Evening specific and the Yellow cards would apply for the same offences as for all disciplines.

Proposed Wording

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525.3 Elimination Before Cross Country

As a preventive risk management measure, the Ground Jury, at any time throughout the Competition, has the right and the duty to eliminate an Athlete to prevent him from starting the Cross Country Test, if there is a serious concern regarding his ability to control the Horse in that test. In addition, the Athlete must receive an Eventing Recorded Warning. Any such elimination must be associated with a Recorded Warning

Comments received

No comments received

FEI feedback

The above proposal was confirmed by the Eventing Committee and will be submitted to the General Assembly.

Proposed Final Wording

The proposal as above is maintained

Article No. 526.1 Definition (Abuse of Horse)**Explanation for Proposed Change****PROPOSAL FROM THE FEI BOARD / LEGAL DEPARTMENT FOR THE FOLLOWING REASON:**

It is suggested to review to separate and redefine Recorded Warnings from Yellow Card sanction. The recorded warnings would be Eventing specific and the Yellow cards would apply for the same offences as for all disciplines.

The Eventing Committee supports the proposal as well as an increase of the responsibility of the Athlete in case of an Abuse of Horse on course and proposes the following sanctions depending on the severity.

Proposed Wording

Abuse of Horse means an action or omission which causes or is likely to cause pain or unnecessary discomfort to a Horse included but not limited to:

- a) Rapping.
- b) Riding an exhausted Horse.
- c) Excessive pressing of a tired Horse.
- d) Riding an obviously lame Horse.
- e) Excessive use of whip, bit and/or spurs.
- f) Horses bleeding ~~on the flank(s) or back~~ indicating excessive use of the whip and/or spurs.
- g) Overriding : abuse of horse that does not necessarily induce visible marks

If not directly witnessed by the Ground Jury, the incident must be reported as soon as possible to the Ground Jury through the Secretary of the Organising Committee or Cross Country Control Centre as appropriate. Where possible the report should be supported by a statement from one or more witnesses.

The Ground Jury must decide if there is a case to be answered

Comments received

No comment received

FEI feedback

The above proposal was confirmed by the Eventing Committee and will be submitted to the General Assembly.

Proposed Final Wording

19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

The proposal as above is maintained

Article No. 526.2 Warning and penalties

Explanation for Proposed Change

PROPOSAL FROM THE FEI BOARD / LEGAL DEPARTMENT FOR THE FOLLOWING REASON:

It is suggested to review to separate and redefine Recorded Warnings from Yellow Card sanction. The recorded warnings would be Evening specific and the Yellow cards would apply for the same offences as for all disciplines.

The Eventing Committee supports the proposal as well as an increase of the responsibility of the Athlete in case of an Abuse of Horse on course and proposes the following sanctions depending on the severity.

Proposed Wording

Any act or series of actions that in the opinion of the Ground Jury can be considered as abuse of Horse will incur a Yellow Warning Card. In addition, depending on the circumstances of the case, one or more of the following measures may also be imposed:

- a) Elimination
- b) Fine
- c) Disqualification.

All cases of riding an exhausted horse will incur a Yellow Warning Card and Disqualification and the case will be referred to the FEI for further disciplinary action.

~~Any act or series of actions that in the opinion of the Ground Jury can be defined as abuse of Horse will be dealt with one or more of the following provisions:~~

- ~~a) Recorded Warning~~
- ~~b) Yellow Warning Card.~~
- ~~c) Elimination.~~
- ~~d) Fine.~~
- ~~e)a) Disqualification.~~

Comments received

- IEOC

Following on from 525.1 Please define the difference between -pressing a "tired" and an "Exhausted" Horse and sanctioning.?

- GBR NF

GBR support the Committees proposal.

- GER NF

Officials need a good clarification and schooling about the differences of tired and exhausted horses and the differences between pressing a tired horse, excessive pressing of a tired horse and riding an exhausted horse.

FEI feedback

It was clarified by the Committee, that The difference between tired and exhausted horse has been clarified through a video, available to FEI Officials on Social Media platforms managed by the FEI Eventing department.

The Eventing Committee clarified that 25 penalties must be given in addition to a yellow card in case of abuse of horse in order to prevent the athlete to obtain a qualifying result after excessively pressing a tired horse.

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Any act or series of actions that in the opinion of the Ground Jury can be considered as abuse of Horse will incur a Yellow Warning Card. In addition, depending on the circumstances of the case, one or more of the following measures may also be imposed:

- a) 25 Penalties
- b) Elimination
- c) Fine
- d) Disqualification.

All cases of riding an exhausted horse will incur a Yellow Warning Card and Disqualification and the case will be referred to the FEI for further disciplinary action.

~~Any act or series of actions that in the opinion of the Ground Jury can be defined as abuse of Horse will be dealt with one or more of the following provisions:~~

- ~~f) Recorded Warning~~
- ~~g) Yellow Warning Card.~~
- ~~h) Elimination.~~
- ~~i) Fine.~~

~~Disqualification.~~

Article No. 526.4 Blood on Horses

Explanation for Proposed Change

PROPOSAL FROM THE FEI BOARD / LEGAL DEPARTMENT FOR THE FOLLOWING REASON:

It is suggested to review to separate and redefine Recorded Warnings from Yellow Card sanction. The recorded warnings would be Eventing specific and the Yellow cards would apply for the same offences as for all disciplines.

The Eventing Committee supports the proposal as well as an increase of the responsibility of the Athlete in case of Dangerous Riding and Abuse of Horse on course and proposes the following sanctions depending on the severity.

Proposed Wording

Blood on Horses must be reviewed case by case by the Ground Jury. Not all cases of blood will lead to elimination, or an Eventing Recorded Warning or a Yellow Warning Card.

Dressage Test: If the Ground Jury suspects bleeding on the Horse during the test, he will stop the Horse to check. If the Horse shows fresh blood, it will be eliminated. The elimination is final. If the Judge through examination clarifies that the Horse has no fresh blood, the Horse may resume and finish its test (refer to article 430 of the FEI Dressage Rules).

Cross Country Test: For the Cross Country Test, all blood on the horse, if induced by athlete (spurs, bit, and whip), must be reviewed case by case by the Ground Jury. Non-minor cases of blood will result in Elimination. In minor cases of blood in the mouth, such as where a Horse appears to have bitten its tongue or lip, or fresh bleeding, after investigation in consultation with the Veterinarian, the Ground Jury may authorise the Athlete to continue.

Jumping Test: Horses with blood on the flank(s) and/or bleeding in the mouth will be eliminated. In minor cases of blood, such as where a Horse appears to have bitten its tongue or lip, Officials may authorize the rinsing or wiping of the mouth and allow the Athlete to continue; any further evidence of blood in the mouth will result in Elimination (refer article 241).

For all minor cases (*) of blood induced by the Athlete in the mouth or related to spurs a n Eventing Recorded Warning will be issued by the Ground Jury after providing the Athlete the opportunity to have a hearing.

(*)The cases indicating Abuse of Horse will be dealt with according to the provision of Art. 526.2 (Abuse of Horse – Warnings and Penalties).

Comments received

- IEOC

The IEOC would appreciate clarification on what constitutes "fresh" blood. Suggest blood that is unable to be stanchied immediately, ie once blood removed no further bleeding evident?

- GER NF

Officials want a good clarification and schooling about the differences between minor and major blood.

- IRL NF

The IRL NF strongly suggests that a systematic approach across disciplines be taken in respect of the Blood Protocol. The IRL NF would like to refer to the earlier submission to the FEI in respect of blood reference vis-à-vis the FEI Stewards Manual. The IRL NF considered the Stewards Manual (January 2019), Annex XVI, concerning blood in the context of the above proposal. While we note that FEI feedback is that the Committee is aware of the discrepancy and advise that the Stewards' protocol concerning cases of blood on a horse's flank does not call for the presence of the Veterinary Delegate as the purpose of the protocol is only to detect the presence of blood, not to determine fitness to compete, the IRL NF suggests that further consideration should be taken in respect of the Veterinary Delegate being present at the time of adjudication on the presence of blood.

