

EV110 Entries

Proponent: USEA Competitions, Calendar & Rules Committee

Standard: Effective 12/1/2023

Rule Change Intent: To exempt the USEA AEC from the 10-day qualification period prior to the start of the cross-country test of the competition for which it is needed. Due to the number of entries received for the AEC, the extra week permitted puts a strain on show personnel to process, verify entries, and notify waitlisted acceptance of entries, in a timely manner, to confirm transportation plans for those traveling a long distance.

2. ENTRY FORMS.

e. Entries must be received by the end of the day on the closing date. Qualifications must be fulfilled at least 10 days before the Cross-Country phase of the Event for which it is needed if the MER has been achieved at a Horse Trial or CCI-S, or at least 24 days if the MER has been achieved at a CCI-L. For Modified, Preliminary, and Training Classic Three-Day Events, qualifying Events must be completed within a 24-month period prior to the start of the Event. **For the USEA American Eventing Championships, qualifications must be fulfilled by the closing date.**

APPENDIX 3 - PARTICIPATION IN HORSE TRIALS

A competitor and/or a horse may be entered in a Horse Trial without having fulfilled the qualifications noted below, provided the qualifications have been fulfilled at least 10 days before the Cross-Country Test of the competition for which it is needed if the MER has been achieved at a Horse Trial or CCI-S or at least 24 days if the MER has been achieved at a CCI-L. **For the USEA American Eventing Championships, qualifications must be fulfilled by the closing date.**

EV119.2,.3, and .4

Proponent: USEA Eventing Licensed Officials Committee

Standard: Effective 12/1/2023

Rule Change Intent: (a) and (b) - To clarify existing confusion among judges. i.e. if the boots are not noticed by the judge before the bell, rider enters, is it 2 or 4 points? If the judge notices the boots before entry for one, and misses another, it's not fair to put the onus on the judge with present day tight time schedules. It should be 2 points regardless.

(d) This rule is mislabeled under the current heading because there is no two-point deduction in this case. It should *not* be a subset of 119.2, it should be re-numbered for clarity.

(e) This rule is mislabeled under the current heading because there is no two-point deduction in this case. It should *not* be a subset of 119.2, it should be re-numbered for clarity. Continuing the test, scoring, etc. should be judges' discretion.

2. The following are considered errors, and two points will be deducted per error, but they are not cumulative and will not result in Elimination:

~~a. Entering the space around the arena with a whip (when whips are forbidden) or with boots or bandages on the Horse's legs or with a discrepancy in dress (e.g., lack of gloves at the Intermediate and Advanced levels);~~

~~b. a. Entering the arena, or the space around the arena before the signal to start, with a whip (when they are forbidden) or with boots or bandages, or discrepancy of dress (e.g. lack of gloves at Intermediate and Advanced levels) and starting before the discrepancy has been noticed. The Judge at C may stop the Athlete and permit an assistant to enter the arena to remove the item(s). The Athlete may continue, the test, starting from the beginning (from inside the fence) or from the movement where they were stopped. and marks given before they were stopped, if any, are not changed;~~

~~c. b. Entering the arena before the signal is given; Not entering the arena within 45 seconds after the signal is given, but within 90 seconds is a two point penalty. (not cumulative, not counted as an error).~~

~~d. 119.3 In the case of a Fall of a Horse and/or Athlete, the Athlete will not be Eliminated. The Athlete will be penalized by the effect of the Fall on the execution of the movement concerned and in the collective marks.~~

~~e. 119.4 After Elimination, an Athlete may complete their test, at judges' discretion. The Judge must complete scoring the test.~~

EV136 Inspection of Courses

Proponent: USEA Course Designers/Builders Committee

Standard: Effective 12/1/2023

Rule Change Intent: To eliminate unfair competitive advantages and mitigate risk in the show jumping and cross-country phases. Implementation of the following requirements for course designers at all recognized/endorsed competitions, is being recommended by the Course Designers/Builders Committee.

1. CROSS-COUNTRY COURSE

- a. Before the course has been opened to competitors, it is forbidden, under penalty of disqualification, to inspect the obstacles or the course without permission of the organizers, at the discretion of the ground jury.
- b. The Cross-Country course will be open for inspection to all competitors at 1500 hours (3:00 p.m.) of the day before the start of the entire competition. All obstacles, flags and markers that have to be observed by competitors shall be exactly in position when the course is shown to competitors. In the case of multiple courses running on the same track, a sign will be posted at obstacle(s) to be changed, indicating such change(s). This shall include changes of flags or to the obstacle(s). Thereafter, they may not be moved or altered by competitors, under penalty of disqualification.
- c. After the course has been shown to competitors, they are allowed to revisit the course and examine the obstacles during the hours of daylight.
- d. At a minimum, the course designer must visit the event site once every 12 months or after every third event, whichever comes first.

2. JUMPING COURSE. The course for the Jumping Test will be opened to competitors not less than 30 minutes before the start of the Jumping Test, and at convenient intermissions during the Jumping Test. Competitors on foot will be admitted to the arena by the Ground Jury. An announcement must also be made over the public address system. Unless permission has been given by the Jury, it is forbidden, under penalty of disqualification, for competitors to enter the arena on foot once the Test has started.

