

PROPOSED RULE CHANGES

Effective Date 12/1/22

RULE CHANGE PROPOSALS (Effective Dec. 2022)

1. EV106 Entries – Withdrawals
2. EV116 Radios and Cellular Phones
3. EV136 Dressage Scoring
4. EV141 Cross-Country Scoring
5. EV169 National Horse Trials
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1. EV106 Entries – Withdrawals

Rule Change Intent: To provide organizers with a specific rule that officially prohibits the sale of entries. The sale of entries through social media has exponentially grown over the years. The practice of selling entries impedes scheduling and disrupts the numerical order of an established waitlist.

2. ENTRY FORMS

- a. Entry forms must be complete. All entry and stabling fees must accompany the entry form.
- b. Mailed entries must be postmarked either on or after the opening date for entries and mailed to the appropriate Event Secretary. On-line entries must be time stamped by the designated collection agent on or after the opening date in the time zone of the relevant competition.
- c. Those entries that are incomplete, or postmarked or time stamped before the opening date, will either be returned to the competitor or placed at the bottom of the list of entries.
- d. Entries involving competitors or horses not yet qualified for the level of competition, but which are otherwise complete, will be accepted as complete pending qualification.
- 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 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 Preliminary and Training Classic Three-Day Events, qualifying competitions must be completed within a 24-month period from start of the competition.
- f. Accepted entries are specific to the rider and horse named on the entry form and may not be transferred or assigned to another party except as specified in EV106.9.

1. EV106 Entries – Withdrawals

Proponent: USEA Organizers Committee

Standard: Effective 12/1/2022

Rule Change Intent: To provide organizers with a specific rule that officially prohibits the sale of entries. The sale of entries through social media has exponentially grown over the years. The practice of selling entries impedes scheduling and disrupts the numerical order of an established waitlist.

8. WITHDRAWALS. Notification of withdrawal must be given directly to the Event Secretary. If the horse is withdrawn prior to 9 p.m. on the closing date for entries, the entry and stabling fees will be refunded, less an office fee, if applicable. Not to exceed \$25.00. If the horse is withdrawn after the closing date and time, the entry and stabling fees may be refunded at the option of the Organizing Committee. If the horse is withdrawn after the closing date, ~~and if the Organizer has replaced the withdrawn horse with one from the waiting list, and~~ **but before the start of competition, the scheduled slot for that entry will be assigned by the Organizing Committee.** ~~If the Organizer~~ has replaced the withdrawn horse with one from the waiting list, the entry fee less an office charge will be refunded. If stabling for the withdrawn horse is occupied by another horse, the stabling fee will be refunded. The refund policy must be clearly stated in the prize list for the competition.

2. EV116 Radios and Cellular Phones

Rule Change Intent: This proposed rule change is to allow the use of devices like a Cee Coach in a USEA dressage warm up. These devices are currently allowed at USDF show warm up areas. This will help to keep coaches and support staff out of the warm-up, making the warm-up safer for everyone. It will also cut down on coaches yelling across the warm-up to their students which will help keep the warm-up area calmer.

The use of a radio or cellular phone while competing is forbidden, under penalty of disqualification. **Use of radio or cellular phone in dressage warmup is permitted.** Any other use while on the competition grounds by competitors, trainers, or members of the competitor's support group, is subject to restriction by the technical delegate and the president of the ground jury. The competition must provide adequate functional radios for communication for Officials during a Competition.

3. EV136 Dressage Scoring

Rule Clarification: Gloves are only required for the Intermediate and Advanced levels. The example in the Dressage Scoring subchapter incorrectly indicates that not wearing gloves would result in a penalty, which is false.

1.c. All of the following are considered errors, and two points will be deducted per error, but they are not cumulative and will not result in Elimination.

1. 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 **for the Intermediate and Advanced levels.**)

4. EV141 Cross-Country Scoring

Rule Change Intent: To distinguish the results of a willful delay penalty from an elimination and refusal penalty on cross-country.

The penalty for willful delay is meant to affect a rider's potential placing and awards by attempting to prevent speed fault penalties. The penalty should not affect a rider from obtaining an MER or indicate a disobedience as defined under EV142.1.2.3 (General Definition, Refusals/Runouts and Circles at combinations).

1. FAULTS AT OBSTACLES:

c. Willful Delay - (Beginner Novice, Novice, Training and Modified Levels)

1. Between the last fence and the finish line **19** ~~20~~ penalties.

EV142 Cross-Country—Definitions of Faults (Drawings, Appendix 7)

6. WILLFUL DELAY. A competitor is considered to have willfully delayed his finish if, between the last fence and the finish line, the horse halts, walks, circles, or serpentines. The competitor will be penalized at the discretion of the Ground Jury.

5. EV169 National Horse Trials

Rule Change Intent: The intent behind this proposed rule change is to provide additional assistance to competition officials, allowing them to maintain safety protocols and supervision when multiple phases are being run concurrently with a large number of horses competing. Experience has shown that a single technical delegate is spread too thin to handle multiple phases safely and satisfactorily under such conditions, particularly supervision of the show jumping warmup and ingate.

