



## **ENDURANCE RULES**

8<sup>th</sup> Edition, effective 1 January 2013

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## **ENDURANCE RULES**

### **Endurance Rules, Effective 2013.**

#### **Preamble**

The present Rules for Endurance Riding are the 8<sup>th</sup> h edition, effective 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2013. As from the aforementioned date, all other texts covering the same matter (other editions and all other official documents) issued previously are superseded.

Although this booklet sets out the detailed Rules of the FEI governing International Endurance Rides, it must be read in conjunction with the Statutes, the General Regulations and the Veterinary Regulations.

Every eventuality cannot be provided for in these Rules. As a result, this edition of the Rules is designed for flexibility to adapt to a developing discipline by referring in appropriate circumstances to Annex/Notes for Guidance information for suggestions and recommendations on how to safely manage this discipline and its events. Additionally, in any unforeseen or exceptional circumstances, it is the duty of the Ground Jury and the Veterinarians to make a decision in a sporting spirit and approaching as nearly as possible to the intention of these Rules and of the General Regulations of the FEI.

#### THE FEI CODE OF CONDUCT

### **FOR THE WELFARE OF THE HORSE**

The Fédération Equestre Internationale (FEI) expects all those involved in international equestrian sport to adhere to the FEI's Code of Conduct and to acknowledge and accept that at all times the welfare of the horse must be paramount and must never be subordinated to competitive or commercial influences.

1. At all stages during the preparation and training of competition horses, welfare must take precedence over all other demands. This includes good horse management, training methods, farriery and tack, and transportation.
2. Horses and Athletes must be fit, competent and in good health before they are allowed to compete. This encompasses medication use, surgical procedures that threaten welfare or safety, pregnancy in mares and the misuse of aids.
3. Events must not prejudice horse welfare. This involves paying careful attention to the competition areas, ground surfaces, weather conditions, stabling, site safety and fitness of the horse for onward travel after the event.
4. Every effort must be made to ensure that horses receive proper attention after they have competed and that they are treated humanely when their competition careers are over. This covers proper veterinary care, competition injuries, euthanasia and retirement.
5. The FEI urges all involved with the sport to attain the highest levels of education in their areas of expertise.

A full copy of this Code can be obtained from the Fédération Equestre Internationale, HM King Hussein I Building, Chemin de la Joliette 8, 1006 Lausanne, Switzerland. Telephone: +41 21 310 47 47. The Code is available in English & French. The Code is also available on the FEI's website: [www.fei.org](http://www.fei.org).

## ENDURANCE RULES

### Chapter I The Competition

#### Article 800 - GENERAL

- 800.1** Endurance Riding is a competition to test the competitor's ability to safely manage the stamina and fitness of the horse over an endurance course in a competition against the track, the distance, the climate, the terrain and the clock. Therefore, the most important responsibility of the Technical Delegate, the Ground Jury, the Stewards, the Veterinary Commission, the Chef d'Equipe, the Team Veterinarian, the Grooms and ultimately the Athlete is to ensure the health and welfare of the horse by diligent application of their skill together with a caring, knowledgeable attitude by the Athlete. To be successful, the competitor must have knowledge of pace and efficient and safe use of the horse across country. In an Endurance Ride any member of the Genus Equus counts as a "horse".
- 800.2** The competition consists of a number of phases.
- 800.2.1 No phase may exceed 40 km and should, in principle, be not less than 20 km in length, and cannot be less than 16km.
- 800.2.2 At the end of each phase, there will be a compulsory halt for veterinary inspection. The Foreign Veterinary Delegate (FVD) and the President of the Veterinary Commission (PVC) & the President of the Ground Jury (PGJ) should be advised on the distance of each phase and consulted on the hold times in each Vet Gate(s).
- 800.2.3 Distances of 80km to 119km must have at least two Vet Gates plus the final inspection (three phases).  
Distances of 120 km to 139km must have at least three Vet Gates plus the final inspection (four phases).  
Distances of 140 km to 160 km must have at least five Vet Gates plus the final inspection. (6 phases) (There may be a possibility to reduce this to 5 phases subject to the recommendation of the Technical Delegate (TD) and the approval of the President of the Veterinary Commission).
- 800.2.4 Phases may be spread over one or more days.
- 800.2.5 Each phase of an Endurance competition must be separated by a compulsory rest period, or hold time.
- 800.2.6 Each day of an Endurance competition must be divided into at least three phases, separated by a veterinary inspection and a compulsory rest period, or hold time.
- 800.2.7 In every Endurance competition, there shall be at least one hold no shorter than 40 minutes.
- 800.2.8 The hold for all phases must meet a minimum ratio of 1 minute per 1 km, ie: following a 35 km phase, a minimum hold time of 35 minutes.
- 800.2.9 The maximum scheduled hold time for a single hold in a one-day event shall be 60 minutes, and in 3-Star or above events there shall be at least one hold of at least 50 minutes.
- 800.2.10 Also, hold times in vet gates requiring compulsory re-inspections must be a minimum of 40 minutes, and for such re-inspections horses are required to present no earlier than 15 minutes prior to their departure time.
- 800.3** Whatever the order and rules for starting, each competitor must carry out the whole competition as if he/she were alone and competing against the clock.
- 800.4** An Endurance Ride is a competition against the clock. The combination that finishes the course in the shortest time will be classified as the winner of the competition after successfully completing all final Veterinary Inspections and medication control as well as other protocols in place for the safety of the horse and Athlete under these Rules, the FEI General Regulations or the FEI Veterinary Regulations. Competitions shall be organised to allow Athletes to establish their own pace to compete against the clock, subject to:
- 800.4.1 Adverse Conditions: Should adverse conditions on course or other considerations arise which might compromise the opportunity to safely complete a course, the Organising Committee (OC) in consultation with the

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Technical Delegate (TD) may establish a maximum time for a section of the course or a phase of competition and/or the closing times for one or more Vet Gates, in order to ensure Athletes are not falling too far behind the actual pace of the ride and to ensure horse safety.