The IRL NF would reiterate their position that the practice of having a veterinary delegate present is as consistent with the procedures for Head Injury Assessment in Rugby and fitness issues at the start of a horse race, where the medics and the vets are the ones advising the referee or the Chairman of the Stewards. It would be our position that the Blood Protocol has equal standing to the Limb Sensitivity Protocol (Art. 1048.1) VR's, in terms of its objectives which are (i) safeguard the welfare of the horse, according to the Code of Conduct for the Horse, and (ii) to ensure a level playing field for all athletes. As such, we would suggest that the Veterinary Delegate should be present to provide a professional recommendation to the Ground Jury Member. The decision that follows therefore is an informed decision grounded on veterinary opinion, the expertise knowledge of the Ground Member and clear unbiased application of the Rule.

FEI Feedback

The Eventing Committee reviewed the suggestions received from the NFs and Stakeholders and proposed the below clarification regarding how to proceed in case of fresh blood on a horse during a Cross Country test.

Proposed Final Wording

Blood on Horses must be reviewed case by case by the Ground Jury. Not all cases of blood will lead to elimination, ~~or an Eventing Recorded Warning or a Yellow Warning Card.~~

Dressage Test: If the Ground Jury suspects bleeding on the Horse during the test, he will stop the Horse to check. If the Horse shows fresh blood, it will be eliminated. The elimination is final. If the Judge through examination clarifies that the Horse has no fresh blood, the Horse may resume and finish its test (refer to article 430 of the FEI Dressage Rules).

Cross Country Test: For the Cross Country Test, all athlete induced (spurs, bit and whip) blood on the horse, ~~if induced by athlete (spurs, bit, and whip),~~ must be reviewed case by case by the Ground Jury. If the horse shows fresh blood, Officials may authorize the rinsing or wiping of the mouth and if there is no further evidence of bleeding, the athlete is allowed to continue. Cases of significant blood will result in Elimination. In minor cases of blood in the mouth, such as where a Horse appears to have bitten its tongue or lip, or fresh bleeding, after investigation in consultation with the Veterinarian, the Ground Jury may authorise the Athlete to continue.

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Jumping Test: Horses with blood on the flank(s) and/or bleeding in the mouth will be eliminated. In minor cases of blood, such as where a Horse appears to have bitten its tongue or lip, Officials may authorize the rinsing or wiping of the mouth and allow the Athlete to continue; any further evidence of blood in the mouth will result in Elimination (refer article 241).

For all minor cases (*) of blood induced by the Athlete in the mouth or related to spurs an Eventing Recorded Warning will be issued by the Ground Jury after providing the Athlete the opportunity to have a hearing.

(*)The cases indicating Abuse of Horse will be dealt with according to the provision of Art. 526.2 (Abuse of Horse – Warnings and Penalties).

Article No. 527 Yellow Warning Cards and Recorded Warning

Explanation for Proposed Change

PROPOSAL FROM THE FEI BOARD / LEGAL DEPARTMENT FOR THE FOLLOWING REASON:

It is suggested to review to separate and redefine Recorded Warnings from Yellow Card sanction. The recorded warnings would be Evening specific and the Yellow cards would apply for the same offences as for all disciplines.

The Eventing Committee supports the proposal as well as an increase of the responsibility of the Athlete in case of Dangerous Riding and Abuse of Horse on course and proposes the following sanctions depending on the severity.

Proposed Wording

527 Eventing Recorded Warning, Yellow Warning Card & Suspension

The following actions will automatically result in the following sanction for the Athlete:

1. An Eventing Recorded Warning will be systematically awarded for the following offence:

- a) Athlete continues after clear 3 refusals, a fall, or any form of elimination.
- b) Any other case of Dangerous Riding
- c) Athlete not seeing a Vet or a doctor after a fall
- d) Athlete leaving the venue after having retired, been eliminated or stopped during the Cross Country Test without having his Horse checked by the Veterinary Delegate
- e) All cases of minor Blood on Horse caused by the Athlete either in the mouth or on flanks from spurs shall be sanctioned by a Recorded Warning as a minimum or by stronger sanction(s) (as provided for under Art. 526.2).
- f) for pressing a tired horse together with 25 penalties

2. Yellow Card Warning Card will be systematically awarded for the following offence:

- a) -All cases of excessive use of whip, as defined above, shall automatically be sanctioned with a Yellow Warning Card or by stronger sanction(s) (as provided for under Art. 526.2 525.2).
- b) Any other cases of Abuse of Horse
- c) Excessive pressing of a tired horse
- d) Riding an Exhausted horse coupled in addition to Disqualification

~~• Should the same Athlete receive more than one Recorded Warning for a case of Athlete induced Blood on a Horse within three years, he will automatically be issued a Yellow Warning Card."~~

~~• Two Recorded Warnings, within a 12 months period, for the same offence, will result in a Yellow Warning Card.~~

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Before issuing an Eventing Recorded Warning or a Yellow Warning Card ~~or a "Recorded Warning"~~, the Ground Jury has the duty to hear the Athlete, if available. At any time, the Athlete has the right to seek out the Ground Jury for any explanation related to an Eventing Recorded Warning ~~or the a~~ Yellow Warning Card.

In the case of an Eventing Recorded Warning or a Yellow Warning Card being issued, after the decision of the Ground Jury, a notice stating the name of the Athlete and the reason of the warning must be posted on the Official notice board.

If after reasonable efforts the Athlete cannot be notified during the Period of the Event that s/he has received an Eventing Recorded Warning or a Yellow Warning Card, the Athlete must be notified in writing within fourteen (14) days of the Event.

Should the same Person Responsible receive three (3) or more Recorded Eventing Warning at the same or any other International Event within two (2) years (24 months) of the delivery of the first Eventing Recorded Warning, for any offence, the Person Responsible shall be automatically suspended for a period of two (2) months after official notification from, or on behalf of, the FEI Secretary General. The start date of the suspension shall be decided in accordance with the FEI General Regulations and confirmed in the notification.

~~Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the General Regulations, should~~ Should the same Person Responsible receive one (1) more Yellow Warning Card at the same or any other ~~international~~ International Event within one (1) year (12 months) of the delivery of the first Yellow Warning Card for the ~~same~~ any offence, the Person Responsible shall automatically be suspended for a period of ~~four~~ two (2) months after official notification from, ~~or on behalf of, the~~ FEI Secretary General. The start date of the suspension shall be decided in accordance with the FEI General Regulations and confirmed in the notification.

Comments received

- GER NF

As it is harder for the athlete to avoid 3 recorded warnings within 24 months than 2 yellow cards within 12 months, both durations should be 12 months.

- NED NF

We support the modification that the Person Responsible receives a suspension by three (3) yellow cards instead of two (2). However we would like to bring the period back to one year (12 months) instead of the proposal for two years (24 months).

- SWE NF

We agree to this proposal

FEI Feedback

The revision of the sanction system proposed by the Legal department/Board now lines up with other disciplines.

The Eventing Committee proposes to maintain the 24 months periods for Eventing Recorded Warnings with the aim to strengthen the current Eventing sanction system and increase the responsibility of the Athlete.

Proposed Final Wording

The proposal as above is maintained

Article No 538.1.1 Protective Headgear

Explanation for Proposed Change

PROPOSAL RECEIVED FROM NFs AND/OR SHs AND NOT AGREED TO BY TECHNICAL COMMITTEE:

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- IRL NF

It is suggested that all protective headgear must be inspected and tagged by their national federation, if untagged, hat must be tagged by the official at the event

FEI FEEDBACK

It was suggested by the Eventing Committee to maintain the responsibility of the Athletes to wear a standardized protective headgear at International Events. Stewards could check headgear if requested, but not systematically.

Proposed Wording

No change to original wording

Comments received**- IRL NF**

The IRL NF disagree with the FEI position in respect of protective headgear inspection. With increasing numbers of recorded concussions in our sport, it is imperative, at the most basic level that headgear is checked for minimum standards. The IRL NF does not believe this to be unnecessarily cumbersome.

FEI Feedback

The Committee agreed not to pursue the proposal of the IRL NF as the tagging system is only in place in few NFs in Europe, therefore it was not possible to implement a rule for protective headgear check at all International Eventing shows.

