

Clarification about **Cross Country Obstacle Design Guidelines**

After the recent Eventing Judges, TD, and Course Designer Seminar at Pine Top, it is apparent some clarification is needed about the information provided in the Cross-Country Obstacle Design Guidelines pamphlet. The original Guidelines were written for lower level designers and builders to help them get proportions right because there can be some pretty bad shapes if things are built straight from the rule book. They are a fluid document and are updated and revised as needed on a regular basis.

The Guidelines were also written to give an idea of what is appropriate at a given level so that mini-Badmintons were not being built at the Novice level. They were written as a tool for good jump construction, not as crutch for having a feel of what will work on a given course.

- They are guidelines and not rules.
- Course design is a skill that has to adapt to each different piece of ground.

The hope was that the Guidelines would encompass most circumstances, but in case they did not, that a conversation would ensue and knowledge, feel, and experience would lead to the right decision by the officials involved.

We hope that the Guidelines are helpful, but they are not a substitute for a solid knowledge base, feel and experience.

The Guidelines can be found on US Eventing's website at this link:
[http://useventing.com/sites/default/files/XC Obstacles 2016.pdf](http://useventing.com/sites/default/files/XC%20Obstacles%202016.pdf)

Thank you!

USEA Eventing Course Designers/Builders Committee