- 800.4.2 Trail Safety: Conversely, in circumstances related to trail safety, the OC in consultation with the TD may establish sections of a course where controlled gaits of the horse and/or maximum speed apply. However, this will depend on the given circumstances of a specific course as well as time of day and generally should not exceed 5 km at any one time or 5% of the course. Generally, there should not be more than one section under controlled speed and/or set pace per phase of the course, and never in the final phase.

### Article 801 - THE COURSE/'Field of Play`

- 801.1** The Technical Delegate (TD) and FEI Course designer (when appointed) shall consult with the Organising Committee (OC) to assist in creating a technically challenging course across country within the limits provided by the terrain and weather conditions, to include changes in the footing, that will test the stamina and riding skills of the combination, but not compromise the welfare of the horse.
- 801.2** The course should include naturally occurring or manmade features such as (but not exclusive to) tracks, ditches, steep climbs, descents and water crossings that implements technically challenging factors including but not limited to: footing, terrain, altitude, direction and speed.
- 801.3** The type of terrain and altitude differentials must be clearly indicated in the schedule of the competition.
- 801.4** The course should not contain more than 10% of hard surface roads intended for vehicular use.
- 801.5** The more demanding part of the course should be earlier in the ride.
- 801.6** The distance of the phases shall be determined by the OC and must be published in the schedule.
- 801.7** As far as possible those technical challenges must be left in their natural state. If necessary, they should be reinforced so that they remain in the same state throughout the competition.
- 801.8** The finish must be long and wide enough to enable several horses to finish at speed without interfering with each other, and must provide sufficient run-out to allow Athletes to safely come to a stop after crossing the finishing line in any potential sprint or gallop. It must be situated as close to the Vet Gate as possible.
- 801.9** The 'field of play' is defined as; the defined course (loops or phases), the defined crewing areas on course or within the vet gate, the vet examination area and the hold area at or within the vet gate. For Championships, there will be restricted access to the field of play as defined in the schedule.

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### **Article 802 - MARKING OF THE COURSE**

- 802.1** General Requirement: The marking of the course must be done in such a manner that there is no doubt on how to proceed along the course. The markings can be flags, ribbons, indicators, lime, paint etc.
- 802.2** Order of Course: The competitor must complete the entire course in the correct order and direction as marked on the map referred to in Art. 802.6.
- 802.3** Errors on Course: Any error of course must be corrected from the place where the error has started under penalty of disqualification. Alternatively, if correcting a course error is not feasible and/or in the best interest of the horse, the Ground Jury may determine an alternative which will require the combination to complete an equivalent distance over the same type of terrain, such distance to be made up within a single phase thereby ensuring the competitor still passes through each Vet Gate in the correct order and within the time limits in force. In such cases the combination will receive a completion classification only. The Athlete and horse may earn a Certificate of Capability or meet other Qualification Criteria with such a performance, but may not be considered for the Best Condition award or for contribution to team scoring or individual classification for placing.
- 802.4** Boundary Flags: Boundary flags or other acceptable indicators must be used to mark defined sections of the course, and to mark the start and finish lines. Such flags or indicators, etc. must be respected wherever they may occur in the course under penalty of disqualification. Whenever a short cut is possible on the course the Organising Committee must place a steward to control that the obligatory passage is respected.
- 802.5** Trail Markers: Direction flags or signs are intended to show the general direction and path to be taken to help Athletes to find their way. They must be placed so that Athletes can recognise them without loss of time. A distance marker should be placed every 10 km.
- 802.6** Plan of the Course: Each Athlete will, in advance, be given access to a map or plan showing the track of the course and the location of any compulsory halts or obligatory obstacles. In Championships or 4-Star events, OCs must also provide copies of such maps or plans to each competitor.
- 802.7** Start and Finish: The start and finish of each phase must be clearly and distinctly marked with the appropriate signs.

### **Article 803 – PLAN OF THE COURSE**

- 803.1** Map: A map in a scale of at least 1:50'000 should be available to Athletes when the course is finalised, preferably at the ride briefing and certainly before the start of the ride.
- 803.2** Completion of Course Design: The course of an Endurance competition should be officially established at least 7 days before the competition begins and approved by the Technical Delegate prior to handing over to the Ground Jury.

### **Article 804 - MODIFICATION TO THE COURSE AND RESCHEDULING/DELAY OR ABANDONMENT OF EVENTS**

- 804.1** Course Modification: After the course has been officially established, no alteration shall be made without the approval of the Technical Delegate (TD) and the Ground Jury (GJ).