Proposed Final Wording

No change to current rules

Article No. 538.3 Cross-Country test**Explanation for Proposed Change****PROPOSAL RECEIVED FROM NFs AND/OR SHs AND NOT AGREED TO BY TECHNICAL COMMITTEE:****- IRL NF**

Body protectors are compulsory for this Test, including when schooling over Cross-Country fences, at any time, and must meet one of the following requirements

A Body Protector which is EN 13158: 2009 Level 3 or BETA approved and appropriately Labelled "Level 3 body protector", with the year 2009 shown on the label manufactured in the year 2009 or After

Inflatable / Air Jackets

If an athlete chooses to wear an airbag style body protector, it must be worn over a permitted body protector for the cross-country phase and is not restricted in any way that will prevent it inflating

FEI FEEDBACK

The Eventing Committee is in discussion with the Medical Committee to finalize a list of Body protector standards. The difficulty is the confirmation of manufacturer's certification process as well as defining reliable testing procedures. It has been agreed that better information and analyses needs to be obtained during the following months and it is proposed to include specific reference standards for the next Rules revision together with information on the FEI Medical Website page.

The inflatable – air jackets systems are still being studied.

Currently, Body protectors are compulsory for Cross Country, including when schooling over Cross-Country fences, at any time.

19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

Proposed Wording
No change to original wording
Comments received
No comments received
FEI feedback
The Committee agreed that, it was not possible to implement a rule about standardised body protector as there is no body protector standard in place yet. The FEI Medical Committee and the Eventing Risk Management Steering Group are studying the possibility of the BETA 3 standard being implemented on a worldwide basis.
Proposed Final Wording
No change to current rules

Article No. 538.5 Inspection of Dress
Explanation for Proposed Change
PROPOSAL RECEIVED FROM NFs AND/OR SHs AND AGREED TO BY TECHNICAL COMMITTEE:
- IRL NF Suggest to specify that the Steward can check the safety equipment of the Athlete in addition to the check of equipment.
FEI FEEDBACK The Eventing Committee proposes the following update in the current wording
Proposed Wording
A Steward can be appointed to inspect whips, spurs and item of dress before any Test. He has the authority to refuse permission to start for any Athlete, whose whip or spurs <u>or safety equipment</u> contravene articles 538.1.3 and 538.1.2. He will immediately report the circumstances to the Ground Jury for confirmation. An Athlete who competes with illegal whip(s), spurs or incorrect items of dress is liable to Elimination, at the discretion of the Ground Jury.
Comments received
No comments received
FEI feedback
The above proposal have been confirmed by the Eventing Committee and will be submitted to the General Assembly.
Proposed Final Wording
The proposal as above is maintained

Article No. 539.2.2 Permitted (Dressage test Saddlery)
Explanation for Proposed Change
PROPOSAL FROM TECHNICAL COMMITTEE FOR THE FOLLOWING REASON:

Double bridles are not allowed for the Dressage Test of 1* and 2* Competition. The Eventing Committee suggests to extend this requirement to 3* as well and allow the use of Double Bridle for 4* and 5* only.

Proposed Wording

539.2.2 a) A double bridle with cavesson noseband i.e. bridoon and curb with curb chain (made of metal or leather or a combination), (Cover for curb "chain" can be made of leather, rubber or sheep skin) is permitted, as authorized in Annex A. ~~Double bridle is not allowed for one and two star level CCIs L and S.~~ Use of double bridles during Dressage test allowed for 4* and 5* competitions only. Bridoon and curb must be made of metal and/or rigid plastic and may be covered with rubber/latex. The lever arm of the curb bit is limited to ten centimetres (10 cm) (length below the mouth piece). The upper cheek must not be longer than the lower cheek. If the curb has a sliding mouthpiece, the lever arm of the curb bit below the mouth piece should not measure more than ten centimetres (10 cm) when the mouth piece is at the uppermost position. Curb "chain" can be made of metal or leather or a combination. Cover for curb "chain" can be made of leather, rubber or sheep skin. The diameter of the mouthpiece of the bridoon and/or curb must be such so as not to hurt the Horse. Minimum diameter of mouthpiece to be twelve millimetres (12 mm) for curb bit and ten millimetres (10 mm) for bridoon bit.

Comments received

- **GER NF**

The GER NF would prefer not to change this rule and still be allowed to use the double bridle from 3* on. The judges should express in their marks if a horse is not well educated.

- **GBR NF**

GBR would support the continued use of the double bridle at 3* level competition. GBR feels that at this level, if a schoolmaster that is used to working in a double bridle is ridden by a less experienced rider and made to use a snaffle, it may produce a test of little harmony with the rider. If a combination is using a double bridle incorrectly, this will be reflected in the mark. We so no reason to forbid the use of double bridles at 3*.

- **SWE NF**

We agree to this proposal but have the following comment:

We need to avoid using "names" of bits. Instead it's important to use, what design of the cheek piece, the mouth piece and functions are allowed. Anything that is not allowed in the rules are forbidden. Suggestion, all bits not in alignment with above should be sent to the FEI for approval.

FEI feedback

The Eventing Committee reviewed the comments received from NFs and confirmed the proposal to allow double bridle at 4star and 5star only as part of the education of horses for the level.

The Eventing Committee acknowledged the need to not use names of bits in the rules and the FAQ on tack and equipment is in the process of being updated.

Proposed Final Wording

The proposal as above is maintained

Article No. 539.2.2 Permitted (Dressage test Saddlery)

-

Explanation for Proposed Change

19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

PROPOSAL RECEIVED FROM NFs AND/OR SHs AND NOT AGREED TO BY TECHNICAL COMMITTEE:**- USA NF**

Minimum 14mm diameter for snaffles used on horses is very restrictive and results in the exclusion of many commonly used and humane bits. Concerns have been expressed about maintaining biosecurity when inspecting/measuring bits

FEI FEEDBACK

The Eventing Committee agrees to maintain the current Rule for the moment, and review the proposal again during the September 2019 Eventing Committee meeting to understand if this is a recurrent issue raised by several NFs.

Proposed Wording

No change to original wording

Comments received**- GBR NF**

Dressage Article 428.3 have accepted a reduction from 14mm to 12mm. The above proposed further review by the FEI Eventing Committee. GBR suggest following the dressage rule.

FEI feedback

The Eventing Committee decided to maintain the minimum diameter of 14mm for Dressage test at Eventing Events. The proposal in the Dressage rules was taken into account, however it was felt that that the 14mm rule worked well and since the rules revision last year, Eventing had agreed to follow own rules in regard to dressage bits.

Proposed Final Wording

No change to current rules

Article No. 539.3.1 Permitted & 539.3.2 Forbidden (Cross Country and Jumping test Saddlery)**Explanation for Proposed Change****PROPOSAL RECEIVED FROM NFs AND/OR SHs AND AGREED TO BY TECHNICAL COMMITTEE:****- AUS NF:**

Equestrian Australia Eventing Committee do not believe that the use of bitless bridles on the Cross Country phase provides sufficient control. Amended wording is recommended below.

FEI FEEDBACK

The Eventing Committee believes that Bitless bridle should not be used during the Cross Country Test for risk management reasons.

Proposed Wording

19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

539.3.1 Permitted

The type of saddlery is optional. Gags or ~~“bitless bridles”~~ are allowed as are unrestricted running martingales or Irish martingales. Reins must be attached to the bit(s) or directly to the bridle.

The stirrup iron and stirrup leathers must hang free from the bar of the saddle and outside of the flap.

539.3.2 Forbidden

Any form of blinkers, side, running or balancing reins; tongue straps and/or tying down the Horse's tongue; any other restrictions, any bit or other item of saddlery likely to wound a Horse. Sheepskin (or other material) may not be used as addition on cheek pieces of the bridle.

For Cross Country, any device which does not allow an immediate and unrestricted separation of the Athlete's boot from the stirrup in case of a fall is forbidden.

Neck straps, if used on Cross Country, must be attached either to the breastplate or to the saddle.

For Cross Country, hackamores without bits are not allowed. The lower cheek on any bit (lever arm) may not exceed 10 cm.

For Cross Country, bitless bridles are not allowed.

Comments received- **GBR NF**

GBR supports permitting hackamore / bitless bridles. GBR is not aware of any evidence or reason to suggest that hackamores/bitless bridles should not be used. GBR would request publication of any data in relation to this theory. GBR feels that a rule change is not necessary and will not be applying any such change to NF competition rules. Ditto neckstraps.

- **SWE NF**

We agree the EC proposal

- **USA NF**

The USEF does not support this change and would ask for the FEI to provide further clarification as to how the use of bitless bridles on cross country presents concerns for risk management. History would seem to show that correctly fitted bitless bridles have successfully and safely been used for cross country.