- Add language to the Technical Delegate column or placing an Asterix next to “Technical Delegate”:

At any competition with 300 or more entered competitors, on any day where the cross country and show jumping phases will be running concurrently, a second technical delegate of any level is required.”

EV169 National Horse Trials

HORSE TRIALS	BN-T	M-P	INTERMEDIATE	ADVANCED
REQUIRED OFFICIALS	President Only or more	President Only or more	President Only or more	President Only or more
GROUND JURY	Minimum Federation 'r' Eventing or equivalent foreign license with a Guest Card	Minimum Federation 'r' Eventing or equivalent foreign license with a Guest Card	Minimum Federation 'R' Eventing or equivalent foreign license with a Guest Card	Federation F 'S' Eventing or equivalent foreign license with a Guest Card
ADDITIONAL JUDGES (if applicable)	Dressage/Jumping: Judges must be selected from the current roster of Eventing, Dressage or Jumping Judges or Eventing Technical Delegate (Jumping only)	Dressage/Jumping: Judges must be selected from the current roster of Eventing, Dressage or Jumping Judges or Eventing Technical Delegate (Jumping only)	must be either 'R' Eventing or 'r' Dressage Judge Jumping: Must be selected from the current roster of Eventing, Jumping or Eventing Technical Delegates	Dressage: Judge must be either 'S' Eventing or 'R' Dressage Judge Jumping: Must be selected from the current roster of Eventing, Jumping or Eventing Technical Delegates
TECHNICAL DELEGATE	Minimum Federation 'r'	Minimum Federation 'r'	Minimum Federation 'R'	Minimum Federation 'S'

6. GR1026.7

Rule Change Intent: A new license level for Eventing Jumping Course Design will encourage more participation, providing more EVJCDs in the pipeline for promotion. The intent is to provide safe and appropriate courses for all levels of eventing, but there are currently too few to mandate licensed designers below Advanced.

GR1026 Eventing Course Designers

1. A minimum of a Certified Eventing Cross Country Course Designer is required for Beginner Novice, Novice, and Training Horse Trials.
2. A minimum of a Recorded ('r') license is required to officiate at Preliminary Horse Trials, Modified Horse Trials, and National Three-Day Events.
3. A minimum of a Registered ('R') license is required to officiate at Intermediate Horse Trials.
4. A minimum of a Senior ('S') license is required to officiate at Advanced Horse Trials.
5. An individual recognized by the FEI or by another National Federation may serve as the Course Designer for a specific competition with the approval of the Federation Eventing Sport Committee.
6. See Chapter EV - Eventing EV169 for officiating eligibility for 'S', 'R' and 'r' Eventing Course Designers.
7. Eventing recorded show jumping course designers will be eligible to design show jumping courses at the Intermediate level and below, at the National level only.

7. EV 169 Rules for Officials Chart:

- Jumping Course Designer

Rule Change Intent: To require licensed jumping course designers at the Intermediate level, establishing a standard for safe and appropriate courses that will trickle down to the lower levels, as more events will use licensed designers.

- Intermediate: Minimum Federation “r” EVJCD; or Federation “r” JCD; or FEI jumping course designer.

CROSS COUNTRY COURSE DESIGNER	Minimum Certified Cross Country Designer	Minimum Federation 'r'	Minimum Federation 'R'	Minimum Federation 'S'
SHOW JUMPING COURSE DESIGNER	N/A	N/A	N/A	Federation Eventing Jumping Course Designer, Federation Jumper Course Designer or FEI Jumping Course Designer

8. APPENDIX 3 - Participation in Horse Trials (MER Definitions)

Rule Change Intent: To bring the MER definition in line with the FEI and any future changes by the FEI will be considered.

2. DEFINITIONS

2.2 Minimum Eligibility Requirement 2.2.1 When achieved at a National Horse Trials an MER is achieved by completing the entire Horse Trial and scoring. -not more than ~~45~~ 50 penalty points in the Dressage Test; and - No jumping penalties at obstacles on the Cross Country Test unless specified otherwise, and not more than ~~75~~ 90 seconds (~~30~~ 36 penalty points) exceeding the optimum time; and - not more than 16 penalties at obstacles in the Jumping Test. 25 penalty points received for Dangerous Riding will not achieve a National Qualifying result. Exceptions to the qualifications noted below may only be approved by the Credentials Committee.

9. APPENDIX 3 - Participation in Horse Trials (MER Requirements)

Rule Change Intent: To improve safety and mitigate horse and rider falls in competition by requiring additional experience before moving to the next level of difficulty. Review of data revealed that 1) riders with more experience at a level fall less and 2) riders with more runs at the level below, fall less at the next level of difficulty.

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 Preliminary, Modified, and Training Classic Three-Day Events, qualifying competitions must be completed within a 24-month period of the start of the competition. **All MERS must be obtained within a 4-year period and one MER within 8 weeks of the competition.**

At the CCI2* level and above, at least one MER must be obtained in the twelve month period prior to the competition. e.g. a horse and/or rider who have achieved a MER at a CCI4* level of competition and who have not competed for over twelve months must first achieve a MER at the next lowest height level.