EV145 Cross-Country Phase Obstacles

Proponent: USEA Course Designers/Builders Committee

Standard: Effective 12/1/2023

Intent: At the present time, there is no rule discussing leading edges of jumps. This language is being added to stay in compliance with the FEI rules, and to stay up to date with our safety protocols. This PRC mimics FEI Rule 547.2.6.

EV145 Cross-Country Phase Obstacles

6. DIMENSIONS.

- a. Within the limits outlined in Appendix 2, the dimensions of Obstacles should be related to the quality and standard of preparation of the Athletes.
- b. The fixed and solid part of an Obstacle must not exceed the specified height at any of the points at which an Athlete might reasonably attempt to negotiate the Obstacle.
- c. At Obstacles with spread only (e.g., dry or water filled ditch), a guard rail or hedge in front which facilitates jumping is permitted. It may not exceed 50 cm in height and must be included in the measurement of the spread.
- d. Any roof, or other fixed and solid barrier over an obstacle, must be at least 3.36 m above the ground.

e. Sloping & Round Leading Edges:

Spread fences including corners 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.

GR302 License Application Policies and Procedures

Proponent: USEF Competition Management

Standard: Effective 12/1/2023

Rule Change Intent: It is the role of the Federation to responsibly manage the competition calendar for all USEF-licensed breeds and disciplines, and in accordance with GR302.1.b. the discretion to approve or disapprove an application lies with the Federation. This includes ensuring that conflicted parties are not taking part in determining the outcome of calendar requests, that requests are reviewed in a timely manner and ensuring that licenses will not be unreasonably withheld from applicants. There are currently four separate mechanisms which manage the eventing calendar(s), including mileage exemption, the new competition/modification process for events without conflicts, the FEI Calendar Policies and Procedures for non-bid levels, and the Bid Process for Advanced and upper level FEI events. The process for reviewing new competitions/modifications without conflicts has proven to be time consuming, duplicative as it overlaps with other existing review processes, which results in a delay of planning for competition organizers, Removing this process and having new applications without conflict reviewed under GR302.1.b. would align with all other breeds and disciplines processes, increases the fairness to competition organizers, reduces the timeline for processing of requests from 240 days to 60 days, and will ultimately decrease the number of presidential modifications requested by Eventing organizers who have been unable to meet the request threshold of 240 days prior to the start of competition.

1. General Provisions.

[...]

h. License Modification. Any changes to the License agreement including location, dates, rating, level, or prize money, will require a license modification request and payment of a fee. Any modifications resulting in a conflict will result in the loss of Priority Date Holder status. Any modification not resulting in a conflict shall comply with the provisions set forth below in order to retain Priority Date Holder status. The Federation may or may not approve the requested changes. ~~Exception: Eventing competitions without mileage conflict requesting changes outlined in GR302.1h5 must follow the Eventing competition modification process outlined in GR302.2g~~

1. Holding a competition on a date(s) other than that approved shall constitute a violation of the rules unless a request to change the date(s) is received in the Federation's office at least 30 calendar days prior to the competition and permission is duly given. Exception: Eventing competitions. a. For Eventing competitions, requests for change of competition date(s) that add or drop a day from the competition license must be received at least 10 calendar days prior to the first day of the competition. b. For eventing competitions, requests for change of competition date(s) where the competition is requesting to move off the licensed or comparable week, must be received at least ~~240~~ **60** calendar days prior to the first day of the competition.

2. Holding a competition at a location other than as stated on the date application shall constitute a violation of the rules unless a request to change the location is received in the Federation's office at least 60 calendar days prior to the competition date and permission is duly given. ~~Exception: Eventing Competitions. For eventing competitions, requests for change of location must be received at least 240 calendar days prior to the first day of the competition.~~

3. Failure to obtain the permission of the Federation at least 30 calendar days prior to the competition to

add a division, not offer an approved division, or change the rating of an approved division, constitutes a violation of the rules. Exception: Eventing Competitions.

a. For Eventing competitions, requests to add a level must be received at least ~~240~~ **60** calendar days prior to the first day of the competition. Requests to cancel a level must be received at least 10 calendar days prior to the first day of competition.

4. A Licensee requesting a license modification involving a change of location that results in a mileage conflict may request to maintain Priority Date Holder status at the new location. Competitions that would be impacted by the change of location shall have the opportunity to submit written comments to the Federation prior to a determination. If a Licensee's request to maintain Priority Date Holder Status is denied, he may still request a mileage exemption.

~~5. For Eventing competitions, any substantive change to the competition license (including request to add a level, change in location, change in comparable or licensed week) without mileage conflict shall follow the Eventing competition modification process outlined in GR302.2g.~~

[...]

2. New Competitions Without Mileage Conflicts. a. License applications for new competitions will be accepted beginning December 1 of each year for the subsequent competition year. b. A competition year begins on December 1 of the prior calendar year. c. Applicants should refer to the Federation Competitions Calendar for open dates. d. Applications for a new competition license agreement must be made on the form provided by the Federation and received by the Federation at least 60 calendar days prior to the start date of the competition. The Federation may accept applications for a new competition license agreement, subject to applicable late fees, between 60 and 30 calendar days prior to the start date of the competition. ~~Exception: Eventing competitions, see GR302.2g.~~

e. In the event that an applicant competition has a mileage conflict with an existing competition(s), an applicant may seek a mileage exemption in accordance with GR315.

f. License Applications for new competitions that the Federation disapproves for any reason, including mileage conflicts, will be sent written notification by the Federation.