FEI feedback

For Risk management reason, the Eventing Committee proposed to maintain the proposal for the following reason:

After large consultation with the professional riders it was determined that bitless bridles are not effective enough in longer distances that upper level competition (International) requires, therefore taking Risk Management considerations Bitless bridles should not be allowed at XC at FEI competitions

Bitless bridles work very well in a controlled environment but the speed element in XC lessens the effect on longer distances. Maximal communication between Horse and rider is of outmost priority on XC and it is imperative that riders have the possibility to use all means of communication available to communicate with the horse.

Proposed Final Wording

The proposal as above is maintained

Article No. 539.3.2 Forbidden (Cross Country and Jumping Tests)**Explanation for Proposed Change**

19 November 2019, Moscow (RUS)

PROPOSAL FROM TECHNICAL COMMITTEE FOR THE FOLLOWING REASON:

The Eventing Committee suggests to extend the non-allowance of stirrups with restricted separation from boots (such as magnetic stirrups) for the Eventing Jumping test as well as the use of rein with handloops for the Jumping test.

Proposed Wording

Any form of blinkers, side, running or balancing reins; tongue straps and/or tying down the Horse's tongue; any other restrictions, any bit or other item of saddlery likely to wound a Horse. Sheepskin (or other material) may not be used as addition on cheek pieces of the bridle.

~~For Cross Country, Any~~ device which does not allow an immediate and unrestricted separation of the Athlete's boot from the stirrup in case of a fall is forbidden.

Any gadget which does not allow an immediate and unrestricted separation of the Athlete in case of a fall is forbidden.

Neck straps, if used on Cross Country, must be attached either to the breastplate or to the saddle. For Cross Country, hackamores without bits are not allowed and the lower cheek (lever arm) may not exceed 10 cm on any bit.

Comments received- **SWE**

We agree with the ECs proposal

FEI feedback

For Risk management reasons, the Eventing Committee maintained the prohibition of any item that doesn't allow an immediate and unrestricted separation of the athlete in case of a fall for the Cross Country test as well as for the Jumping test. Since the rules revision last year, Eventing had agreed to follow own rules in regard to Jumping and Dressage as required by the discipline.

Proposed Final Wording

The proposal as above is maintained

Article No. 539.3.3 Jumping Test - Boots**Explanation for Proposed Change****PROPOSAL RECEIVED FROM NFs AND/OR SHs AND NOT AGREED TO BY TECHNICAL COMMITTEE:**- **USA NF:**

Please consider including all saddlery rules and permitted saddlery for each test in the FEI Eventing Rules and/or Appendices. We cannot express the importance of clear and timely communication regarding saddlery/equipment rules enough. A recent inquiry regarding changes to the Jumping Discipline rules regarding hind boots and the adoption of the same for Eventing met with varying answers. A clear answer was received from the Eventing Department but communication overall was inconsistent.

FEI FEEDBACK

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The Eventing Committee agreed that clarification was necessary. -In addition to reference in the Eventing FAQ Tack and Equipment on authorised hind boots rule stated in the Jumping Rules, it was suggested to modify the wording modification in article 539.3.3 as follows:

Proposed Wording

For the Jumping Test, the total maximum weight of equipment allowed to be added to a Horse's leg, front or hind (single or multiple boots, fetlock rings etc), is five hundred (500) grams (shoe excluded).

~~For Young Horses Competition with regard to boots on hind legs the Jumping Rules (Art.257.2.4) will apply.~~

The use of hind boots for the Jumping test must comply with art. 257 of the Jumping rules.

Failure to comply with this paragraph will incur elimination.

Comments received

- **SWE NF**

We agree with the ECs proposal

FEI feedback

The Eventing Committee agreed that it was important to follow the Jumping rules in regard to boots.

Proposed Final Wording

The proposal as above is maintained

Article No. 544.1.2–Scoring Flying Change

Explanation for Proposed Change

PROPOSAL RECEIVED FROM NFs AND/OR SHs AND NOT AGREED TO BY TECHNICAL COMMITTEE:

- **GER NF:**

In case of delay of results and too many video-reviews request to change this rule back

FEI FEEDBACK

The Eventing Committee suggests to remove the reference to the average and enforce this article when the variation exceeds 3pts or more between judges. The situation will be reviewed in September.

Proposed Wording

For 4* Championships and higher level Events, if the score ~~only of the for a~~ flying changes varies by 3 points or more between the Judges, from the scores of one or both of the other the judges, the Ground Jury must will review the official video as soon as possible after the Dressage test. The review must be on the same day.

Corrections ~~must can only be made to the a flying change may only be made to the flying change score with the agreement of the Ground Jury and should be based on one or more of the original score(s)~~

Comments received

- **SWE**

We agree the ECs proposal

FEI feedback

The Eventing Committee agreed to maintain the rule proposal with the conditions to review it on a yearly basis.

Proposed Final Wording

The proposal as above is maintained

Article No. 544.2.5 Overall Impression of Athlete and Horse Mark**Explanation for Proposed Change****PROPOSAL RECEIVED FROM NFs AND/OR SHs AND NOT AGREED TO BY TECHNICAL COMMITTEE:****- GER NF**

German officials, trainers and riders are convinced that the collective marks should not have been touched and the dressage tests should not be further shortened. A good dressage education usually results in safer XC riding and especially in the long term is absolutely necessary.

Having deleted the coefficient in the dressage test already leads to closer dressage results which emphasises the influence of the jumping phase. It makes even better dressage judging necessary with the judges using the full scale of marks.

The difference between a normal dressage test and a really bad one can easily be regained with a fast XC round resulting in the bad dressage riders going fast.

It is essential to secure the good riding and good education of the horse. The German NF does not believe that reducing the influence of the dressage phase will result in better and safer XC riding.

- IEOC

Collective marks back: The IEOC had raised the point to add back Collective marks in the Dressage tests.

FEI FEEDBACK:

The Eventing Committee agreed to maintain the decision in regard to the Dressage test coefficient

The Eventing Committee agrees to continue to line up with Dressage and maintain the collective mark – it is suggested however to replace the definition of the Overall Impression mark by Harmony.

It is suggested to add the following directives to the Harmony Mark section in the Dressage protocol: A confident partnership created by adhering to the scale of training.

Proposed Wording

In all Eventing Dressage Tests, one overall mark will be awarded for the ~~Overall Impression~~ Harmony of Athlete and Horse with a double coefficient.

Dressage test protocol:

Collective Marks			Mark	Coeff.	MARK	Remarks
23	Overall Impression <u>Harmony</u> of Athlete and Horses	<u>A confident partnership created by adhering to the scale of training.</u>	10	2		

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Comments received
- SWE We agree with the ECs proposal
FEI feedback
The Eventing Committee confirmed the above proposed wording modification and definition.
Proposed Final Wording
The proposal as above is maintained.

Article No. 547.2.4 Frangible/Deformable Obstacles
Explanation for Proposed Change
PROPOSAL FROM TECHNICAL COMMITTEE FOR THE FOLLOWING REASON:
The Eventing Committee agrees to the RMSG recommended rule that frangible devices in 4*, 5* and championships be made compulsory from 2020 and indicate in the Cross Country guide that compulsory use across all levels is envisioned from 2021.
Proposed Wording
Obstacles can be provided with frangible/deformable technology only if such technology has been approved by the FEI according to the FEI Standard for the minimum strength of frangible/deformable cross country fences. A list of approved technologies is published on the FEI website.
<u>As of 2020, at 4*/5* and championships, all open oxers, verticals or near verticals with open rails, top rail on triple bars and gates where the rail dimensions and weight fit the acceptable parameters of an FEI approved frangible device, must be fitted with frangible devices.</u>
Comments received
- IEOC While the IEOC applaud the FEI in bringing this rule in but would like to know why Table type fences have been excluded? As the FEI is fully aware statistically it is this type of fence that has historically caused the most rider fatalities? We can see no reason for its exclusion?
- SWE We agree with the ECs proposal
- USA NF The USEF supports the FEI recommendation and would encourage the requirement to be expanded to all levels on a timeframe deemed appropriate.
FEI Feedback
The Eventing Committee reviewed the comments received and added "open corners" to the proposal. Table type fences have not been included in the list of obstacles to be fitted with frangible devices as no clear definition of tables is available.
Proposed Final Wording
Obstacles can be provided with frangible/deformable technology only if such technology has been approved by the FEI according to the FEI Standard for the minimum strength of frangible/deformable cross country fences. A list of approved technologies is published on the FEI website.

