



Eventing Rules Revision

Feedback from the French National Federation (NF) on FEI proposals

1. General point: Continuation of current rule book system or one rule book including all Dressage and Jumping rules applying for Eventing

Further to the suggestion of senior officials to establish specific Dressage and Jumping regulations for Eventing and not refer to separate rules of the two other Olympic disciplines, the Eventing Committee is suggesting to maintaining the current approach to the Dressage and Jumping Rule book and specify only the exceptions as it is felt important to provide a certain cohesion between disciplines as the evolution of the 2 Olympic disciplines are closely related to Eventing.

It is proposed that the communication with the relevant technical disciplines needs to be enhanced, and a review of the existing rules to clearly define the exceptions will be made.

Agree with the rules of Jumping and dressage applying to Eventing for jumping and Dressage Test. A specific and exhaustive rule book for Eventing would be welcome for both riders and officials.

This will be an opportunity to rewrite and clarify some points.

2. COMPETITION LEVELS & FORMATS

Further to discussion in the past years with many nations, and taking into account the recommendations of the Independent Eventing Audit, the Eventing Committee wishes to propose:

1. The introduction of a lower level event of a XC at 1.05 meter level. This new category would allow a smoother transition between national and international competitions in the developing countries. The level can be used for the Pony championship and can be the basis for developing a Children level/category in Eventing.

A 1m05 level would be interesting as an introduction for amateur riders. It is felt that this level should be reserved to occasional competitors, and closed to A, B and C categorised athletes.

2. As a consequence shift the star system up one level, the new level to become new 1 star, current 1 star = new 2 star, current 2 star = new 3 star, current 3 star = new 4 star
3. Rename as a separate category named "Classics" the current 4 star allowing also for a short format version.

The logical name would be 5*. It would be a nuisance for the understanding of our sport to name this level out of this frame. « Classics » may be a suffix.

The French Equestrian Federation do not believe there is a need for a short format at this level. The qualification pathway is long enough to this level. A new level would spray horses on more dates. The Actual CCI4* serie is well balanced all over the year to allow top performances.

4. Bring in line the technical requirements for WEG and Olympic Games

A clarification about technical requirement would be welcome

Formats: For (new) 1 star and 2 star levels is proposed to study a unified competition format for each level while for (new) 3 and 4 star is proposed to retain both the long and short format.



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Championships: Current 1, 2 & 3star championships will be held at the new 2, 3 & 4 star level of competition.

Agree

Olympic Games and WEG: technical requirements as per current Olympic format with an option to be discussed if to retain or not the second Jumping test.

Taking into account the observation and recommendation coming from the Eventing Audit (Charles Barnet) the advantage of this approach is that the Athlete/Horse combinations would be able to qualify at the same cross country level of the Championships using an established and geographically well spread system of existing competitions.

"Classics": a separate level of special competitions where the technical requirements are to be maintained as per current CCI4* with minor adjustments; while prizemoney, other organizational requirements and more in general all eligibility criteria to be reviewed in consultation with Organizers in order to ensure the highest standards and quality of Events. A short "Classics" format also to be introduced.

CROSS-COUNTRY (distances- jumping efforts -speeds)

To be updated including the following:

- allow wider bracket of cross country distance/efforts for unified formats
- possibility of 2 more efforts on Cross Country for "Classics" events, as well as 2/3 ascending oxers to be of 125cm in the back
- introduction of a minimum jumpable width for xc fences in the Cross Country Guidelines

3. QUALIFICATIONS OF ATHLETES & HORSES (MER)

The Eventing Committee is proposing review of the Eligibility requirements further also to the conclusions of the Eventing Independent Audit.

- to follow the qualification principle that the qualification needs to be made at the level of the championship, is proposed for all Championships.
- It is proposed to revise the MER parameters to ensure the standard of participation of all athletes and horses:

Test	New	Current requirements
Dressage	not more 67 than Penalty points	75 Penalty points
Cross Country	Max of 20 penalties at obstacle (not more than 60 seconds exceeding the optimum time (or due to special weather conditions the best time of the day if all athletes are over the optimum time)	Clear at obstacle (not more than 90 seconds exceeding the optimum time)
Jumping	not more than 12 penalties at obstacles	not more than 16 penalties at obstacles



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The French Equestrian Federation support restriction on the dressage and Jumping point which may help with risk management. The clear round on cross country should remain mandatory. A 20 point course is a clear signal that the combination is not ready to go to the upper level.

4. DRESSAGE TESTS

- New additional short and long 4-star Dressage
- New 1 star test
- Shorter time for the Dressage Test (e.g. speed up entry and exit of horses in the arena, deletion of collective marks, taking out 1st salute etc.)

