General information for Cross Country Course designers & Builders, Technical Delegates, and Ground Juries regarding MIM Clips

The development of frangible mechanisms in the sport has been well received and is a positive step to risk management. This document sets out some information which is intended to be useful for all officials and it will be updated on a regular basis.

The MIM systems that are currently approved by the FEI for use in competitions are:

1. Post & Rail
2. Oxer
3. Table
4. Gate and Wall
5. Post & Rail skinny/angle kit

The instructions for their fitting have been recently updated and must be strictly adhered to if the system is to work as designed. As other ways of using MIM clips are approved they will be added to the above list.

For simplicity, the approved systems have ‘FEI Approved’ written on the instruction sheets.

All instructions can be found on the FEI website at: https://inside.fei.org/fei/disc/eventing/risk-management/devices
1. How can I find out more about the MIM system or seek clarification on anything I don’t understand?

**Answer:** Contact your NF NSO or MIMsafe New Era which is based in Sweden.
Tel: +46 (0)10 5500 450
E-mail: info@mim.se
Website: www.mimsafe.se/en/new-era

2. Can I experiment on fences on courses using clips in different positions?

**Answer:** NO

3. Do the clips need to be aligned in the direction of travel of the horses or on the intended jumping line?

**Answer:** No, just follow the instructions.

4. Do the clips need to be fitted tightly?

**Answer:** They must not be loose once fitted, they need to be ‘hand tight’ ie easily put in position and replaced as/when necessary.

5. Is it possible to use the system in other types of fence?

**Answer:** Yes. For example, elephant traps/sloping rails can use the Post & Rail system.

6. From a general interest point of view, if a clip is fitted horizontally will it act differently to if it is fitted vertically or at 45 degrees?

**Answer:** NO

7. Can I use non FEI approved systems at FEI competitions?

**Answer:** NO

8. Weight of the rails

**Answer:** Please take note of the details in the instructions, this is very important.
9. Is there a left or right clip?

Answer: No, they can be used on each end of rails.

10. Can I use a single clip on a rail?

Answer: No, all rails must have 2 clips on.

11. Are there any handy tips for me as a course builder?

Answers:

a. It is recommended to place a catcher block (of wood) behind the upright which will ‘catch’ the rail if the clips are activated to prevent the rail hitting the upright and thereby possibly loosening the upright. The ‘catcher’ needs to allow the rail to drop below horizontal. The catcher must catch the rail not the bracket and the rail must hit the catchers squarely.

b. The minimum drop of the rail is 25cms.

c. Care must be taken to build fences in such a way that when the system is activated there are no dangerous gaps or traps.

d. Ageing of fences: please appreciate that as fences get older the wood dries out or rots and screws become loose. They must be checked thoroughly before every event. Thorough maintenance is very important.

12. The angle of the clip on fences where the adjustable brackets in the Post & Rail kits are used has a tolerance if the height of the rail is adjusted using the bracket, ie it is not required in all circumstances to change the clip if the rail is raised or lowered

Answer: please refer to instructions.

13. Clarification of ‘Intended Approach Speed’ – this refers to the speed of approach that the CD would expect from the riders

Answer: The CD and TD should agree this before building a particular fence where there could be a difference of opinion.

14. When the fences are not being used

Answer: Please remove the clips and secure or drop the rails so that there is no chance of inadvertent activation for example if people stand on the fence.

15. Flagging

Answer: Do not secure the flag to any frangible part of a fence.
Those fences have the clip holders placed on incorrect distances. The correct distance from the clip holders to the hinges is shown in the figure copied from the fitting instructions. Please follow the fitting instructions carefully.