As of 2020, for 4*/5* and championships, all open oxers, open corners, verticals or near verticals with open rails, top rail on triple bars and gates where the rail dimensions and weight fit the acceptable parameters of an FEI approved frangible device, must be fitted with frangible devices.

Article No. 547.2.6 Sloping & Round Leading Edges-New

Explanation for Proposed Change

PROPOSAL FROM TECHNICAL COMMITTEE FOR THE FOLLOWING REASON:

The Eventing Committee suggests to include a new rule about sloping and round leading edges with the description to be defined in the Cross Country Design Guide: *"As a guide the top of the front of all spread fences should be rounded or sloped at 45 degrees to a point 20cms or more below the top of the leading edge."*

Proposed Wording

Art. 547.2.6 Sloping & Round Leading Edges

Spread fences, must not have an upright or vertical leading edge. The top of the front of the fence must be rounded or sloped. All other fences, including gates and fences using square and/or sawn materials, must not have any sharp or square edges. Brush fences are excluded provided there is at least 20cms of brush above the solid part of the fence.

Comments received

- **GBR NF**

This should include open / railed corners

- **GER NF**

German officials would prefer to have these definitions in the guidelines only.

- **SWE**

We agree with the ECs proposal

FEI Feedback

The Eventing Committee agreed to add: corners must have a sloping leading edge as well.

Proposed Final Wording

Art. 547.2.6 Sloping & Round Leading Edges

Spread fences, including corners must not have an upright or vertical leading edge. The top of the front of the fence must be rounded or sloped. All other fences, including gates and fences using square and/or sawn materials, must not have any sharp or square edges. Brush fences are excluded provided there is at least 20cms of brush above the solid part of the fence.

Article No. 547.3.3 Water

Explanation for Proposed Change

PROPOSAL FROM TECHNICAL COMMITTEE FOR THE FOLLOWING REASON:

The Eventing Committee suggests to specify the maximum/length before/after jumping into water in the rules and remove it from the Cross Country Design Guide.

Proposed Wording

At obstacles involving water crossings (ford, lake or wide river), the depth of water, from the entrance to the exit must not exceed 35 centimetres. The length of any water crossing must be at least six meters between entry and exit, except where an exit step(s) or fence is jumped directly out of the water, in which case the minimum length must be nine meters.

A fence should not be less than two strides before a step out of water or three strides after a drop in water.

Water to water with a drop is not considered an appropriate obstacle question at any level.

Comments received- **GER NF**

German officials would prefer to have these definitions in the guidelines only.

- **SWE**

We agree with the ECs proposal

FEI Feedback

The Eventing Committee proposed to make compulsory the length before/after jumping into water and proposed the following wording as a rule for risk management reason.

Proposed Final Wording

At obstacles involving water crossings (ford, lake or wide river), the depth of water, from the entrance to the exit must not exceed 35 centimetres. The length of any water crossing must be at least six meters between entry and exit, except where an exit step(s) or fence is jumped directly out of the water, in which case the minimum length must be nine meters.

A fence must not be less than two strides before a step out of water or three strides after a drop in water.

Water to water with a drop is not a permitted obstacle question at any level.

Article No. 548.1 Faults at Obstacle**Explanation for Proposed Change****PROPOSAL FROM TECHNICAL COMMITTEE FOR THE FOLLOWING REASON:**

Further to the 2019 Rule modifications, and questions received, the Committee is proposing to include the definition of the activation of a frangible device as follows:

Proposed Wording

Fault	Penalty
First refusal, run-out or circle	20 penalties
Second refusal, run-out or circle at the same obstacle	40 penalties
Third refusal, run-out or circle on XC Course	elimination
Fall of Athlete or Horse on Cross Country Course	elimination
Activating a frangible device <u>where the dimension of the fence is modified</u>	11 penalties
Dangerous Riding	25 penalties
Missing a flag as per art. 549.2	15 penalties

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~~In line with the GRs (Art 159), there will be no Appeal against a decision of the Ground Jury arising from the field of play, where the Decision is based on factual observation of the performance during a competition. In this case a detailed report explaining the reasons for removing the penalty must be produced by the Course Designer/Technical Delegate and signed by the President of the Ground Jury must be returned to the FEI.~~

Evidence: Only official video recording can to be used as evidence. Officials will clarify before start of Cross Country and inform Chefs d'Equipe/riders at meeting/briefing which video recording will represent the official view, to avoid any misunderstanding.

Comments received

- **ITA**

As a consequence of the newly proposed wording for art. 549.2 Run Out, we propose the cancellation of the 15 penalties for Missing a flag

- **SWE**

We agree with the ECs proposal

FEI Feedback

The Eventing Committee proposed to maintain the above wording proposal and the penalties for missing a flag has been maintained as well (see below).

Proposed Final Wording

The proposal as above is maintained

Article No. 549.2 Run out – Missing a flag

Explanation for Proposed Change

PROPOSAL RECEIVED FROM NFs AND/OR SHs AND AGREED TO BY TECHNICAL COMMITTEE:

- **IEOC:**

The IEOC proposed the following wording for the Rule to be updated:

Run out: a) A horse is considered to have run out (20 penalties) if, having been presented at an element or obstacle on the course, *the head, neck or shoulders (to the point of the front of the saddle)* fail to pass between the extremities of the element or obstacle as originally flagged, *or the hind end has not made an effort to jump. (i.e. the pelvis has travelled around the side of the fence without jumping)*. Continuing on course without representing will incur elimination.

b) Clear: The head, neck and both shoulders (to the point of the front of the saddle), (i.e. not the legs or pelvis), have passed between the extremities of the element or obstacle as originally flagged and the hind end has made an effort to jump.

- **GER NF**

The German NF appreciates the intention of the rule taking into account that the rider could feel whether he must represent or not. But there is a strong feeling that the wording needs some clarification. The practical experiences this season will show. Maybe it could be written the other way round (clear first, 15pens 2nd, run out 3rd).

- **USA NF**

We feel that even with the amendments made for 2019 rule does not sufficiently address the ongoing confusion regarding the various circumstances under which penalties are assessed for missing a flag.

FEI FEEDBACK

This rule is currently under discussion and a proposal will be made by the Eventing Committee taking into account the different suggested wording and reviewing the overall concept for the reason of the rule and, taking into account a 2019 season evaluation.

Proposed Wording

a) Clear: A Horse is considered to have cleared the fence when the head, neck and both shoulders of the Horse (to the point of the front of the saddle) pass between the extremities of the element or obstacle as originally flagged and the hindquarters of the horse jump the dimensions of the fence.

b) Missing a flag: A horse is considered to have missed a flag (15 penalties) if part of the Horse's head, neck or shoulder (to the point of the front of the saddle) jump outside the extremities of the element or obstacle as originally flagged. The hindquarters must jump the dimensions of the fence.

c) Run-Out: A Horse is considered to have run out (20 penalties) if, having been presented at an element or obstacle on the course, it avoids it in such a way that the head, neck and both shoulders (to the point of the front of the saddle) fail to pass between the extremities of the element or obstacle as originally flagged or the hindquarters have not jumped dimensions of the fence. Continuing on course will incur elimination.

~~a) Run-Out: A Horse is considered to have run out (20 penalties) if, having been presented at an element or obstacle on the course, it avoids it in such a way that the body of the Horse (head, neck, shoulders and pelvis — legs are not included) fail to pass between the extremities of the element or obstacle as originally flagged. Continuing on course without representing will incur elimination.~~

~~b) Missing a flag: A Horse is considered to have missed a flag (15 penalties) if the Horse jumps the dimension of the obstacle and the majority of the Horse's body (as defined above) passes through the flags. This means that some part of the body is not inside the flags (e.g. one shoulder, or one shoulder and part of one hip).~~

~~c) The Horse will have successfully negotiated the fence, if the body of the Horse (as defined above) has passed the fence as originally flagged (i.e. the body but not all the legs are inside the flag is considered clear).~~

Comments received**- IEOC**

Rather than coming up with a new concept and testing it in the field of play, we have instead assessed the way that the rule is currently being successfully judged by officials using their own personal judgement as to which cases should be clear and which should be penalised, and we have articulated this in writing - in other words the rule we have proposed is a reflection of the current situation.

This has been the result of tireless but successful collaboration between Officials, Riders and NFs, among others, over the past twelve months. We understand that there is strong international support for this and hope you will consider adopting the wording in full.