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- 804.2** Rescheduling/Delay of Event: In exceptional circumstances, as set out generally in Art. 804.2.4, an event may be rescheduled or delayed in start by:
- 804.2.1 Advance of Event (Up to an hour before First Veterinary Inspection): A decision of the Technical Delegate in consultation with a representative of the OC, the FVD, the PVC and the PGJ.
  - 804.2.2 After commencement of the Event: A decision of the President of the Ground Jury in consultation with the GJ, a representative of the OC, the FVD, the PVC, and the TD.
  - 804.2.3 OC Responsibility: Organising Committees are encouraged in all event planning to anticipate the possibility of the need to either delay the start of an event by up to 30 hours and/or to reschedule completely. In CEIO, 4-Star and Championship events, the OC should include reference to such potential in its Schedule.
  - 804.2.4 Exceptional Circumstances: Such Exceptional Circumstances are those which arise on short notice and can be reasonably foreseen to produce unreasonable and unfair risks to Athlete and/or horses during the conduct of the event. Examples and advice for determining such shall be provided in the Endurance Notes for Guidance.
- 804.3** Abandonment of Event: When catastrophic occurrences or circumstances arise at or during an event, as set out generally in Art. 804.3.4, an event may be abandoned whereby:
- 804.3.1 Advance of Event (Up to an hour before First Veterinary Inspection): A decision of the Technical Delegate in consultation with a representative of the OC, the FVD, the PVC and the PGJ.
  - 804.3.2 After commencement of the Event: A decision of the President of the Ground Jury in consultation with the GJ, a representative of the OC, the FVD, the PVC, and the TD.
  - 804.3.3 OC Responsibility: Organizing Committees are encouraged in all event planning to anticipate the possibility of the need to abandon an event and evacuate the venue.
  - 804.3.4 Catastrophic Occurrences or Circumstances: Those which arise on short notice and are determined to dangerously risk Athlete and/or horse safety, and which cannot be avoided through Course Modification, Rescheduling or Delay of the Event. Examples and advice for determining such shall be provided in the Endurance Notes for Guidance.
- 804.4** Nature of Endurance: In all cases it should be remembered that this discipline anticipates competition over and in challenging terrain, weather and circumstances as a test of endurance, and so delay, rescheduling and abandonment should be used only as extraordinary remedies.
- 804.5** Notifications: In any case noted above, the Athletes and/or the Chefs d'Equipe, as well as the OC, Timing Team and all event Officials should be officially and personally informed as soon as practicable of the decision, certainly before the start or before the phase concerned.

## **Article 805 - METHOD OF STARTING**

- 805.1** Horses must not cross the starting line before the signal is given.
- 805.2** If a combination makes a start which is in any way false, under penalty of disqualification the combination must return and re-cross the start line. However, their starting time will be recorded as if they had started when originally given the signal.
- 805.3** The starting time of any Athlete who does not present himself/herself on time for start is recorded as if they had started on time. No competitor may start later than 15 minutes after the official starting time under penalty of disqualification.

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- 805.4** A mass start may not be used on following day(s) in multi-day events. Combinations should start the following day with the same time interval difference as noted at finishing the day before. This will continue for a period of time i.e. one hour, to be set at the discretion of the President of the Ground Jury and the Technical Delegate in consultation with the Organising Committee. Thereafter those remaining will start together.

### **Article 806 – TIME AND RECORD KEEPING**

- 806.1** As timing plays such an important part in the competition, OCs must ensure that each Athlete's start and finish time for each timed phase is accurately noted and recorded by properly qualified persons using synchronised time-keeping methods. (See Endurance Notes for Guidance).
- 806.2** Each Athlete will be issued a time card or acceptable and reliable alternative for each phase. (See Endurance Notes for Guidance).
- 806.3** OCs must arrange for alternative power sources and back-up record-keeping for timing and all recorded information when electronic systems (recommended at 3\* events or higher) are the primary methodologies. Time keeping systems with Stewards to monitor and/or timekeepers are required at the start and finish of each timed phase to record the times of each competitor.
- 806.4** Time is counted from the instant the signal is given to start until the instant when a combination crosses the finish line.
- 806.5** The veterinary gate system at compulsory halts must be used. (See Endurance Notes for Guidance).
- 806.6** At vet gates, the timing of the combination's presentation for inspection must be performed in such a manner to avoid any delay to a competitor's timing caused by the arrival of several horses simultaneously for inspection.

### **Article 807 – COMPETITION & FAIR PLAY**

- 807.1** An Athlete may lead or follow their horse on course, but must be mounted to pass through the start of any day and the finish line of the day's final phase under penalty of disqualification.
- 807.2** An Athlete who does not respect any given time limits will be deemed to have failed to qualify for the next phase or final classification.
- 807.3** On the course, no other person may lead or ride the horse once the combination has started under penalty of disqualification.
- 807.4** Wilful obstruction of an overtaking combination by a slower combination is penalised by disqualification. This is not to prevent competition between Athletes on course for placing, but is intended to apply in situations where the slower combination is being lapped or passed due to travelling at a significantly slower pace or because of other problems of refusal or equipment issues.
- 807.5** A combination who fails to qualify for the next phase of competition or is disqualified for any reason must leave the course at once and has no right to continue unless there is no viable alternative and only after being approved by a member of the GJ or, if not available, a Steward.