~~g. Eventing competitions without mileage conflict: 1. Eventing competitions without mileage conflict must submit a competition application or a request for modification to an existing competition or license, to the Federation no later than 240 calendar days prior to the start of competition. Eventing competitions with mileage conflicts are bound by the application timelines outlined in GR315 Mileage Exemption. 2. Within 30 calendar days of receiving a new Eventing competition application or request for modification, the Federation's Competitions Department will notify the USEA of the application or request. 3. Within 60 calendar days of receiving the application(s) and/or request(s) for modification from the Federation, the USEA shall provide the Federation with its recommendations regarding endorsement or licensure for all provided applications/requests. 4. Within 30 calendar days of receiving the USEA's recommendation on licensure, the Federation's Eventing Sport Committee shall make a recommendation regarding licensure to the Federation CEO. 5. Within 15 calendar days of receipt of written comments from the Federation's Eventing Sport Committee, the Federation CEO, or his designee, will convene with the Competitions Department to review all materials submitted with the competition application, and to provide a decision on the application. 6. Within 7 calendar days of the decision, the Federation's Competitions Department will issue a decision letter to the applicant.~~

GR314 Mileage

d. Mileage Boundaries for Eventing Competitions.

1. Eventing competitions are categorized by level offered, and mileage is applied to the applicant competition. Where an Eventing competition hosts more than one level, the highest applicable mileage radius will apply. Exception: For Eventing competitions occurring on December 1, 2022 and thereafter, the mileage rule will not apply to FEI CCI4-L, CCI4-S, CCI3-L, or Federation Advanced level competitions or any other level hosted therewith, e.g. the mileage rule will not apply to a CCI3-S hosted with an Advanced level competition. **For Eventing competitions consisting exclusively of Showcases or Arena Eventing, there shall be no mileage.**

2. The USEA American Eventing Championship is not subject to the modification process, and is eligible for renewal at a new location as needed. For Eventing competitions occurring on December 1, 2022 and thereafter, the radius will be zero for CCI4-L, CCI4-S, Advanced, and CCI3-L levels and the mileage chart for remaining levels will apply only to those competitions not hosting FEI CCI4-L, CCI4-S, CCI3-L, or Federation Advanced levels:

GR315 Mileage Exemption

3. Mileage Exemption Procedure An Applicant may first contact the Priority Date Holder(s) and seek cooperation in running the proposed event.

[...]

~~e. For Eventing competitions, the USEA shall have 60 calendar days from the notification from the Federation to provide written feedback for consideration by the Federation in reaching a decision whether to approve or disapprove the request, including any specific feedback on the criteria listed in paragraph 2 above. Upon receipt of USEA's recommendation, within 30 days, the Eventing Sport Committee may provide written feedback for consideration by the Federation in reaching a decision whether to approve or disapprove the request, including any specific feedback on the criteria listed in paragraph 2 above.~~

GR-801.2 Dress and EV114.1 Protective Headgear

Proponent: USEF Safety

Standard: Effective 12/1/2023

Rule Change Intent: To include SNELL Foundation as an acceptable helmet certification along with ASTM for use in USEF Competition. The FEI recognizes the SNELL Foundation helmet certification as acceptable protective headgear.

2. It is compulsory for all persons at Federation licensed hunter, jumper, or hunter/jumper competitions when mounted anywhere on the competition grounds, to wear properly fastened protective headgear which meets or exceeds ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials), SEI (Safety Equipment Institute) standards for equestrian use and carries the SEI tag, or the Snell Memorial Foundation standards for equestrian use and carries the applicable certification label. It must be properly fitted with harness secured. Exception: In Hunter or Jumper classes, adults may be allowed to remove their headgear while accepting prizes and during the playing of the National Anthem only; they must refasten their headgear prior to the lap of honor. It is compulsory for riders in Paso Fino classes, both open and breed restricted including Hunter Hack, where jumping is required and when jumping anywhere on the competition grounds to wear properly fastened protective headgear which meets or exceeds ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials), SEI (Safety Equipment Institute) standards for equestrian use and carries the SEI tag, or the Snell Memorial Foundation standards for equestrian use and carries the applicable certification label. It must be properly fitted with harness secured. A Show Committee, Competition Management, and Licensed Officials must bar riders without protective headgear from entering the ring for classes in which protective headgear is required and may bar any entry or person from entering the ring if not suitably presented to appear before an audience.