You will note that the 15 penalty concept is not included in the proposal.

The IEOC after consultations with ERA propose the revised wording:

549.2 Run out rule

A Horse is considered to have run out if, having been presented at an element or obstacle on the course, it avoids it in such a way that either the head, neck or point of either shoulder of the Horse fails to pass between the extremities of the element

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or obstacle as flagged, or if the Horse's pelvis fails to jump the height of the solid part of the obstacle.

Note: If the Athlete represents and was clear in his first attempt, the Athlete will not be penalised with 20 penalties but no time will be removed. A Horse will be considered to have cleared the fence when the head, neck and point of both shoulders of the Horse pass between the extremities of the element or obstacles as flagged and the Horse's pelvis jumps the height of the solid part of the obstacle. If the Horse's outside forelimb knocks down the flag and the Horse's pelvis jumps the height of the solid part of the obstacle then the Athlete will not be penalised.

- **EEF**

The current rule is still not clear and requires improvement. The above IEOC wording text is proposed

- **AUS NF**

The Australian Equestrian Federation supports the work carried out by the FEI rider's working party and the IEOC in relation to the FEI rule

- **BEL NF**

Concerning the rules revision the BEL NF supports the GBR proposal of the FEI rule 549.2 (Run out). See above the suggested amendment:

- **BRA NF**

On behalf of the Brazilian Eventing Federation I believe many thoughts have been put together concerning a new suggestion on the wording for the FEI Eventing Rule, article 549.2 on RUN OUT and 15 PENALTIES, as follows. Therefore we wish to confirm our support for this proposal in order to better attend and clarify the rule for the best of the Sport.

- **GBR NF**

The British Equestrian Federation and British Eventing support the work carried out by the FEI riders' working party and the IEOC in relation to FEI rule 549.2 (Run out).

We feel that the suggested amendment to the rule as proposed below is a fairer version and more akin to the spirit of the sport than the one that appears in the draft FEI 2020 rules.

GBR supports the proposed wording put forward by Harry Meade on behalf of the FEI Rider Working Group. The Working Group have worked hard to find a practical and implementable solution to this rule and the context of the wording needs to be considered as per below as the proposal from the FEI can be interpreted differently. We very much hope will look favourably on the work carried out by this group.

Benefits

- The 2019 rule caused major problems earlier in the year, after which Ground Juries chose not to implement the rule as it was written, but to use their personal judgement for the remainder of the season until the rule could be changed. The above proposal reflects how ground juries have since been successfully judging it.
- Placement of the camera now is less relevant, it can be anywhere side on, only requirement is to see 1) the flag pass the point of the shoulder, and 2) the hind end jump.
- Easier to judge in real life (fence judges, spectators, TV commentators, etc), this will lead to fewer classroom reviews.
- We will once again obtain instant results, rather than after the class has finished.
- Simpler scoring system, not complicated for spectators to follow with 50/15 pens in addition to 20 and Elimination.
- Clear to riders as they jump - riders know where the flag is while it is in front of them, and they know if the back end has jumped.
- Gets the right result, not theoretical result.
- Pre 2017 there were not issues over this rule, except the few incidents where the back end did not jump, but this suggested rule deals with that scenario.
- Under the current rule we are starting to see riders riding to avoid the flag which is becoming dangerous. This suggested rule is safer.

- **GER NF**

There is a new reworded proposal from IEOC and ERA which is supported by German Officials and riders.

- **FRA NF**

We do support the proposed wording of the FEI Riders Working Group and the IEOC and we especially support the removal of the 15 penalties.

Like most of the Eventing stakeholders. We recommend the implementation from 1st of January 2020 of this wording as the current one is not satisfying.

- **IRL NF**

On behalf of the IRL NF in relation to the FEI Eventing Run Out (flag rule) and 15 penalties – Art 549.2. As you are aware the FEI Riders Working Group has been working with the IEOC which in turn feeds into the FEI Eventing Committee, in order to pro-actively come up with alternative wording for the rule to be put before the FEI Eventing Committee for consideration.

The suggested wording for the rule is attached (as proposed by the GBR NF) and as the IRL NF we wish to confirm our support for this proposal, which we feel is in the best interests of the riders.

- **ITA NF**

The Italian Federation and Eventing Dept. fully support the new wording of the International Riders Working Group and the IOEC as presented above

- **JPN NF**

JAPAN EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION supports the following proposal on 549.2 rule done by IEOC & FEI riders' working party. This proposed amendment is clearer and fairer to both the athletes and officials, and yet maintains the competitiveness of the sport.

- **NED NF**

We feel that the suggested amendment to the rule as proposed above is a fairer version and more akin to the spirit of the sport than the one that appears in the draft FEI 2020 rules.

- **NZL NF**

Please accept this letter as Equestrian Sport New Zealand's (ESNZ) endorsement of the proposal put forward by the FEI Riders Working Group to change the wording of Article 549.2 Run out – missing a flag. ESNZ are in favour of the above suggested wording to replace the existing rule.

We believe that by revising this rule to include the above wording, and by removing the 15-point penalty, the FEI will provide a clearer framework which will benefit our whole sport.

- **POR NF**

We support the IEOC proposal.

The most important thing is clarify the rule for riders, officials, fence judges and public. Riders should know if they jump the fence properly or not.

- **RSA NF**

Eventing South Africa supports the proposed re-wording of the FEI Rule 549.2 (Run Out) i.e. the suggested Amendment to the Rule 549.2 as put forward by the IEOC and ERA.

- **SWE NF**

NFAs long as we are in a need of video equipment etc. to be able to make decisions we shouldn't make any new changes.

A new proposal to consider is as follows:

Run out - missing a flag (New wording)

a) Run-Out: A Combination (Horse and Athlete) is considered to have run out (20 penalties) if, having been presented at an element or obstacle on the course, it avoids it in such a way that the Combination fail to pass between the extremities of the element or obstacle as originally flagged. Continuing on course without representing will incur elimination.

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- b) Missing a flag: A Combination is considered to have missed a flag (7 penalties) if they jump the dimension and some part of the obstacle but in some way knocks down a flag.
 c) The Combination will have successfully negotiated the fence, if they have passed the fence as originally flagged without knocking down any flag.

- **USA NF**

The USEF does not support this change as proposed by the FEI. We strongly recommend adoption of the alternative rule change proposed by the IEOC.

- Eliminating the possibility of 15 penalties creates a scoring system that is easier for the public to understand – riders are either clear or given 20 penalties.
- Allowing the flag to move mitigates scenarios in which riders deliberately, and potentially dangerously, alter their lines in order to avoid knocking the flag.
- Removing the “originally flagged” language allows fence judges to more clearly evaluate whether a horse is clear from the field of play, thus decreasing the number of video reviews that must take place.
- The IEOC’s proposed rule allows results to be finalized in a much swifter manner, which benefits the athletes, officials, media and public as a whole.

FEI Feedback

The Eventing Committee carefully reviewed each proposal made by the NFs and stakeholders and discussed the concept and technical aspect of the rules with the aim to make it easier to understand and judge. The below proposal will be submitted to the 2019 General Assembly.

Proposed Final Wording

a) Clear (0 penalties): A horse is considered to have cleared the fence when the head, neck and points of both shoulders pass between the extremities of the obstacle as flagged. If a flag is dislodged, the hindquarters must jump the height of the solid part of the obstacle.

b) Missing a flag (15 penalties): A horse is considered to have missed a flag when the point of a shoulder fails to pass between the extremities of the obstacle as flagged. The head and neck must pass inside the extremities of the obstacle as flagged. If a flag is dislodged, the hindquarters must jump the height of the solid part of the obstacle

c) Run-Out (20 penalties): A Horse is considered to have run out if, having been presented at an obstacle on the course, it avoids it in such a way that the head, neck and point of either shoulder fail to pass between the extremities of the obstacle as flagged or the hindquarters have not jumped the height of the solid part of the obstacle. Continuing on course without representing will incur elimination.