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- 807.6** Permitted Assistance During Event or On Course:
- 807.6.1 The Event Schedule shall specify where assistance (crewing) is allowed both within vet gates and on course during an event.
  - 807.6.2 Combinations must have access to water on course at least every 10 kms.
  - 807.6.3 In any case including while on course, for example after a fall or if the Athlete is separated from their horse, or in the case of loose or lost horseshoes, a combination may be assisted.
  - 807.6.4 For other Permitted Assistance that is allowed please see Endurance Notes for Guidance. The Event Schedule shall be determinative for each event.
- 807.7** Forbidden Assistance: The following types of activities are forbidden, subjecting offending Athletes to a warning, the receipt of yellow card warning(s) or disqualification at the discretion of the GJ, including but not limited to:
- 807.7.1 Being followed, preceded or accompanied on any part of the course by any bicycle, pedestrian or an Athlete not in the competition.
  - 807.7.2 Providing aid on any part of the course not specifically designated for such aid.
  - 807.7.3 Accepting aid on any part of the course by someone not authorised to provide it.
  - 807.7.4 Being followed, preceded or accompanied on any part of the course or immediate adjacent access track as defined (see notes for guidance) by any vehicle (notwithstanding art. 807.6.1).
  - 807.7.5 A third party encouraging a horse to trot in a vet gate.
  - 807.7.6 Someone on course encouraging the horse(s) by any means whatsoever.
  - 807.7.7 Cutting wire fences, or altering a part of an enclosure on or within the course so as to clear a way or to cut down trees or eliminate challenges or alter technical aspects of the course.
  - 807.7.8 Accepting any intervention by a third party, whether solicited or not, with the object of giving advantage to the Athlete or their horse.
  - 807.7.9 Conflict of Interest: Officials who may have a real or perceived Conflict of Interest should notify the OC at the time of appointment or as soon as a conflict of interest arises prior to the competition. If the declared conflict of interest, in the opinion of the President of Jury, impairs or appears to impair the integrity of the judging of the competition, the official will have to stand down. Conflicts of Interest should be declared at the pre-ride briefing of officials and athletes.

## **Article 808 - SCHEDULE OF THE COMPETITION**

- 808.1** In the schedule which is published by the Organising Committee of any CEI event, it is not necessary to repeat the FEI General Regulations or the FEI Rules for Endurance Riding. It is sufficient to give the category of the competition, the distances, the speeds, time limit and the possible time limit for each phase, method of classification, rules for starting, method used for marking the course, procedures at compulsory halts, outline of the course (to include changes in altitude) and of possible obstacles.
- 808.2** For additional specifics related to Endurance schedules, please refer to the Endurance Notes for Guidance.
- 808.3** In addition to the conditions of the competition (closing date for entries, place and time of start, number and length of compulsory halts, entry fees and prizes), it will be usual to include such administrative arrangements as transport facilities, accommodation for Athletes and grooms, stabling, forage etc.

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### **Article 809 – DRESS CODE**

- 809.1** Protective headgear, of a recognised equestrian/endurance standard and securely fastened, is compulsory for all persons at all Endurance events whilst mounted.
- 809.2** Safe riding footwear with heels of 12 mm or more, or alternatively caged/boxed stirrups/equestrian safety stirrups are compulsory for all persons at all Endurance events whilst mounted.
- 809.3** Dress, that is appropriate and not detrimental to the image of Endurance Riding, is required at all CEIs.

At all FEI Events it is compulsory to wear the following dress:

- 809.3.1 For those taking part in pre-ride 1<sup>st</sup> Inspection/Opening Ceremonies, Best Condition and Awards/Prize-giving Ceremonies,
- Athlete: Smart Pressed Team or Individual Riding uniforms.
  - Team Officials, Grooms, Crews: Smart Pressed Team or Individual uniforms.
  - FEI Officials: Smart Clothing to include jacket and tie where applicable,
  - Shorts or sandals are unacceptable standards of dress and will not be allowed.
- 809.3.2 During the actual ride:
- Athlete: Appropriate riding attire, shirt/polo shirt to include a collar.
  - Team Officials, Grooms, Crews: Smart Team or Individual attire. No shorts within the Vet Inspection area, or sandals allowed within the 'Field of Play' (safety).
  - Officials: Smart working attire, no shorts or sandals.
- 809.3.3 FEI General Regulations with regard to advertising applies.

### **Article 810 - SADDLERY AND EQUIPMENT**

In principle, there is no restriction on saddlery however it must be in safe condition and fit the horse. (refer also to FEI Veterinary Regulations) Any type of rein that may unduly restrict the free movement of the head of the horse, including, but not limited to Draw (Running) Reins/French Reins are forbidden.

- 810.1** Specific safety equipment, such as reflective items or otherwise, may be required as indicated in the schedule of the competition.
- 810.2** Whips (or the use of any other item as a whip) and Spurs are prohibited.
- 810.3** The use of mobile phones and GPS devices are permitted. All other forms of communication devices must be approved by the Ground Jury prior to competition.
- 810.4** FEI General Regulations with regard to advertising applies.

### **Article 811 – CRUELTY**

- 811.1** Any act or series of actions which, in the opinion of the Ground Jury can clearly be defined as cruelty or abuse shall be penalised by disqualification and as otherwise allowed under the GRs, and the individual concerned shall be reported to the FEI.

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- 811.2** Reports of such actions must be accompanied whenever possible by the signatures and addresses of witnesses of the actions. The reports must be given to the Ground Jury or the Secretary of the Organising Committee as soon as possible.

