

**FEI Endurance Officials**  
**Judges, Technical Delegates and Stewards**

02 November 2017

Dear FEI Endurance Officials,

Following meetings with the FEI Legal Department about the correct application of the FEI Endurance Rules, I would like to clarify the correct procedure to apply the Rules regarding:

- 1, Abuse of Horse
- 2, Incorrect Behaviour.

**Abuse of Horse**

It is clear that many of you only use the Yellow Warning Card for this situation.

However, the Endurance Rules clearly state:

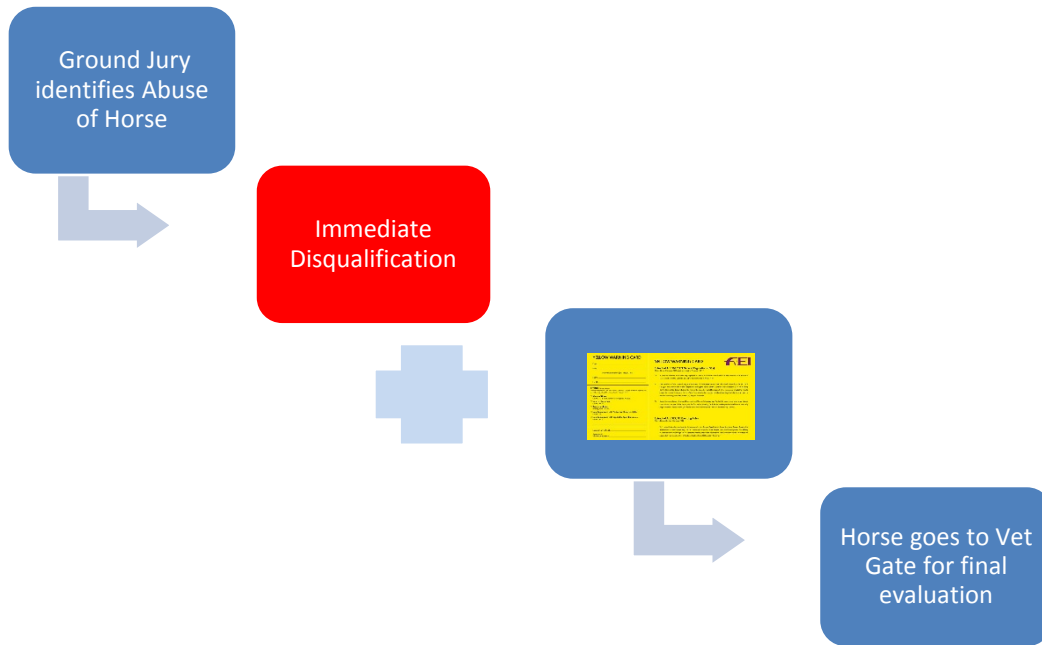
*"Article 811 – CRUELTY*

*811.1 Any act or series of actions which, in the opinion of the Ground Jury can clearly be defined as **cruelty or abuse shall be penalised by disqualification** and as otherwise allowed under the GRs, and the individual concerned shall be reported to the FEI."*

Therefore, if the Ground Jury finds that any abuse of horse has occurred, the required action is immediate disqualification **AND** a Yellow Warning Card.

After the Ground Jury has disqualified the horse/athlete combination, the horse must go to the Vet Gate for examination and the outcome code must be added to DSQ, eg DSQ GA, DSQ M, etc, or just DSQ if the horse has passed the examination.

This is the correct and only way to apply the rule for the Abuse of Horse cases:



### Incorrect Behaviour

The Yellow Warning Card is also being used incorrectly in the case of Incorrect Behaviour.

The rule states:

**Contrary to Article 169.7.1 of the GRs<sup>1</sup> incorrect behaviour towards (a) Event Officials or any other party connected with the Event (other Athlete, journalist, public etc.) and/or (b) Doping Control Officers, Testing Veterinarian, Chaperones and/or any other person involved in the collection of a doping control sample will entail a penalty of 100 points.**

From now on, instead of issuing a Yellow Warning Card, you must use the attached "INCORRECT BEHAVIOUR NOTIFICATION" form to notify the athlete that, due to their Incorrect Behaviour, they will receive 100 penalty points and therefore be suspended for a two-month period.