~~a) Run-Out: A Horse is considered to have run out (20 penalties) if, having been presented at an element or obstacle on the course, it avoids it in such a way that the body of the Horse (head, neck, shoulders and pelvis — legs are not included) fail to pass between the extremities of the element or obstacle as originally flagged. Continuing on course without representing will incur elimination.~~

~~b) Missing a flag: A Horse is considered to have missed a flag (15 penalties) if the Horse jumps the dimension of the obstacle and the majority of the Horse’s body (as defined above) passes through the flags. This means that some part of the body is not inside the flags (e.g. one shoulder, or one shoulder and part of one hip).~~

~~c) The Horse will have successfully negotiated the fence, if the body of the Horse (as defined above) has passed the fence as originally flagged (i.e. the body but not all the legs are inside the flag is considered clear).~~

Article No. 549.3.2 Obstacles Composed of Several Elements

Explanation for Proposed Change
<p>PROPOSAL FROM TECHNICAL COMMITTEE FOR THE FOLLOWING REASON:</p> <p>The wording of Article 549.3.2 currently does not line up with the examples in the diagrams available on the FEI website: https://inside.fei.org/sites/default/files/2018%20Diagrams%20of%20Cross%20Country%20Obstacles_Jan16.pdf</p> <p>The Eventing Committee suggests to make a clarification and in the meantime confirm that the diagrams would prevail over the Rule wording until the Rule was updated.</p>
Proposed Wording
<p>549.3.2 Obstacles Composed of Several Elements</p> <p>At an obstacle composed of several elements (A, B, C, etc.) a Horse will be penalised once it has jumped the first element and before it has jumped the last element if:</p> <p>a) It passes around the back of any element of the lettered combination that it subsequently jumps. b) It crosses its tracks between the elements. <u>c) It circles back around any element that it has already jumped before jumping any subsequent element of a lettered combination</u></p>
Comments received
<p>- GER NF Still needs clarification. Text in Rules and drawings need further consideration.</p> <p>- SWE NF We agree with the ECs proposal.</p>
FEI feedback
<p>The Eventing Committee maintained the above proposal with the aim to avoid discrepancies between this rule and the diagrams.</p>
Proposed Final Wording
<p>The proposal as above is maintained</p>

Article No. Annex A.1.3 Permitted snaffles for the Dressage test
Explanation for Proposed Change
<p>PROPOSAL RECEIVED FROM NFs AND/OR SHs AND AGREED TO BY TECHNICAL COMMITTEE:</p> <p>- IRL NF Suggest a change to “must be smooth” and Add in plastic wavy bits</p> <p>FEI FEEDBACK The Eventing Committee agrees with proposal to allow wavy bit for Dressage test. Wavy bits will be added in the permitted snaffles (Annex A) and “smooth” will be removed.</p>
Proposed Wording
<p>1.3 Permitted Snaffles (see diagrams)</p> <p>a) May have one or two joints b) May be double-jointed with rounded or rotating mouthpiece allowing for better fit and comfort)</p>

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c) May have a slightly curved port, allowing more room for the tongue. The maximum height is 30mm from the lower part of the side of the tongue to the highest point of the deviation.

d) Wavy bits are allowed

e) A coupling is permitted as the centre link and must be solid with no moveable parts other than a roller.

f) The centre link must be ~~smooth and~~ rounded

g) The diameter of the mouthpiece must be a minimum of 14mm for Horses and 10mm for Ponies at the rings or cheeks

Comments received

- **IEOC**

Definitive clarification required for use of French link snaffle.

- **SWE**

We agree with the ECs proposal

FEI Feedback

The Eventing Committee agreed to clarify the use of bits with control plates in the FAQ-Tack and Equipment and not refer to specific manufacturers names.

Proposed Final Wording

The proposal as above is maintained

Annex A.2 Permitted Nosebands for the Dressage Test

Explanation for Proposed Change

PROPOSAL RECEIVED FROM NFs AND/OR SHs AND NOT AGREED TO BY TECHNICAL COMMITTEE:

- **IRL NF**

Add that Micklem bridle may only be used without the clips

FEI FEEDBACK

The use of clip on Micklem bridle has been already clarified in art. 539.2.3 (clips are considered gadgets and are not allowed) and the clarification is in the FAQ-Tack and Equipment published on the FEI website.

Proposed Wording

No change to original wording

Comments received

No comment received

FEI feedback

The Eventing Committee maintained the current wording in Annex A. However, it will be clarified in the FAQ tack and Equipment that the bit can only be attached to the cheek piece and the rein.

Proposed Final Wording

No change to the current Annex A.

Annex B Cross Country – Annexes (2. Distance-Speed-Jumping efforts)**Explanation for Proposed Change****PROPOSAL RECEIVED FROM NFs AND/OR SHs AND NOT AGREED TO BY TECHNICAL COMMITTEE:****- GBR NF**

CCI-Short XC Distances

This was discussed several years ago at the informal annual CD meeting that takes place at the end of the year and one of the proposals that came from it was that there should be a discretionary 5% leeway on the maximum permitted distances for CCI-S.

Rationale: It is because there are times, not often, when a course is better for having say an extra 100m/120m. It is venue dependent and can be such that the flow and balance of a course is improved, it could be that a loop which would add significant value to a course or perhaps provide better footing cannot be included under the current rule because it would make the course too long. It could be, as was the case at an event in the USA last year, where a CIC* (now known as CCI2*-S) course was really good but was 124m too long under the current rules and the only way to overcome this was to move the start so that effectively the horses started running downhill (and no, it was not bad course designing!). This is not good for obvious reasons and it detracted from what was a really good course. Plus, as a reminder, it came from the annual meeting of top CDs whose experience around the world led to the proposal.

Within the above limits, the CD and TD may adjust in either direction to take account of the terrain, the number of efforts should be broadly proportional to the length of the course.

In exceptional circumstances only and with the prior permission of the TD it is possible to have up to an extra 5% of the maximum permitted cross country distance in CCI-Short classes. Such exceptional circumstances are when the course would have a better flow and balance because of the particular venue and the CD must be able to justify to the TD his/her reasons for requesting the need for any additional distance and the TD must agree.

FEI FEEDBACK

This point has been discussed at several occasions and the Eventing Committee suggests not to make this addition to the Rules as the situation only rarely occurs at Events.

Proposed Wording

No change to original wording

Comments received**- SWE NF**

1. Cross Country Obstacles Maximum Dimensions

Table ...

Please read our proposal on minimum dimensions as below:

2 Cross Country Obstacles Minimum Dimensions

Horses

	1*	2*	3*	4*	5*
Width – between the flags	180cm	160 cm	140cm	120cm	120cm

Pony

	1*	2*
Width – between the flags	160 cm	140cm

FEI Feedback

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The Suggested minimum jumpable widths are specified in the Cross Country guide for Officials. The Eventing Committee agreed to add the minimum jumpable width for ponies in the guide.

Proposed Final Wording

No change to current rules

Annex D Medical Services

Explanation for Proposed Change

PROPOSAL FROM TECHNICAL COMMITTEE FOR THE FOLLOWING REASON:

The annex D will be fully reviewed with support of the Medical Committee.

Two points will be added:

1. International medical standard: The level of qualification of Medical care to be redefined taking into account International standards.
2. Athletes with light impairments: Assistance and procedure to be defined to ensure athletes with light impairments are able to respond to communication during competition.

Proposed Wording

To be finalized in consultation with the Medical Committee

Comments received

- **POR NF**

Really need a clarification. In Portugal, it's very expensive have a doctor during all the competition and many OC can't afford that.

FEI Feedback

This annex will be updated further to review of the FEI Medical Committee feedback based on a questionnaire sent out to NFs involved in Eventing.

Proposed Final Wording

Current wording maintained until update from Medical Committee is received.

Annex F.1 Consultation with Athletes-Appointment of Athlete Representative

Explanation for Proposed Change

PROPOSAL RECEIVED FROM NFs AND/OR SHs AND AGREED TO BY TECHNICAL COMMITTEE:

IRL NF: include the TD in the appointment of the Athlete representative: Prior to the Athletes' first opportunity to inspect the Cross-Country course the TD should select in consultation with the Organising Committee an Athlete Representative from among the Athletes taking part in the Competition having first obtained that Athlete's consent.

FEI FEEDBACK

The Eventing Committee reviewed the content of annex F and the overall concept of appointment of an arbitration and Investigation panel. It is felt that the communication between the Athlete Representative and the Officials during the Event would allow the Arbitration panel to be removed from the Eventing rules.

The Investigation procedure has evolved and is now included in the Serious Incident Management Plan (SIMP), and the investigation report will be made by the Risk Management Steering group. This proposal would allow the OC to reduce the number of persons to be appointed for these functions and avoid duplication of tasks.