### **Article 812 – WEIGHTS**

- 812.1** At all senior CEI4\* Championship events, the minimum riding weight for Athletes must be 75kg to include all riding equipment (Art.812.6).
- 812.2** At senior CEI3\* events the minimum riding weight may be between 70kg and 75 kg - details to be clearly shown on the approved ride schedule. Only events with a minimum riding weight of 75kg count as qualifying rides for senior Championships as defined in Art 816.3.13.
- 812.3** At CEI 1\* and 2\* events alternative weight divisions or gender divisions may be allowed, subject to prior approval by the FEI, and must be clearly specified in the FEI schedule
- 812.4** There shall be no minimum weight in Young Rider and/or Junior competitions.
- 812.5** When a minimum weight is required, weight control must be carried out before the start and, where applicable, after the finish and may take place at random during the event.
- 812.6** Athletes must be weighed out and, where necessary, be weighed with all riding equipment (excluding bridle). The Athlete must maintain the minimum riding weight at all times during the riding phases under penalty of disqualification. It is the Athlete's responsibility to weigh immediately after crossing the finish line if requested to do so by an FEI Official.
- 812.7** Organisers must provide a reliable weighing machine with recalibration capability.

### **Article 813 – CLASSIFICATION**

- 813.1** Individuals: In an endurance competition, the winner is the combination with the shortest elapsed riding time who successfully passes or complies with all protocols and requirements, including but not limited to the final veterinary examination. The schedule of the competition must clearly define the method of classification.
- 813.2** Teams: The winning team is the team with the best time after adding the final classification of the three highest placed combinations in the team. In the case of a tie, the winning team will be the one whose third combination has the best time. In the event there are fewer than 3 members of a team who are classified, such teams are not eligible for team placing.
- 813.3** Dead Heat: When two or more combinations, who started together, have the same total elapsed riding time, they are classified according to their respective passage across the finish line.
- 813.4** Disqualification, Retirement or Failure to Qualify for the next Phase:
- 813.4.1** Disqualification: Occurs when an Athlete is penalized by the GJ and removed from further competition for a violation of these Rules, the FEI General Regulations, the FEI Veterinary Regulations, or the Schedule.
- 813.4.2** Failure to Qualify for the Next Phase: Results when a combination is removed from competition for failure to successfully pass a veterinary inspection, to

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complete the full course as required, or to meet all time requirements for presentation or completion.

- 813.4.3 Retirement: Results when an Athlete voluntarily withdraws from competition, but may only be considered voluntary and a Retirement when: the combination has correctly finished all phases to that point; the combination has completed its most recent phase by passing all required veterinary inspections following that phase, including compulsory **re**-inspection or veterinary requested re-inspection; and, Art. 813, herein, has not otherwise provided for removal from competition.

- 813.5** All horses removed from competition, voluntarily or otherwise and at any point within the event, must be/have been presented for veterinary inspection within 30 minutes of removal. If removal occurs on course the horse must be inspected by a member of the veterinarian panel as soon as it is returned to the ride base and the horse's veterinary records updated accordingly.

## Chapter II Definition of Endurance Events

### Article 814 - CATEGORIES OF ENDURANCE RIDES

International Endurance Rides are divided into:

- CEI (Concours de Raid d'Endurance International),
- CEIO (Concours de Raid d'Endurance International Officiel).

The International Endurance Rides specified below are governed by the General Regulations and the Veterinary Regulations of the FEI and by the rules herein. They are divided into:

#### 814.1 CEI Events

- 814.1.1 They must comply with the requirements of the FEI General Regulations and the FEI Rules for Endurance Riding.
- 814.1.2 In these Rides, there must only be an official individual classification.
- 814.1.3 Where there is a team competition, it may not be considered as an Official Team competition and each member of the team will automatically be considered as an individual competitor. The number of teams which can be accepted is at the discretion of the Organising Committee. Teams may consist of three to five Athletes, not necessarily of the same nationality, details to be indicated in the approved schedule.
- 814.1.4 These rides may be held in conjunction with wider national or FEI approved series or programs, with approval of the FEI, in consultation with the Technical Committee, which shall reserve the right to require the series or program be run under CEIO or CEI-4 Star requirements, regardless of distances.
- 814.1.5 CEIs are defined in the FEI Calendar. CEIs are divided into four different star levels as follows:
- 814.1.5.1 **4 Star:** Senior Championships of a minimum of 160 km in one day, Young Horse Championships for 7 year olds – maximum distance 130kms, Junior and Young Rider Championships of a minimum of 120 km, maximum of 130km in one day. Regional Championships where the OC can apply for a change of distance to take into account local climatic or other conditions. Maximum Pulse at Vet Gates: 64 bpm within 20 minutes.
- 814.1.5.2 **3 Star:** All rides of 140 km – 160 km in one day, or 90-100 km per day over 2 days, or 70- 80 km per day over 3 days or more. Maximum Pulse at Vet Gates: 64 bpm within 20 minutes.
- 814.1.5.3 **2 Star:** All rides between 120 km and 139 km in one day or between 70 km and 89 km per day over two days. Maximum Pulse at Vet Gates: 64 bpm within 20 minutes.
- 814.1.5.4 **1 Star:** (Low Level Event) All rides between 80 km and 119 km in one day. Maximum Pulse at Vet Gates: 64 bpm within 20 minutes.

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- 814.1.5.5 At the Final Inspection, the Maximum Pulse shall be 64 bpm within 30 minutes.
- 814.1.5.6 To compete in any FEI sanctioned event all Athletes and horses must be registered with the FEI as per FEI General Regulations.
- 814.1.6 The FEI may create special categories of rides and apply specific CEI Star system requirements for officials and eligibility to participate, regardless of distance for emerging programs in developing nations or regions or for purposes of research into future needs for changes to these Rules, including alteration of weight divisions or special categories or divisions within competitions. In such cases, there will be requests made for ongoing input from NFs and the FEI Veterinary Committee.
- 814.1.7 The FEI will determine, in consultation with the FEI Technical Committee, OC and applicable NFs what Star system requirements to apply to World Cup rides or finals, as well as to national, regional, continental or world series of rides or multiple ride cup programs.
- 814.1.8 The pulse criteria may be reduced during the ride if, in the opinion of the President of the Vet Commission in consultation with the FVD, the President of the Ground Jury and the TD they believe there is a danger to the safety of the horses.