3. Except as may otherwise be mandated by local law, all sub-junior exhibitors in the Paso Fino division, while riding or driving or while in the driving cart anywhere on the competition grounds, must wear properly fitting protective headgear which meets or exceeds ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials), SEI (Safety Equipment Institute) standards for equestrian use and carries the SEI tag, or the Snell Memorial Foundation standards for equestrian use and carries the applicable certification label. Harness must be secured and properly fitted. Any rider violating this rule at any time must immediately be prohibited from further riding until such headgear is properly in place. For all exhibitors competing in the hunter, jumper, or hunter/jumping seat equitation section, if a rider's chin strap becomes unfastened, the rider may stop, re-fasten the chin strap and continue his/her round without penalty or elimination. A judge may, but is not required to stop a rider and ask them to refasten a chin strap which has become unfastened, again without penalty to the rider. Members of the Armed Services or the Police may wear the Service Dress Uniform.

4. Any exhibitor may wear protective headgear (ASTM/SEI/SNELL) and/or a protective vest either body protecting or inflatable, specifically designed for use in equestrian sport in any division or class without penalty from the judge. The Federation recommends that the vest pass or surpass the current ASTM standard F1937 or be certified by the Safety Equipment Institute. For Eventing, inflatable vests are

permitted only when worn over a body protecting vest.

7. Except as may otherwise be mandated by local law, the Federation strongly encourages all riders, while riding anywhere on the competition grounds, to wear protective headgear with harness secured which passes or ~~surpasses~~ **exceeds** ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials), SEI (Safety Equipment Institute) ~~standards for equestrian use and carries the SEI tag,~~ **or the Snell Memorial Foundation standards for equestrian use and carries the applicable certification label.** (Exception hunter, jumper, or hunter/jumper competitions refer to GR801.2) It is the responsibility of the rider, or the parent or guardian or trainer of the junior exhibitor to see to it that the headgear worn complies with appropriate safety standards for protective headgear intended for equestrian use, and is properly fitted and in good condition, and the Federation, Show Committee, Competition Management, and Licensed Officials are not responsible for checking headgear worn for such compliance.

EV114 Dress

1. PROTECTIVE HEADGEAR.

b. Upon arrival, anyone riding a horse must wear properly fitting protective headgear which passes or surpasses ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials), SEI (Safety Equipment Institute) ~~standards for equestrian use and carries the SEI tag,~~ **or the Snell Memorial Foundation standards for equestrian use and carries the applicable certification label.** Harness must be secured and properly fitted.

GR846.1 Safety Coordinator

Proponent: USEF Safety

Standard: Effective 12/1/2023

Rule Change Intent: Require USEF Membership for those acting as the Safety Coordinator at USEF-licensed competitions. The Safety Coordinator is responsible for many safety and welfare related duties at USEF-licensed competitions and interacts with participants. This individual should USEF Member with the appropriate Safe Sport Training. Additionally, requiring membership for these individuals will ensure that USEF has the most up to date contact information for this individual should follow up be required following a serious accident or injury at an event.

1. All Licensed Competitions must appoint a Safety Coordinator, who shall oversee the establishment and coordination of medical and veterinary services. **This person must be a Senior Active member of the Federation.** This person may have other roles or duties in relation to the competition except:
 - a. The Safety Coordinator may not serve as a Licensed Official at the competition (exception: Course Designers); and
 - b. The Safety Coordinator may not compete as a rider, driver, vaulter, longeur, or handler at the competition.
2. The Safety Coordinator shall:
 - a. Oversee provisions for the safety and welfare of exhibitors, horses, and spectators;
 - b. Oversee the implementation of the Accident Preparedness Plan;
 - c. Communicate with Competition Management and Medical Personnel prior to the start of competition to ensure that parties are aware of the requirements of the Accident Preparedness Plan;
 - d. Provide Medical Personnel with a map of the competition grounds, which includes plans for vehicle access to competition/warm-up areas and stabling.
 - e. Have his name and contact information posted along with the required emergency information at the competition.

GR846.2 Safety Coordinator

Proponent: USHJA

Standard: Effective 12/1/2023

Rule Change Intent: Stewards and Technical Delegates are often elsewhere on the competition grounds when an accident or injury to a human or horse, or a collapse of a horse, occurs. Due to the Federation's reporting requirements, notification to the Steward or Technical Delegate by the Safety Coordinator or Management within one hour of its happening, will enable the Steward or TD to report in the required amount of time.

2. The Safety Coordinator shall: ...

f. Inform the senior Steward or Technical Delegate of any accident or injury to a human or horse within one hour of the accident or injury for proper follow-up and reporting as required by the Federation, in the event a Steward or Technical Delegate is unable to be present at an injury or accident to a human or a horse.

GR848 Accidents Involving Individuals

4.d. The competition Steward or TD shall notify Competition Management and the Safety Coordinator of the fall/accident as soon as practicable. In the event that a Steward or Technical Delegate is unable to be present at an accident or injury, the Safety Coordinator or Manager must inform the senior Steward or Technical Delegate of said accident or injury within one hour for proper follow-up and reporting, as required by the Federation.

GR849 Mandatory Reporting and Cooperation of Horse/Pony Collapse

3. The Steward/TD shall report to Competition Management and the Federation within one hour of notification of a collapse. In the event that a Steward or Technical Delegate is not able to be present at a collapse of a horse, the Safety Coordinator or Manager must inform the senior Steward or Technical Delegate of said collapse within one hour of the collapse for proper follow-up and reporting, as required by the Federation.