It is suggested that the Athlete Representative function be maintained and the appointment procedure could be reviewed if necessary and feedback for 2020.

Proposed Wording**Annex F** ~~Consultation with Athletes~~ Athlete Representative

1 Appointment of Athlete Representative

Prior to the Athletes' first opportunity to inspect the Cross Country course every Organising Committee of an international Event must appoint an Athlete Representative from among the Athletes taking part in the Competition having first obtained that Athlete's consent.

This Athlete Representative has the task of acting as a channel of communication between the Athletes and the Officials on any matter directly connected with the Event without in any way removing the right of any Athlete to speak to the Organising Committee, Technical Delegate, Ground Jury, or Course Designer. The name of this Athlete must be notified to the Athletes at the briefing if one is held or posted prominently on the Event notice board if no briefing takes place.

~~2—Chairman of Arbitration and Investigation Panel~~

~~The Organising Committee will appoint prior to the start of the Competition the Chairman of an Arbitration and Investigation Panel (see point 9 below).~~

~~3—First meeting of Athletes called by the Athlete Representative—1st Horse Inspection~~

~~At the end of the day on which the First Horse Inspection is held there will be a meeting of all Athletes should they so wish to be called by the Athlete Representative. The Technical Delegate and representative of the Organising Committee should attend although not the Ground Jury unless specifically requested by the Technical Delegate, Organising Committee or the Athlete Representative.~~

~~4—Second meeting of Athletes called by the Athlete Representative—after 1st day of Dressage Test~~

~~If the Event is a Long Format Competition (CCI-L) with two days of Dressage the Athlete Representative has the right, if there are any concerns amongst the Athletes, to ask for an Athletes' meeting to take place at the end of the first day of Dressage to discuss major issues concerning the obstacles on the course and/or the distances of the course.~~

~~This meeting must be attended by the Ground Jury, Technical Delegate, Course Designer, and a senior representative from the Organising Committee (If there are no issues the Athlete Representative may advise the Technical Delegate who will contact the Organising Committee and the Ground Jury and cancel the meeting).~~

~~5—Meeting Minutes~~

~~At this meeting any such issues must be recorded in writing (the Technical Delegate & Athlete Representative have this responsibility) and the response of the Ground Jury also recorded in writing and signed by the President of the Ground Jury and the Athlete Representative.~~

~~6—Additional Athlete Representative~~

~~At this stage the Athletes may appoint two additional people (to join the already appointed Athlete Representative) as Athlete Representative's to continue the discussions with the Officials and the Organising Committee. These additional two people can be anyone that the Athletes choose and do not necessarily have to be competing at the Competition.~~

~~7—Final Athletes Meeting of the Athletes before the Cross Country~~

~~A further and final Athletes' meeting, attended, as before, by all the Officials and a representative from the Organising Committee, is now required.~~

~~Ahead of this meeting the written response by the Ground Jury to any written concerns of the Athletes raised the previous evening shall be given to the Athlete Representative's. At this meeting any final briefing of the Athletes will take place.~~

~~If the Athletes are still dissatisfied with the decisions of the Ground Jury a vote will be taken. This should be a secret vote and the Organising Committee should assist the Athletes in conduct of the meeting. The issue to be voted on is "Do you accept the responses of the Event Officials, or should they be referred to the Arbitration and Investigation Panel for final decision?"~~

~~If a majority of the Athletes actually taking part in the Competition (50 percent plus one) so agree the outstanding issue(s) will be referred immediately to the Arbitration and Investigation Panel for a final decision against which there will be no appeal.~~

~~At this meeting any such issues must be recorded in writing (Technical Delegate & Athlete Representative responsibility) and the response of the Arbitration and Investigation Panel also recorded in writing and signed by the Chairman of the Arbitration and Investigation Panel and the Athlete Representative.~~

82 Athletes Briefing

The usual Athletes briefing on routine matters to do with last minute changes due to meteorological conditions, ground, etc must still take place on the evening before the Cross Country Test. ~~In case of dispute on such issues, the procedure with the Arbitration and Investigation Panel is available for use.~~

~~9—Arbitration and Investigation Panel~~

~~The Arbitration and Investigation Panel will consist of three people appointed on the first day of the Event by the Organising Committee in conjunction with the Athlete Representative.~~

~~The Arbitration and Investigation Panel shall include: (a) a non-competing current or recent Athlete experienced at the level of the Event, (b) an FEI qualified Official, and an independent person experienced in the sport who is not involved in any way with the Event, e.g. an Organiser.~~

~~If such people are not available at the Event, after reasonable efforts to engage them, the Organising Committee, in consultation with the Technical Delegate and the President of the Ground Jury, must appoint an Arbitration and Investigation Panel of similarly experienced people likely to have the confidence of both the Athletes and Officials alike.~~

~~Any one of these three people can be appointed as President of the Arbitration and Investigation Panel. The President or a member of the Appeal Committee may be appointed to this Arbitration and Investigation Panel if suitably qualified.~~

~~10—Events with only 1 day of Dressage~~

~~At a Competition with only one day of Dressage it will be necessary to modify the above procedure. In these circumstances the above timetable may be compressed and/or certain steps omitted but the most important principles must be retained, i.e.:~~

~~Concerns and responses recorded in writing.~~

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~~The opportunity for Athletes to vote if dissatisfied.~~~~Final decision by the Arbitration and Investigation Panel, provided a majority of starters so request.~~~~The above procedure for consultation with Athletes will not apply for Championships, Team Events, Young Riders or Juniors Events (Athlete Representative replaced by Chef d'Equipe)~~**Comments received****- SWE**

We agree with the ECs proposal.

FEI Feedback

The above proposal was confirmed by the Eventing Committee and will be submitted to the General Assembly.

Proposed Final Wording

The proposal as above is maintained.

Annex I-Indoor/ Arena Cross Country**Explanation for Proposed Change****PROPOSAL RECEIVED FROM NFs AND/OR SHs AND AGREED TO BY TECHNICAL COMMITTEE:****- FRA NF**

In the interest of the safety and in the meantime of the quality of the sport we would support to change the optimum time format by a Table A format, in one phase.

Course designers may receive guidelines to build in a way which would encourage riders to slow down in the second half of the course.

Optimum time format is not encouraging riders to ride in a reasonable manner. They adapt too much their speed to make the time forgetting too often the sensible speed and way of riding.

Still in the aim of improving indoor cross country, we suggest to fix horse qualification: 7 years old minimum having 1 MER in CCI 3* minimum

FEI FEEDBACK

The request to change the optimum time format by a Table A format, in two phases was reviewed and the Eventing Committee suggests to the following wording review:

Proposed Wording

The following minimum requirements are mandatory:

1. Qualification of Athletes: Competition open only to A, B and C FEI categorised Athletes (to ensure all Athletes have adequate experience)~~1.2.~~ Qualification of Horses: minimum 7 years old and having 1 MER in CCI 3* minimum~~2.3.~~ Level of competition: maximum (current) 3* star level obstacles with speed related to the size of the arena.~~3.4.~~ Competition Format:- Optimum time if competition runs over fixed obstacles- Against the clock: ONLY with knockable fences or hedges (min. 1/3 of the height of the obstacle)- Two phases:- 1st phase: fixed obstacles possible, Table A format not against the clock

<p>- <u>2nd phase: knockable fences, Table A against the clock</u> 4.5. FEI Officials: One experienced FEI Eventing Course Designer or FEI Eventing Technical Delegate</p>
<p>Comments received</p>
<p>- SWE We agree with the ECs proposal</p>
<p>FEI Feedback</p>
<p>The above proposal was confirmed by the Eventing Committee and will be submitted to the General Assembly.</p>
<p>Proposed Final Wording</p>
<p>The proposal as above is maintained</p>

Additional Proposals received from NFs and outline of proposals to be made by the Eventing Committee for 2021 Rules

CZE NF (late submission)

- **U25 category – add category to Art.501.3.3 Levels Of Difficulty**

Eventing Committee:

- **Tack:** clarification about leather covered bit, leather like material, lever arm measurement and bits with control plates
- **Cross Country course design:** specific recommendations from the guide to become mandatory, further to the development of updated standards for frangible devices and ground lines.
- **CCI5*-S:** review of the possibility to include an additional level of competition of a CCI5*-S into the current FEI Eventing Competition structure. A consultation process has been launched in regard to the impact of the introduction of a new category at the higher level with NFs, Organisers, Athletes and all involved.