### **814.2 CEIOs**

- 814.2.1 CEIOs must comply with the requirements laid down in the General Regulations and the Rules for Endurance Riding.
- 814.2.2 At a CEIO, there must be an individual and a team classification. Each nation may enter only one team. A minimum of three teams is necessary for the team competition to be considered as an official team competition. Each team must be composed of a minimum of three combinations. The three best results will be considered for the final classification. In the event that less than three members of a team are classified, such a team shall not be eligible to be placed as a classified Team, even if it leaves medal or award places vacant.

### **814.3 Regional Games**

Endurance Rides at the Regional Games must comply with the requirements laid down by the various IOC affiliated Regional Games Associations, as well as these Rules and the FEI GRs.

## **Article 815 - ELIGIBILITY**

**815.1** Any person from the year in which he/she reaches his/her 14<sup>th</sup> birthday and who is duly authorised by his/her National Federation is eligible to take part in all Endurance Rides (CEIs, CEIOs and Championships – Senior and Junior/Young Rider).

### **815.2 Horses:**

- 815.2.1 Horses must be at least 5 years old to qualify as Novices.
- 815.2.2 For CEIs 1-Star through 2-Star competitions horses must be at least 6 years old to participate.
- 815.2.3 For 3-Stars competitions horses must be at least 7 years old to participate.
- 815.2.4 For 4-Stars, CEIOs and Championships (excluding Young Horse Championships where the minimum age must be 7years) horses must be at least 8 years of age.
- 815.2.5 Mares obviously in advanced pregnancies, meaning over 120 days, or with foal at foot cannot be entered in any CEI event.
- 815.2.6 All ages are determined as of the date of the event for which eligibility to participate is sought, and must be confirmed either through reliable registrations or written veterinary opinion, which may be recorded within Passports. Northern Hemisphere horses are deemed to have their birthday on the 1<sup>st</sup> January and Southern Hemisphere horses on the 1<sup>st</sup> August.

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### **815.3** Mandatory Rest for Horses:

815.3.1 After competing in a CEI events, a horse must be given a mandatory minimum rest period, as defined, before it is again eligible to participate in a National or FEI competition (Rest Period commences at Midnight on the day that the ride finishes as denoted by the maximum ride time allowed and finishes at Midnight, the day before published ride start time):

Distance completed	start – 40 km	5 days (retirement only)
	start – 80 km	12 days
	Over 80 – 120 km	19 days
	Over 120 km	26 days

See articles 815.3.3 and 815.2.4 for extended mandatory rest periods following immediate invasive treatment.

815.3.2 Invasive treatment is defined as:

Any treatment of a horse which involves the puncture or incision of the skin or insertion of any instrument or foreign material into the body is considered invasive. Exceptions to the rule would be the administration of oral electrolytes or acupuncture. Any metabolic condition diagnosed in a horse that has Failed to Qualify that left untreated would compromise or threaten the welfare of the horse would be considered a condition requiring invasive treatment.

815.3.3 If a horse has Failed to Qualify for metabolic reasons which require immediate invasive treatment at any CEI events it must be given a mandatory rest period of 60 days before it is again eligible to participate in a CEI event.

815.3.4 If a horse has Failed to Qualify for metabolic reasons which require immediate invasive treatment at any 2 consecutive CEI events or twice within any 3 month period, it must be given a mandatory rest period of 90 days before it is again eligible to participate in a CEI event.

815.3.5 It is the responsibility of the FVD and the Treatment Veterinarian to review, on a case by case basis, the treated horses at the end of an event and classify each case as that is immediate invasive treatment, incurring mandatory rest or Authorised Treatment.

815.3.6 The FEI in consultation with the FEI Technical Committee and FEI Veterinary Department may decide to create a supplementary schedule.

## **Article 816 - QUALIFICATION PROCEDURE & CERTIFICATES OF CAPABILITY (Please refer to Endurance Notes for Guidance for Transitional Arrangements)**

**816.1** Novice Qualifying: To be administered by each NF.

816.1.1 Horses and Athletes must, though not necessarily as a combination:

816.1.1.1 Successfully complete 2 rides of distances between 40-79 km and 2 rides of between 80-90 km at speeds of 16 kph or under then

816.1.1.2 Successfully complete 1 rides of a distance between 80-90 km at open speed.

816.1.2 Athletes and Horses must complete the requirements of this qualifying phase all within the 24 month period and no shorter than 12 months, immediately prior to taking part in an FEI competition.

**816.2** CEI Star Qualifying: To be determined according to FEI records and database, and attested to by each NF.

816.2.1 All horses and Athletes must have successfully completed Novice Qualifying to be eligible for CEI Star Qualifying.

816.2.2 Horses and Athletes, not necessarily as a combination must successfully complete FEI competitions to progress through the Star system, beginning

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with a successful completion at the 1-Star level, thereby qualifying to move up through each Star category as defined in Art 814.