GR846.6 Safety Coordinator**Proponent:** USEF Human and Equine, Safety & Welfare**Standard:** Effective 12/1/2023

Rule Change Intent: To include PAs and NPs as individuals permitted to provide medical clearance for return to competition following suspected head injury or concussion.

Return to Competition. In the event that a competitor is determined ineligible to compete under one of the preceding paragraphs, the competitor shall submit to the Federation, a signed release, which includes criteria established by the Federation from time to time, completed by a licensed physician, **physician assistant, or nurse practitioner** in order to be eligible to once again compete in Federation-Licensed or endorsed competitions.

GR1021.1 General

Proponent: USEF Human and Equine, Safety & Welfare

Standard: Effective 12/1/2023

Rule Change Intent: In an effort to support safety and welfare at USEF-licensed competitions, the Human and Equine, Safety & Welfare Committee recommends the creation of the Safety and Welfare Steward license, to be deployed across all USEF-licensed competitions. This individual would work with the Licensed Steward or TD at each competition to enforce safety and welfare related rules, with a general focus on monitoring and enforcing rules in stabling, and monitoring lunging and warm-up areas.

Safety and Welfare Stewards will be subject to the requirements outlined in the LO Policies and Procedures, be licensed by the Federation, and be considered a type of Federation licensed official.

Standard minimum requirements: · USEF member, completed SafeSport Training, completed and passed a background check, and completed LO Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion training

License-specific requirements:

- Experience at a minimum of two Federation licensed competitions within the past five years in at least one of the following positions: competitor, trainer, owner, licensed official, competition employee (i.e. in-gate personnel, jump crew), competition official (including but not limited to those listed in GR113)
- Complete an online course. Lessons to be developed, but focused on the roles and areas of responsibility, and also include standard USEF curriculum such as social media, regulatory process, etc.
- Apprenticing o Apprentice at least two competitions with a current Federation Steward or TD o Exception: if already a Federation licensed Steward or TD, apprenticing is not required. · Final exam o Pass a final exam on Federation rules with a score of 85% or higher

GR1012 General 1. Stewards shall be licensed by the Federation as ~~Registered, Recorded, or Special~~, in either one or both of in the following Categories:

- a. **A Category 1 (C1) Steward is licensed to officiate the following specialized Divisions and Sections: Hunter, Hunter Breeding, Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation, Jumper, Welsh, Connemara, and English Pleasure.**
 1. Any steward officiating USEF Open (not restricted to a breed) hunter and/or jumper classes must be a Senior Active member in good standing of the United States Hunter Jumper Association, Inc.
- b. **A Category 2 (C2) Steward is licensed to officiate the following specialized Divisions and Sections: Andalusian/Lusitano, Arabian, Connemara, English Pleasure, Friesian, Hackney Harness, Morgan, National Show Horse, Parade, Paso Fino, Reining, Roadster, American Saddlebred, Saddle Seat Equitation, Shetland, Western/Reining Seat Equitation, Welsh, Western Dressage and Western.**
- c. **An Equine Safety and Welfare Steward is licensed to officiate at Federation Licensed Competitions.**
 2. A Category 1 or Category 2 steward is entitled to officiate in only the corresponding divisions and sections of the license category listed above

GR1037 Additional Duties of Equine Safety and Welfare Stewards

In addition to the responsibilities of a steward listed in GR1034, the powers, duties and responsibilities of an Equine Safety and Welfare Steward are as follows:

1. Monitor the schooling, exercise, lunging, and stabling areas paying special attention to the safety of horses and riders, including but not limited to:
 - a. Overworking of horses;
 - b. Cruelty to and abuse of a horse (see GR838);
 - c. Overcrowding of the schooling, warm-up, and lunging areas;
 - d. In hunter, jumper, and equitation schooling, exercise, and lunging areas at Hunter/Jumper competitions: unsafe use of electronic devices (See HU Appendix A, JP103, EQ106);
 - e. Safeguard the welfare of the horse against violations of the Federation's Drugs and Medications rules, and any of the Federation's prohibited practices;
 - f. Ensure stabling, if provided, is in compliance with all applicable stabling rules; and
 - g. Report to the Competition Steward or Technical Delegate on violations of Federation rules.

GR1211 Appointment of Officials and Employees

g. Beginning December 1, 2024, at all Federation Licensed Competitions where the previous year's entries were greater than five hundred (500) horses, an Equine Safety and Welfare Steward must be appointed. Beginning December 1, 2025, an Equine Safety and Welfare Steward must be appointed at all Federation Licensed Competitions

GR1033 Stewards and Technical Delegates

Proponent: USEF Licensed Officials

Standard: Effective 12/1/2023

Rule Change Intent: In order to ensure proper reporting and coverage at Federation licensed competitions, the number of required Stewards, Technical Delegates, and Certified Schooling Supervisors should be aligned and updated to be based on the previous year's horse count.