3. LEVELS OF HORSE TRIALS AND EVENTS

3.5 PRELIMINARY (P) - Open to competitors from the beginning of the calendar year of their 14th birthday, on horses five years of age or older. The competitor must have obtained an MER at ~~six~~ ~~four~~ Horse Trials at the Training Level or higher. **The horse must have obtained an MER at four Horse Trials at the Training Level or higher: One of the four MERs must be as a combination. Competitors with more than 10 MERs at the Preliminary Level or higher are exempt from one MER in combination.**

3.9 INTERMEDIATE (I) - Open to competitors from the beginning of the calendar year of their 16th birthday, on horses six years of age or older. ~~Both~~ **The competitor must have obtained an MER at six Horse Trials at the Preliminary Level or higher.** ~~and the horse, though not necessarily as a combination, must have obtained an MER at three Horse Trials at the Preliminary Level or higher, plus an additional MER at the Preliminary Level or higher with no more than 20 Jumping Penalties at obstacles on the Cross Country test.~~ **The horse must have obtained an MER at four Horse Trials at the Preliminary Level or higher: One of the four MERs must be as a combination. Competitors with more than 10 MERs at the Intermediate Level or higher are exempt from one MER in combination.**

3.10 ADVANCED (A) ~~3.10.1 UNCATEGORIZED RIDERS~~ - Open to competitors from the beginning of the calendar year of their 18th birthday, on horses six years of age or older. ~~Both the competitor and the horse, though not necessarily as a combination, must have obtained a minimum of one MER with no more than 20 Jumping Penalties at obstacles on the Cross Country test, at either a CCI3* or Intermediate Level plus three MERs at the Intermediate Level or higher.~~ **The competitor must have obtained an MER at six Horse Trials at the Intermediate Level or higher.** ~~The horse must have obtained an MER at four Horse Trials at the Intermediate Level or higher: One of the four MERs must be as a combination. Competitors with more than 10 MERs at the Advanced Level or higher are exempt from one MER in combination.~~

~~3.10.2 CATEGORIZED RIDERS~~ - ~~Open to competitors from the beginning of the calendar year of their 18th birthday, on horses six years of age or older. Both the competitor and the horse, though not necessarily as a combination, must have obtained a minimum of one MER with no more than 20 Jumping Penalties at obstacles on the Cross Country test, at either a CCI3* or Intermediate Level plus two MERs at the Intermediate Level or higher.~~

Rider Experience at the Level

Two concepts presented themselves from the competition data:

1. Riders who have more experience at a level fall less.
2. Riders who have more runs at the level below fall less when they move up to the next level.

Fall Rates by Number of Athlete MERs at the level															
	PRELIM					INTERMEDIATE					ADVANCED				
	Runs	Rider Falls		Horse Falls		Runs	Rider Falls		Horse Falls		Runs	Rider Falls		Horse Falls	
MER <10	10,654	430	4.04%	31	0.29%	3,841	167	4.35%	22	0.57%	1,030	51	4.95%	11	1.07%
MER ≥ 10	12,944	260	2.01%	20	0.15%	3,462	50	1.44%	10	0.29%	499	11	2.20%	7	1.40%

Fall Rates by Number of Athlete MERs at the level BELOW

Fall rates are reduced by at least half when riders have 6 or more MERs prior to moving up a level. At Preliminary, horse falls go from 1:240 starts (<6 MERs) to 1:556 starts (≥ 6 MERs). Intermediate shows the greatest difference at 1:70 vs 1:251, and Advanced at 1:44 vs 1:88. It is notable that most riders currently follow this practice: 85% of riders moving to Preliminary, 96% of riders moving to Intermediate, and 97% of riders moving to Advanced have least 6 MERs prior to moving up.

In addition to the 6 MER prior to moving up a level, all Riders will be required to have one in combination prior to moving to the next level. Rider experience is the most important factor – having already achieved 10 MERs at a level you have meaningful experience at that level – and therefore there is an exception to the one-in-combination requirement, provided the other qualifications of horse and rider are met.

	PRELIM			INTERMEDIATE			ADVANCED		
	% Rider Falls	% Horse Falls	% of competitors who do +/- 6 MERs	% Rider Falls	% Horse Falls	% of competitors who do +/- 6 MERs	% Rider Falls	% Horse Falls	% of competitors who do +/- 6 MERs
MER < 6	0.038 (135/3597) 1:27	0.004 (15/3597) 1:240	15%	0.058 (16/278) 1:17	0.014 (4/278) 1:70	4%	0.045 (2/44) 1:22	0.023 (1/44) 1:44	3%
MER \geq 6	0.028 (555/20001) 1:36	0.002 (36/20001) 1:556	85%	0.029 (201/7025) 1:35	0.004 (28/7025) 1:251	96%	0.04 (60/1485) 1:25	0.011 (17/1485) 1:88	97%
p-value	<i>P=0.001*</i>	<i>P=0.004*</i>		<i>P=0.005*</i>	<i>P=0.017*</i>		<i>P=0.500</i>	<i>P=0.500</i>	