816.2.3 Star System Qualification for Athletes to 3\* level will be for life.

816.2.4 Star System Qualification for Horses shall be valid for a period of 24 months. Should a horse fail to complete an event at the next level for which it has qualified within that period it will need to re qualify for its existing level again before progressing further.

### **816.3 4\* Championships:**

#### **Junior/Young Riders**

##### **Horses:**

816.3.1 Horses must have graduated through the qualifying processes outlined above for Novice and CEI-Star qualifying up to, and including, the distance of the event for which a Certificate of Capability is sought.

816.3.2 Horses must have successfully completed at least 2 CEI 2\* events or higher.

**816.3.3** Of these 2 CEI events, at least one must be no less than 14 kph, and the same, or higher distance and time frame as the 4-Star Championship and achieved no earlier than 24 months prior to, no later than the close of nominated entries for Championship and/or 60 days prior to the event, which ever comes first. This one ride must be in combination with the nominated Athlete unless that Athlete is a J/YR Elite Endurance Athlete. In such cases the horse can be ridden by any other applicable J/YR Athlete.

##### **Athletes:**

816.3.4 To achieve J/YR Elite Athlete status, Athletes must have successfully completed a minimum of ten CEI 2\* 120km events or higher. To maintain J/YR Elite Athlete status, Athletes must successfully complete at least one CEI 120 km or higher within every successive 24 months.

816.3.5 Athletes who receive any form of a suspension as defined under the FEI General Regulations (Penalties) or have committed an offense under the FEI Equine Anti Doping and Control Medication regulations, will automatically lose their Elite Status and will be required to re-qualify again by completing ten CEI2\* events commencing either after the period of suspension or after the 'fast track' decision is finalised.

816.3.6 Athletes must have graduated through the qualifying processes outlined above for Novice and CEI-Star qualifying up to, and including, the distance of the event for which a Certificate of Capability is sought.

816.3.7 Athletes must have successfully completed at least 3 CEI 2\* events or higher.

816.3.8 Of those 3 CEI events, one must be at the minimum speed no less than 14 kph, and the same, or higher distance and time frame as the 4\* Championship and achieved no earlier than 24 months prior to, no later than the close of nominated entries for Championship and/or 60 days prior to the event, which ever comes first. This one ride must be in combination with the nominated horse unless that Athlete is a J/YR Elite Endurance Athlete.

*Recording and Proof of Qualification:* Approved records must be provided for Rider/Horse results for eventual insertion into FEI Database/Passports as required. However, the ultimate responsibility for proof still remains with each NF.

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### Seniors

#### Horses:

- 816.3.9 Horses must have graduated through the qualifying processes outlined above for Novice and CEI-Star qualifying up to, and including, the distance of the event for which a Certificate of Capability is sought.
- 816.3.10 Horses must have successfully completed at least 3 CEI 2\* events or higher.
- 816.3.11 Of these 3 CEI events, at least one must be at the, minimum speed of 14 kph, and the same distance and time frame as the 4-Star Championship and achieved no earlier than 24 months prior to, no later than the close of nominated entries for Championship and/or 60 days prior to the event, which ever comes first. This one ride must be in combination with the nominated Athlete unless that Athlete is a Senior Elite Endurance Athlete. In such cases, the horse can be ridden by any other applicable Athlete.

#### Athletes:

- 816.3.12 To achieve Senior Elite Athlete status, Athletes must have successfully completed a minimum of ten CEI 3\* 160km events or higher. To maintain Senior Elite Athlete status, Athletes must successfully complete at least one CEI3\* 160 km within every successive 24 months.
- 816.3.13 Riders who receive any form of a suspension as defined under the FEI General Regulations (Penalties) or have committed an offense under the FEI Equine Anti Doping and Control Medication regulations, will automatically lose their Elite Status and will be required to re-qualify again by completing ten CEI3\* events commencing either after the period of suspension or after the 'fast track' decision is finalised.
- 816.3.14 Athletes must have graduated through the qualifying processes outlined above for Novice and CEI-Star qualifying up to, and including, the distance of the event for which a Certificate of Capability is sought.
- 816.3.15 Athletes must have successfully completed at least 5 CEI 2\* events or higher.
- 816.3.16 Of those 5 CEI events, one must be at the minimum speed of 14 kph and the same distance, weight and time frame as the 4\* Championship, achieved no earlier than 24 months prior to, no later than the close of nominated entries for Championship and/or 60 days prior to the event, which ever comes first. This one ride must be in combination with the nominated horse unless that Athlete is a Senior Elite Endurance Athlete.

*Recording and Proof of Qualification:* Approved records must be provided for Rider/Horse results for eventual insertion into FEI Database/Passports as required. However, the ultimate responsibility for proof still remains with each NF.

## Article 817 – INVITATIONS

### 817.1 CEIs

The number of Officials and Athletes whether competing as individuals or as members of an unofficial team, to whom hospitality will be extended is at the discretion of the Organising Committee. The number of Athletes which can be accepted will be stated in the official invitation to National Federations.

### 817.2 CEIOs, Championships and World Equestrian Games

Five Athletes and seven horses, a non-riding Chef d'Equipe and a Veterinary Surgeon as Team Veterinarian must be included in the official invitation to the National Federation(s) concerned.



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### **817.3 Grooms**

The Organising Committee of a CEI, CEIO, and Championship must accept two grooms per horse.

### **817.4 Teams and Individuals**

817.4.1 Teams: If an NF starts three or more combinations all results are available to establish their Team result and are also eligible for individual classification and placing/awards. Only the highest placed three members shall count as the Team for classification and to receive a team medal.