GR1033 Stewards and Technical Delegates

5. ~~Except in Hawaii and Alaska, no C2 Steward may officiate for more than three consecutive years at the same competition or at more than three consecutive competitions run by the same Licensee.~~

6. Except in Hawaii and Alaska, no ~~C1~~ Steward or **Technical Delegate** may officiate for more than three consecutive competitions run by the same Licensee. **For purposes of this rule, multiple, consecutive day Dressage Competitions that are run by the same Licensee and held within a six-day period will be counted as one competition.**

7. Except in Hawaii, no Technical Delegate may officiate for more than two consecutive years at the same competition or at more than two consecutive competitions run by the same Licensee. In Alaska, no dressage Technical Delegate may officiate more than three consecutive years at the same competition, but are not otherwise restricted from officiating at consecutive competitions run by the same Licensee. **For the purposes of this rule, multiple, consecutive day Dressage Competitions held within a six-day period will be counted as one competition, if they are run by the same Licensee.**

8. A Driving Technical Delegate shall not serve in that capacity at the same Combined Driving Event, Driving Trial, Driven Dressage Show, or Pleasure Driving Show more than three consecutive years.

[...]

10. No Steward or Technical Delegate may officiate at more than one competition at the same time.

~~Exception: Federation Licensed Special Competitions excluding dressage.~~

GR1211 Appointment of Officials and Employees

4. Stewards and Technical Delegates

[...]

b. If required to officiate, a Dressage Technical Delegate must be present and officiate for all Dressage classes held on the day(s) which they are in attendance. If no other classes except Dressage are held on a licensed day of a BreedRestricted Competition, a Steward does not need to be present in addition to the Dressage Technical Delegate.

c. If a competition finds it necessary to substitute a steward or technical delegate for one who is officially designated in the prize list and/or catalogue and who is unable to serve due to circumstances beyond his control, the restrictions of GR1304.14 and/or GR1304.25 shall be non-effective.

d. Competitions are urged to engage a steward for each ring when classes are held simultaneously and to select individuals who are well versed in the divisions being offered.

e. Competitions are required to obtain the necessary Stewards or Technical Delegates in accordance with the chart below

		Number of Previous Year's Horse Entries				
		0-500	501-1,000	1,001-1,500	1,501-2,000	2,001 or more
# of competition rings used simultaneously	1	1	2	3	4	4
	2-3	1	2	4	4	4
	4 -7	2	3	4	4	4
	8 or more	3	4	4	5	5

- i. Competition Management is permitted to obtain more than the minimum number of Stewards or Technical Delegates required above.
- ii. See EV153 for additional Eventing Technical Delegate requirements.
- f. A competition in its first year of operation must have at least one applicable Steward or Technical Delegate for every two competition rings being used simultaneously regardless of the number of horses entered.
- g. The maximum number of rings being used simultaneously at any point during the competition will be counted for the purposes of GR1211.

GR1101 Horse Identification Number and Horse Identification Form

Proponent: USEF Veterinary

Standard: Effective 12/1/2023

Rule Change Intent: The accurate identification of horses is essential. At Federation Licensed Competitions, the best manner in which to identify horses is through a Federation Horse Identification Number, which does not require recording with the Federation. During times of disease outbreak, natural disasters, theft, and to protect against fraud, microchipping of horses is fundamental to good horsemanship. The requirement for all horses competing at USEF licensed competitions to be microchipped is in the interest of horse welfare. While microchipping of horses will be required, members will be encouraged to explore the use of biothermal microchips that allow for Bluetooth connectivity for monitoring of horse temperatures.

1. All horses competing in Federation licensed competitions must be properly identified. For all such competitions, entries for each horse must include either a Federation-issued Unique Horse Identification Number ~~or a registration number from a Federation Recognized Affiliate~~. Additionally, a Federation Recognized Discipline Affiliate may require horses to be registered with their organization, and if so, the entry must also include that registration number.

[...]

10. All horses competing at Federation Licensed Competitions must provide a microchip number that verifies the animal. A microchip used to verify identity must be a fifteen-digit ISO compliant 11784/11785 chip and be implanted in the nuchal ligament of the animal.

a. This rule will have a transition period from December 1, 2024 until November 30, 2025. During this period, animals that are not in compliance with this rule will not receive points or be eligible for Federation programs and awards. After this period, all horses that are competing in classes which require Federation registration, which are not microchipped will be ineligible to compete.

GR1214 - Results

Proponent: USEF Licensed Officials

Standard: Effective 12/1/2023

Rule Change Intent: The reporting of officials at competitions has been instrumental in providing accurate competition records, assisting with licensed official applications, and tracking issues that arise with specific classes. If the Federation has access to this data, the Licensed Officials Department will be able to efficiently address concerns and improve our data records related to officiating. At this time, we only know which officials were at a competition and in what capacity, but we do not know who officiated each class. Dressage has led the way with providing this information and it has proved to be extremely valuable. This rule change would require all judges and course designers to be reported with each class. Stewards and Technical Delegates are not required since they do officiate over the entire competition.

1. All competition results and other data as specified by **the** Federation in the license agreement must be electronically transmitted to **the** Federation within 10 days following a Licensed Competition, including all corrections, changes, and additions to the prize list. All results must meet the criteria and format of the Federation result template with all required fields as published by the Federation and must be submitted as outlined in the license agreement. A fee will be assessed for any required data not received electronically. Full results include, but are not limited to: the names and Federation numbers of all horses, riders, and owners in all classes;; the number of entries;; all placings ;; **the names and Federation numbers of all Licensed Officials who officiated in each class, except Stewards and Technical Delegates;** and money paid out. In the event of an entry under multiple ownership, only one owner need be a Member or pay a Show Pass fee. The competition is responsible for listing either the Active member or the person that paid the Show Pass fee in the results. (Exception GR901.9).