Agree

5. POSITIVE SCORING

Taking into account the suggestions of several NFs in regard to the removal of the coefficient for Dressage and implementation of a positive scoring, the Eventing Committee is suggesting two alternative proposals for a new scoring system, to help make the understanding of the sport more self-explanatory to a wider audience in line with the IOC Agenda 2020:

- **Proposal A:** Dressage percentage to represent directly (without coefficient) the positive score from where to eventually deduct current Cross Country and Jumping penalties. Athlete with the highest score wins.

For the purpose of the Team competition a combination non-completing the Cross Country Test will be awarded 80/100 penalties a combination not passing the horse inspection or non-completing the Jumping test will be awarded 40/50 penalties (to be discussed).

- **Proposal B:** Each tests is valued from a maximum of 100 points and added together. Dressage score is given by dressage percentage (without coefficient), XC score is given by 100 deducted of any jumping or time faults; Jumping score is given by 100 deducted by any Jumping or time faults. Final score is given by adding together the scores of the three tests. Athlete with the highest score wins.

For the purpose of the Team competition any test non-completed will be awarded 0 points.

A concrete study on how this new scoring system would impact results, on last year championships for example, is required before any opinion to be given.

6. Dress code

For the Eventing Dressage and Jumping tests, the Eventing Committee suggests to line up with the proposals coming from the relevant disciplines. For the Cross Country test all nations will have to use national flag colours for dress and saddle pads to clearly identify and differentiate the countries. Colours and pattern to be registered in advance to allow differences between nations.

NF cross country colours is an interesting idea. To which events would this apply ?



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7. Renaming of the discipline

Further to proposals of FEI external consultancy, the Eventing Committee are suggesting the following options for the review of the NFs to promote the **understanding of the sport to new audiences**:

- Equestrian Triathlon
- Equi-triathlon
- Equestrio
- Triquestrian

The FFE does not think that a new name is necessary, if if we have to change, we will support the « Equestrian Triathlon » proposition.

8. OTHER POINTS FOR 2017 RULES FOR EVENTING

Further to the general changes proposed above, the Eventing Committee are proposing also for implementation the following updates for the rules clarify and improve wordings, including requests from NFs received in October 2015:

- **Additional CIO** (art.501.2): It is suggested to line up with the General Regulations and allow the possibility in exceptional circumstances to organize one Young Rider or Junior Official competition per country in addition to a Senior Official competition.

Agree

- **Prizemoney** (art.505.3.1): It is proposed to remove the mandatory split of PM for team competition. The reason being that should a few number of teams participate it is difficult to follow the "not more than one third of the total amount of money" to be awarded to the winner.

It is felt that the prize money has to be distributed. The removal of this restriction would allow a huge gap between the winner and the other completing riders, even in events with lots of starters. Most of the events are already distributing little prize money and riders not winning do not even cover the entry fee with prize money.

- **Entries and Certificate of Capability** (art.509 and 516): update to align articles with the implementation of the FEI Online Entry System.
- **National Officials** (art. 513): It is suggested to amend this article to allow Assistant Technical Delegate, Assistant Course Designer & Assistant Steward to officiate abroad, providing they have the correct insurance coverage.
- **Spurs**: "Vertical" requirement for spurs would be removed to align with Dressage Rules.



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Cross Country Test: Faults at Obstacles:

The Bureau will be asked for approval for immediate implementation of the following change referring to adapting the wording 1* Explanatory note and procedure for the implementation of the penalties for activation of a frangible pin. The reason is to allow additional deformable devices to be used in events this year. The deformable device in question has been reviewed by the different testing authorities.

1 Explanatory note and procedure for the implementation of the penalty for "Activating a frangible device": Each Athlete activating a frangible device will be awarded 11 penalties whenever the activation occurs as expected (i.e. activation by significant pressure exerted by the Horse which modifies the dimension of the fence). In the case (...)*

Indoor/Arena Cross Country Rules:

- Competition will be opened to A and B Categorized Athletes only

Looking at the C category list, We can see a significant number of riders haven't proved their experience and quality and are fully able to compete at such event. Such opening may allow to promote a young and dynamic population, as rising stars.

- two phase competitions: 1. On table A with XC country obstacles only, which will set the number of penalty points; 2 part. table C at fixed speed (according to size of arena) with only knockable/brush fences.

There is a misunderstanding with what has been told by the working group in Geneva last December.

The required format was : whole course in one phase, table A against the clock with both fixed and knockable devices. The course designers would have to build the course in order to slow down horses in the « second part » to secure the competition.

- Prizemoney & expenses: at the discretion of the OC, however the principle of a demonstration class and not a high level competition
- An listed FEI Eventing Judge to be appointed
- A FEI 3&4 Eventing CD to collaborate with the appointed Jumping CD
- Promotion aspect of Eventing as Discipline
- Commentators: with experience in Eventing – brief to be prepared, video clips available for big screen to show the "real sport" (outdoor, 3 disciplines etc)
- FEI Eventing Rules Horse Welfare / Risk management to apply i.e. Cross country penalties, dangerous riding, sanctions etc, to be explained by commentator.

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