**FEI** Fédération Equestre Internationale



# FEI Coaching System (Competition)

#### **SYLLABUS**

## LEVEL 2 OLYMPIC DISCIPLINES







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### **Level 2 Olympic Disciplines**

Aim:	<ul><li>To work as an independent coach</li><li>Coach for competition</li></ul>
Duration of the course:	<ul><li>6 days without Eventing module</li><li>7 days with Eventing module</li></ul>
Entry Requirements for Participants:	<ul> <li>21 years old and over</li> <li>Selected by their NF</li> <li>Completion of an FEI Level 1 Course</li> <li>Completion of the Logbook Level 1</li> <li>Coach Curriculum</li> <li>Have a First Aid Safety certificate (suggestion)</li> </ul>
Attendance:	11 participants + 1 Wild Card +     Observers, i.e. 11 candidates + 1     Wild Card utilized by the FEI. If the     Wild Card is not used, the free space     will be given to another applicant.
Level:	Jumping: 1.20 – 1.30 m     Dressage: Medium/Advanced     Eventing: 1* up to 2**
Insurance:	Participants must be registered with their NF coach insurance scheme or privately
Assessment:	<ul> <li>Assessment procedure during and after the course</li> <li>Pre-course questionnaire.</li> <li>Mid-course questionnaire.</li> <li>Practical coaching sessions during the course</li> <li>Logbook, completion of 15 sessions after the course and submission to the FEI within 3 months.</li> </ul>
Certification:	Certificate of Achievement upon positive evaluation of the log book by the Tutor
Evaluation of the Course:	<ul><li>By the Tutor</li><li>By the Coaches</li></ul>
Evaluation sheets and Report	To be sent to the FEI by the Tutor

#### The Sport

#### PRINCIPLES AND RULES

At the conclusion of this course, the coach will be able to:

- Know and develop in participants, knowledge of the rules of the different equestrian sports.
- Explain the FEI code for the welfare of horses.

#### TACTICS AND STRATEGY

At the conclusion of this course, the coach will be able to:

- Develop in participants, knowledge of the principles, practice strategies and tactics related to performance at this level.
- Utilize structured observation and analysis techniques for the development of technique, skill, and tactics.

### SAFETY (further to Level 1 Coaching)

- Assess the suitability of horses relating to size, weight and ability of the rider.
- Implement an emergency plan in the event of an accident.
- Fill out accident reports and maintain an accident register.
- Explain the importance and various types of insurance.
- Take appropriate steps to protect against possible negligence claims.

#### **TECHNIQUES AND SKILLS**

At the conclusion of this course, the coach will be able to:

- Apply the techniques and skills in a range of activities appropriate to the sport and to the developmental stage of the participant for :
  - A) Dressage, Senior I and II (Medium/Advanced)
  - B) Jumping, Amateur 1.20m; Novice Speed
  - C) Eventing: 3 Day Event 1\*

#### A) Dressage

- The key points of the basic position for flatwork and jumping
- The way of going of the horse
- The sections of the training scale related to Level 2
- The tempo of the paces of the horse specific for Level 2
- Direct transitions from one pace to second next pace
- Transitions within a pace
- Shoulder-In
- Half Pass
- Travers
- Renvers
- Half-Pirouette at walk
- Rein Back
- Straightness
- Collection
- Flying Change of Leg
- Use of the double bridle
- Preparation for competition at Senior level (Medium/Advanced)

#### B) Jumping

At the conclusion of this course, the coach will be able to explain:

- A balanced, secure and effective position over fences up to 1.20 meter.
- The ability to keep the horse under control.
- How to set out poles, distances and lines and the reasons for using them.
- How to built combinations
- Going against the clock's guidelines
- How to maintain a secure and balanced seat over poles, grids, single fences and combinations in trot and canter.
- The ability to trot to a fence at this level.
- The ability to shorten a horse's stride (add a stride on a distance).
- Distances/strides and how to walk a course.

#### C) Eventing

- A balanced position of the rider
- How to control the rider's balance over different types of courses depending on the shape of the obstacles
- How to vary the approaches over a same shape of obstacles by modifying the lengthening of paces and the balance of the horse
- How to control the approach of different types of obstacles
- How to use the rider's balance to vary the approach
- How to control the straightness over narrow obstacles
- How to control the straightness over arrowhead obstacles (angles/corners)
- How to control the straightness over a sequence of narrow or arrowhead obstacles
- How to analyse the fitness of the horse
- How to anticipate it
- How to manage it
- How to adapt the speed, jumps, options to the weather conditions and to the ground conditions

#### The Participant Horse and Rider

#### **MOTIVES AND NEEDS**

At the conclusion of this course, the coach will be able to:

- Motivate participants to be and remain involved in equestrian sport with a view to maximising their potential and talent.
- Identify the major stages in growth and development of the participant.
- Promote positive and enjoyable experiences for participant.
- Encourage and acknowledge individual progress of the participant.
- Explain the basic factors that effect learning.
- Help to promote the confidence of the participants.
- Be aware of the dangers of early specialisation and competition.
- Explain different approaches required when teaching children and adults of all ages.
- Recognise the role which equestrian sport can play in the total development of the individual.
- Develop in participants the value of team work.