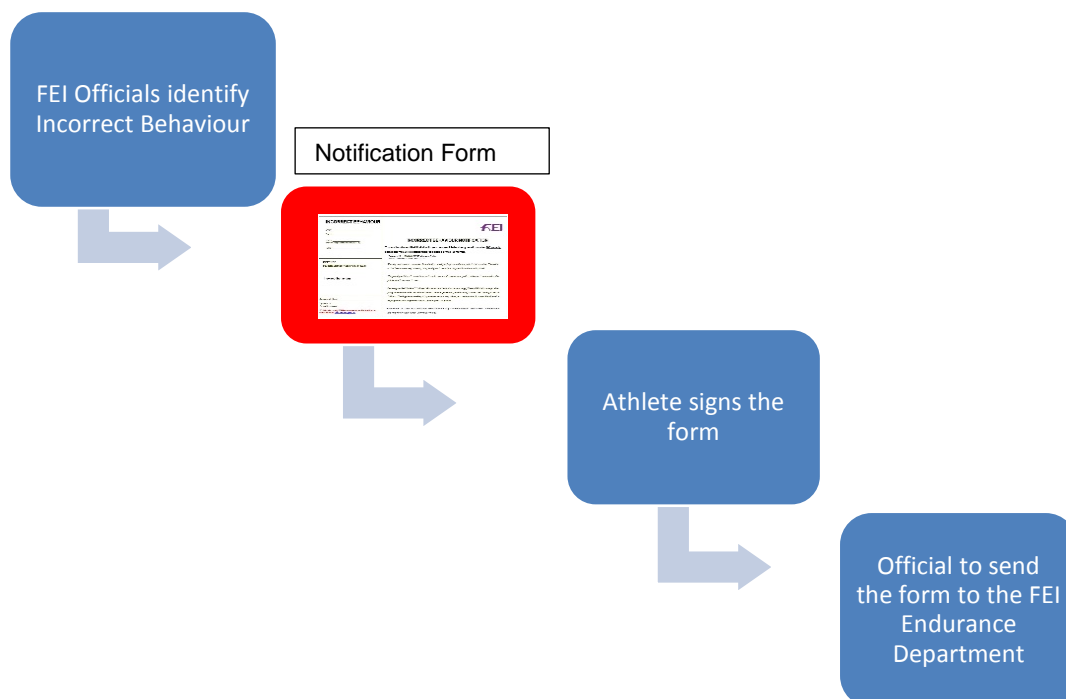
<sup>1</sup> Article 169 – Penalties

7.1 The President of the Ground Jury, the President of the Appeal Committee, the Chief Steward or the Technical Delegate must notify the Person Responsible during the Period of the Event that he will receive a Yellow Warning Card, which will be delivered either by hand or by any other suitable means. If after reasonable efforts the Athlete cannot be notified during the Period of the Event that he has received a Yellow Warning Card, the Athlete must be notified in writing within fourteen (14) days of the Event.

The Incorrect Behaviour Notification form must be issued and the athlete should sign the form. It is preferable to notify the athlete in the presence of a witness. Please record the name of the witness on the form.

The Official must send a copy of the form to the FEI Endurance department [endurancereport@fei.org](mailto:endurancereport@fei.org) **within 48 hours**. The FEI IT department will then update the system and the athlete will be immediately suspended for two months.

This is the correct and only way to apply the rule for Incorrect Behaviour cases:



Hope that this clarification will be helpful to you, but I will be happy to assist you if further clarification is needed.

This document will be published in the FEI website [www.fei.org](http://www.fei.org) in Endurance Updates.

The form will also be available in the FEI website -> Official -> Endurance ->Forms.

Kind regards,



Manuel Bandeira de Mello  
Director Endurance & Driving