[...]

2. The secretary of each Federation Licensed Competition must, within 10 calendar days of the competition, **electronically** send to the Federation, ~~either electronically or by mail with proof of delivery,~~ a list of judges, stewards, technical delegates and Competition Officials, as well as the full results with all required fields.

GR1215.3 - Stabling

Proponent: USEF Safety

Standard: Effective 12/1/2023

Rule Change Intent: Horses require adequate rest and REM sleep in a 24-hour period. While horses can rest during the day, sleep typically occurs after midnight in the dark hours. Conditions unsuitable for sleep (e.g. loud environments, bright lights, etc.) may limit the ability of horses to get adequate sleep which can lead to sleep deprivation and excessive drowsiness, impacting equine performance and wellbeing.

3. At competitions which offer overnight stabling, adequate lighting must be provided. **Between the hours of 11:00 PM and 5:00 AM, of the time zone in which the competition is taking place, stabling must be dark and quiet to allow stabled horses a quiet period of rest daily.**

GR1304.1 - Regulations Governing Showing Under Judges, Stewards, and Technical Delegates (See also GR107 for definition of Client)

Proponent: USEF Licensed Officials

Standard: Effective 12/1/2023

Rule Change Intent: The conflict of interest rules for officials should match regardless of the division. By creating special exceptions based on the division or type of license, level playing fields are varied across the breeds and divisions.

1. See also GR1039, GR1040, GR1041, and GR107.
2. For the purposes of this rule, any references to “compete” includes serving in the role of trainer, coach, owner, lessor, lessee, exhibitor, rider, driver, handler, and vaulter.
3. The following are not permitted to compete in a class being officiated by a Judge:
 - a. A Judge’s family member, cohabitant, companion, domestic partner, housemate, or member of a Judge’s household;
 - b. A Judge’s client, employers, or employees;
 - c. Employers of a member of the Judge’s family;
 - d. A Judge’s trainer or coach;
 - e. A Judge’s trainer’s or coach’s clients;
 - f. A horse trained by the Judge or a member of the Judge’s family;
 - g. A horse sold by the Judge or by the Judge’s employer;
 - h. A horse leased by the Judge or by the Judge’s employer;
 - i. A horse owned by the Judge (including but not limited to syndicate and partnership shares);
 - j. Any individual that has received or has contracted to receive any remuneration for the sale, purchase, or lease of any horse, unless the sale or purchase has been made and fully concluded at public auction;
 - k. Any individual that pays board to the Judge. Retiree and broodmare board are excluded;
 - l. A rider whose parent, guardian, or instructor has had any financial transaction in connection with the sale, lease, board, or training of a horse with the Judge, unless the sale was made and fully concluded at public auction;
 - m. A rider that has been instructed, coached, or tutored with or without pay by the Judge; and
 - i. The conducting of clinics or assistance in group activities, unless private instruction is given, will not be considered as instruction, coaching, or tutoring.
 - n. The above relationships are permitted if the relationship has been permanently terminated at least 30 days prior to the start date of the competition.
4. For purposes of this rule, the following are considered employers: any individuals, corporations, partnerships, foundations, trusts or non-profit organizations and shareholders owning five or more percent of the stock of any corporation which employs the Judge or a member of the Judge’s family, and any officers, directors, or partners of any corporation or partnership and officers, directors, or trustees of any trust or foundation or nonprofit organization which employs the Judge or a member of the Judge’s family. The hiring of a Judge to officiate at Licensed Competitions shall not constitute employment for purposes of this rule.
5. Catch Riders and Independent Service Providers (defined below) are not employees for the purposes of this rule.

a. Catch Rider: An individual who is engaged, for remuneration or not, exclusively to compete, including any warm-up schooling for that immediate competition, a horse(s) owned by another with whom they have no current business relationship. A catch rider has no influence regarding the ongoing competition schedule, management, schooling, exercising, training, care, custody, or control of the horse.

b. Independent Service Provider: An individual who performs a service(s) for another and the payer has the right to control or direct only the result of the work and what will be done and how it will be done. The Independent service provider controls the details as to how the service is performed.

8. Sixty days prior to the first day of a competition through thirty days after the last competition day, no horse or rider that has been trained by a Judge, or a Judge's employee or agent, may show before that Judge officiating at any of the following competitions: a. USEF Junior Hunter National Championship b. USEF Pony Hunter National Championship c. USEF Hunter Seat Medal Final d. USEF Pony Medal Final e. USEF Show Jumping Talent Search Finals f. ASPCA Maclay Final g. Washington International Horse Show Equitation Final

9. The following are not permitted to compete at the same competition as a Steward or Technical Delegate:

- a. A Steward or Technical Delegate's family member, cohabitant, companion, domestic partner, housemate, or member of a Steward or Technical Delegate's household;
- b. A Steward or Technical Delegate's client;
- c. A Steward or Technical Delegate's employee;
- d. A Steward or Technical Delegate's trainer or coach;
- e. Any individual that has purchased or leased a horse from the Steward or Technical Delegate;
- f. A horse owned by the Steward or Technical Delegate (including but not limited to syndicate and partnership shares);
- g. A horse trained by the Steward or Technical Delegate;
- h. A horse sold by the Steward or Technical Delegate or by the Steward or Technical Delegate's employer; and
- i. The above relationships are permitted if the relationship has been permanently terminated at least 30 days prior to the start date of the competition.