#### PHYSICAL FITNESS OF THE RIDER

- Implement well-structured warm up and cool down sessions, including pre and post stretching for major muscle groups.
- Explain the level of fitness required for the different equestrian sports for Level 2 standard competition.
- Plan programmes for the physical development programme suitable for competitive riders at Level 2 Standard.
- Define the components of fitness that contribute to physical performance.
- Explain the working of the cardio-respiratory, muscular and skeletal systems.

#### PHYSICAL FITNESS OF THE HORSE

At the conclusion of this course, the coach will be able to:

- Plan well-structured warm up a cool down sessions and list the major muscle groups which the horse will use under the weight of the rider.
- List the normal T.P.R. of the horse and recognise abnormal changes.
- Assess the condition and fitness level of the horse/pony required for the different equestrian sports.
- Recognise the good and poor conformation points, and how this can affect performance.
- Plan, conduct and evaluate an interval training session.
- Plan, conduct and evaluate a speed session.
- Recognise and understand unsoundness.

#### MENTAL FITNESS OF THE RIDER

At the conclusion of this course, the coach will be able to:

- Plan and facilitate the mental preparation of the participant, with particular reference to goal setting, motivation and arousal (stimulation).
- Recognise and develop a positive, balanced and realistic attitude to equestrian sports.
- Assess reactions of the participant to winning and losing.
- Tabulate personal "Bests" and the conditions which produced them.

#### MENTAL FITNESS OF THE HORSE

- Explain senses and instincts of the horse and how they differ from the human senses.
- Recognise the dominant herd instinct and its affects.
- Explain the body language of the horse and how it effects a training session.
- Explain the need for mental relaxation of the horse during and after exercise.
- Assess the suitability of the horse for the work he is required to do.
- Plan, conduct and evaluate a session to reduce exercise and post exercise stress.

#### SKILL DEVELOPMENT OF THE RIDER

At the conclusion of this course, the coach will be able to:

- Explain the timescale involved in skill development in equestrian sports, appropriate to age and ability and frequency of practice, and the need for repetition and re-enforcement.
- Explain the basic factors which affect learning.
- Identify the difference between participants desire to learn as opposed to their desire to compete.
- Identify the difference between a skilled and unskilled performer.
- Plan, conduct and evaluate appropriate activities based on an understanding of the core principles related to growth and development.

#### SKILL DEVELOPMENT OF THE HORSE

At the conclusion of this course, the coach will be able to:

- Explain how horses learn understand and memorize.
- Explain the timescale in skill development in the different equestrian sports, appropriate to the temperament, age, ability and conformation of the horse.
- Plan, conduct and evaluate appropriate activities based on an understanding of the core principles related to growth and development of the horse.

#### The Coach

#### **ROLE OF THE COACH**

- Develop a working philosophy based on knowledge of the different approaches to coaching and on personal experience.
- Identify the effects of the adopted philosophy on the role of the participant.
- Communicate effectively with participants and other partners in the sporting process.
- Recognise the need to make arrangements for the transition of the participant beyond national level.

- Identify overuse injuries and injury prevention measures which relate to children, adults and horses.
- Provide first aid for a defined range of sport injuries and implement appropriate referral mechanisms.
- Have an understanding of the process and time required for rehabilitation from injury for horse and participant.
- Explain the legal responsibilities associated with coaching.
- Further develop observation skills with an ability to recognise the factors which influence such observation.
- Appreciate the central role of active learning and the need to accommodate for different learning styles.
- Employ problem solving techniques for poor performance.

#### PLANNING AND APPRAISAL

At the conclusion of this course, the coach will be able to:

- Plan a period of training, with emphasis on clearly defined phases.
- Develop and conduct a programme of coaching sessions in the context of an overall plan.
- Conduct formal analysis and feedback of participant.
- Deal effectively with the planning, event and evaluation phases of participation at this level.
- Plan and implement programmes with due regard for safety and the legal responsibilities of the coach.
- Plan strategies to maintain long-term involvement of participants.

#### PRACTICE AND COMPETITION

- Create a positive environment for both practice and performance.
- Maximise the use of available and potentially available resources.
- Involve and supervise assistants.