

Last update: 5 July 2019

PROPOSALS FOR 2020 MODIFICATIONS TO THE EVENTING

Dear Member Federations,

Please find below a summary of the proposed changes to the Eventing Rules together with the corresponding explanations.

We would appreciate any comments you may have on these proposed rule changes by 30 August 2019. Thank you for sending your comments to catrin.norinder@fei.org directly.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Catrin Norinder', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

Catrin Norinder
FEI Director Eventing & Olympic

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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 it become a stand-alone Championship in the future, the Eventing Committee agrees 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.

However, 80 entries is the target at major 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.

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.

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.

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.

Article No.511.1 Judges (Requirements for Promotion)

Explanation for Proposed Change

PROPOSAL RECEIVED FROM NFs AND/OR SHs:

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:

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.
- 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.

Article No. –511.2 and 511.3 Requirements for Promotion of Technical delegates and Course Designers

Explanation for Proposed Change

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.

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.

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

Article No. 512 Requirements for Maintenance of Status

Explanation for Proposed Change

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

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

~~b)~~ 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

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

~~c)~~ 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-bases evaluation test with a positive assessment

~~b)~~ 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.~~
~~c) 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~~

~~c) 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.~~

~~c) 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 an online educational questionnaire every year 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 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.

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

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.

Article No. 513.2 Long Format (CCIs-L and CCIOs-L) Appointment of Officials

Explanation for Proposed Change

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

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

Article No. 514.2.3

Explanation for Proposed Change

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

IRL NF 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.

AUS NF 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.

In Australia, we do allow Course Designers to compete over courses that they design up to 4* level, at National Events.

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.

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.

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.

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.

FEI FEEDBACK

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

Article No. 514.2 Conflict of Interest-Eventing

514.2 Conflict of Interest - Eventing

514.2.1 Coaching and Training - All Officials

In any case coaching or training by all FEI Officials at the particular Competition must be avoided after arriving at the Competition grounds, unless in special circumstances permission has been given by the FEI Secretary General. Coaching or training includes the walking of courses and the training and warming up of Athletes for dressage or jumping. Course walks open to all Athletes are encouraged, but those restricted to own pupils are not allowed.

514.2.2 Other conflicts - Ground Juries

- a) CCI's at 1, 2 and 3 star level "CIM" (Minor Events) - conflicts should be avoided whenever practicable.
- b) CCI's at 4&5 star level - conflicts must be avoided whenever practicable. If unavoidable they must be declared and accepted by the FEI Secretary General.
- c) Games/Championships/Series Finals - conflicts of interest are not allowed.

514.2.3 Other Conflicts - Technical Delegates and Course Designers

Other conflicts will not apply for Technical Delegates and Course Designers.

Explanation for Proposed Change

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 it 514.2 in its entirety.

Proposed Wording

514.2 Intentionally Omitted

Article No. 514.3 Independent Review Panel

The FEI Secretary General may refer any potential conflict of interest to an independent review panel that he will appoint upon request and which will be composed of two sportsmen (recent retired Athletes) and one Member with legal knowledge (as well as reserve member). This panel may confer by email or telephone. In emergency any one member of the panel may make a decision.

Explanation for Proposed Change

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

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:

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

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

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

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

Explanation for Proposed Change

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>	<u>2 CCI4*-S (as a combination)</u>

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

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 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 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.

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.

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

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

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

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 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

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

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 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

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:~~

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

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 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:

➤ Athlete continues after clear 3 refusals, a fall, or any form of elimination.

- Any other case of Dangerous Riding
- Athlete not seeing a Vet or a doctor after a fall
- 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
- 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. 525.2).
- for pressing a tired horse together with 25 penalties

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

- -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. 525.2).
- Any other cases of Abuse of Horse
- Excessive pressing of a tired horse
- 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.~~

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 Warning Card, 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.

Article No 538.1.1 Protective Headgear (same article as above)

Explanation for Proposed Change

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

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

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.

Proposed Wording

No change to original wording

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 or safety equipment 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.

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.

Article No. 539.2.2 Permitted (Dressage test Saddlery)

Explanation for Proposed Change

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

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

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.

Article No. 539.3.2 Forbidden (Cross Country and Jumping Tests)

Explanation for Proposed Change

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.

Article No. 539.3.3 Saddlery/Dress

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

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

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)~~

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 Harmony of Athlete and Horses	A confident partnership created by adhering to the scale of training.	10	2		

Article No547.2.4 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.

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.

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.

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.

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

~~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.

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 rules 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 Horses 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).~~

Article No. 549.3.2 Obstacles Composed of Several Elements

Explanation for Proposed Change

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](https://inside.fei.org/sites/default/files/2018%20Diagrams%20of%20Cross%20Country%20Obstacles%20Jan16.pdf)

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.

Proposed Wording

549.3.2 Obstacles Composed of Several Elements

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:

- 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.
- c) It circles back around any element that it has already jumped before jumping any subsequent element of a lettered combination

Article No. Annex A.1.2 Permitted snaffles for the Dressage test

Explanation for Proposed Change

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

IRL NF: suggest a change to "must be smooth" and Add in plastic wavy bits

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.

Proposed Wording

1.3 Permitted Snaffles (see diagrams)

- a) May have one or two joints
- b) May be double-jointed with rounded or rotating mouthpiece allowing for better fit and comfort)
- 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

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

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

Annex D Medical Services

Explanation for Proposed Change

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

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.~~

~~8.2 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.~~
~~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)~~

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
 - 2nd phase: knockable fences, Table A against the clock
- 4-5. FEI Officials: One experienced FEI Eventing Course Designer or FEI Eventing Technical Delegate