10. The following are not permitted to compete in a class where the Course Designer is officiating:

- a. A Course Designer's family member, cohabitant, companion, domestic partner, housemate, or member of a Course Designer's household;
- b. A Course Designer's client; and
- c. A horse trained by the Course Designer.

11. The following are not permitted to compete at the same competition as a Federation Endurance Veterinarian:

- a. A horse that is owned by the veterinarian or veterinarian's family member, cohabitant, companion, domestic partner, housemate, or member of the veterinarian's household (including but not limited to syndicate and partnership shares); and
- b. The above relationships are permitted if the relationship has been permanently terminated at least 30 days prior to the start date of the competition.

GR107 Clients

1. As used in GR1304, GR1006 and GR1041, “client” and “clients” of a Judge, Course Designer, Steward, or Technical Delegate shall include:
 - a. Any person who has received, or who has a member of his or her family who has received, horse training or instruction in riding, driving or showing in hand or in halter from the Judge, **Course Designer**, Steward, or Technical Delegate, or from said official’s employee, whether or not remuneration has been given or received, and whether or not such training or instruction took place at a Licensed Competition; b. Any persons who pay horse board (excluding stud fees and broodmare board) to the Judge, **Course Designer**, Steward, or Technical Delegate, or to a member of his or her family; and
 - c. Any persons entered in a Licensed Competition as rider, driver, handler, exhibitor, owner or lessee, and members of the family of the foregoing, on an entry blank signed in any capacity by the Judge, **Course Designer**, Steward or Technical Delegate or his or her agent, employee or member of his or her family, whether or not remuneration has been given or received.

GR1040 Conflicts of Interest and Restrictions - Stewards and Technical Delegates (See also GR107 and GR1304)

6. The following is prohibited for a Steward or Technical Delegate: a. Officiate at a competition where the Steward or Technical Delegate’s family or client is acting as a Judge, trainer, coach, lessor, lessee, exhibitor, rider, driver, handler, or vaulter; and b. Officiate at a competition where the Steward or Technical Delegate’s family is serving as a Federation Licensed Official, Competition Licensee, Competition Manager, or Competition Secretary.

~~EV156 Ground Jury Qualifications and Duties~~

~~1. Qualifications~~

~~b. The following individuals may not serve on the Ground Jury for a particular division:~~

- ~~1. The owner, or Family of the Owner, of a Horse entered in that division;~~
- ~~2. An Athlete, or Family of an Athlete, entered in that division;~~
- ~~3. Chefs d’Equipe whose teams are entered in that division;~~
- ~~4. Trainers or Coaches of Athletes entered in that division.~~

~~c. The following are barred from serving on the Ground Jury:~~

- ~~1. The Technical Delegate or the Course Designer of the Event;~~
- ~~2. The Organizer of the Event, or a member of the Organizer’s Family.~~
- ~~3. Family of the Cross-Country Course Designer or the Eventing Jumper Course Designer. See GR123. bd. For additional restrictions, refer to GR1304, GR10, Sub-chapters 10-C and 10-H. EV157~~

Additional Judges

2. Additional Judges are subject to the same restrictions as Ground Jury member, see EV156.1cb, and EV156.1d. However, if an Eventing Course Designer and Show Jumping Course Designer are different

individuals, the Show Jumping Course Designer may also serve as an additional Judge if they are licensed to do so.

3. Guest Cards (see GR1005).

~~4. The provisions of GR1304 notwithstanding, additional Judges may officiate at an Event provided that they do not Judge any Athlete(s) or Horse(s) listed in sections 2.18 of that rule. There are no restrictions on a Judge if a Athlete(s) or Horses(s) listed in GR1304.2.18 participates in the Event HC~~

EV158 Technical Delegate Qualifications and Duties

1. QUALIFICATIONS.

a. The Technical Delegate must be a Federation licensed Eventing Technical Delegate.

b. ~~The following individuals may not serve as the Technical Delegate at an Event:~~

~~1. The owner, or Family of the Owner, of a Horse entered in the Event;~~

~~2. An Athlete, or Family of an Athlete, entered in the Event;~~

~~3. The Course Designer, or Family of the Athlete for the Event;~~

~~4. Chefs d'Equipe whose teams are entered in the competition;~~

~~5. Trainers or Coaches of Athletes entered in the Event;~~

~~6. A Ground Jury member, or a Dressage or Show Jumping Judge at the Event;~~

~~7. The Organizer of the Event, or a member of the Organizer's Family.~~

c. For additional restrictions, refer to GR1304, Chapter GR10, Subchapters 10-C and 10-H.