817.4.2 Individuals: If an NF starts fewer than 3 combinations they shall only be eligible for individual classification and placing/awards, but not as a Team.

817.4.3 With regard to the number of teams required for Championships, Art. 108 of the General Regulations applies.

### **817.5 Expenses & Privileges**

The Organising Committee of World and Continental Championships may accept responsibility for meeting the travelling and living expenses of Athletes, horses, grooms and team officials (Chefs d'Equipe and Veterinarians) to be invited according to the rules from the day before the First Horse Inspection until the day after the end of the Championships. This must be published in the schedule.

The Organising Committee of World Equestrian Games must accept responsibility for meeting the living expenses of Athletes, horses, grooms and team officials (Chefs d'Equipe and Veterinarians) to be invited according to the rules from the day before the First Horse Inspection until the day after the end of the Championships. This must be published in the schedule.

## **Article 818 - ENTRIES**

**818.1** The number of Horses that may be entered for an Event must be in accordance with the schedule.

**818.2** All Athletes invited or nominated for an International Event must be entered by their NFs. All foreign Athletes selected by their NFs must be accepted by the OC. OCs may not accept any other entries.

**818.3** NFs may only enter Athletes for FEI World Championships who are qualified under conditions decided by the relevant Technical Committee and approved by the Bureau.

**818.4** Under no circumstances may the OC limit the number of entries of eligible Athletes or teams for a FEI Championship.

**818.5** Entries for FEI Championships must be made following the compulsory three phases outlined under paragraph 818.5.1, 818.5.2 and 818.5.3 below.

818.5.1 Entries in principle must reach the OC at least eight weeks before the Event is due to begin. Entry in principle means that an NF has the definite intention of sending Athletes to participate in the Event. It must state whether the intention is to send only individuals, only a team or a team and individuals.

818.5.2 Nominated entries must reach the OC at least four weeks before the Event and must include a list of the names of Athletes and Horses from which the Definite Entries and any substitutions will be chosen and state the number of Athletes and Horses which the NF intends to send. The number of nominated entries of Athletes and Horses must not exceed twice the number invited in the Schedule. Once the nominated entries have been sent in, NFs may send fewer Athletes and/or Horses but never more than the number of nominated entries. NFs which are not represented after having made nominated entries

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and whose excuse is not acceptable to the OC shall be reported by the OC to the Secretary General for consideration of their excuse by the FEI Tribunal.

- 818.5.3 Definite entries must reach the OC at the latest four days preceding the beginning of the Event. These represent the final selection of Athletes and Horses that will travel to the Event. The Definite Entries may not exceed the number listed and must be chosen from the list of names on the Nominated Entries. After the Definite Entries have been sent in, substitutions of Horses and/or Athletes may only be made with the express permission of the OC.
- 818.6** Entry forms for Horses must include the name/names, breed, sex, age, colour, country of birth, present nationality and passport number and, where appropriate, qualifications.
- 818.7** Should an NF send more Athletes and/or Horses than shown in the Nominated Entry the OC is not obliged to accommodate them or to allow them to participate in that Event.
- 818.8** At an Event, an Athlete may withdraw any or all his/her Horses from a Competition, but he/she may not add a Horse not previously entered for that Competition without the Approval of the OC and the Ground Jury.
- 818.9** Where an NF has made a nominated entry of a team and finds that it will be unable to send a team, it must immediately inform the OC.
- 818.10** Teams or individual Athletes who have been definitely entered by their NFs at any Event and fail to take part without valid excuse must be reported by the Foreign Judge/Technical Delegate to the Secretary General for consideration by the FEI Tribunal. Competing at another Event staged at the same time does not constitute a valid excuse for failure to participate at an Event.
- 818.11** An NF cannot make definite entries for the same Athlete/Horse combinations to more than one OC on penalty of disqualification of such competitor/Horse combinations from the Event where they eventually participate.
- 818.12** Withdrawals after the date of definite entries or no-shows will be liable to reimburse the OC for the financial loss incurred by the OC (i.e. stabling and hotel Expenses) as a result of late withdrawal or no-show.
- 818.13** No Athlete may actually compete with more than one horse in any Endurance Ride.
- 818.14** At Championships, as many reserve horses as allowed by the Organising Committee may travel to the event. However, all such reserve horses must be on the Nominated Entries list.

## **Article 819 - DECLARATION OF STARTERS**

### **CEI 1\*, 2\*, 3\***

- 819.1** Athletes may each bring one spare horse to the competition, subject to the ability of the OC to accommodate them (this must be clearly indicated on the FEI approved schedule). These spare horses must be duly entered in the competition under the Athlete's name and a second entry fee, to be determined by the OC, paid by the Athlete.

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- 819.1.1 Athletes may trot up both horses who are duly entered under their name at the First Inspection. Should a horse be entered by more than one Athlete for a competition it will only be required to trot up once.
- 819.1.2 Immediately following the inspection of their horses, each Athlete must declare to the Ground Jury which of the horses, entered under their name, he/she will ride.
- 819.1.3 Each Athlete is responsible to ensure the proper supervision, care and feeding of any spare unused horse during the course of the Athlete's absence on event day.

### **819.2 CEIO and CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Each NF may send horses up to the maximum shown in the schedule from the list of Definite Entries and subject to the ability of the OC to accommodate them

- 819.2.1 The Chefs d'Equipe must declare in writing to the Secretariat of the Organisers the names of the Athletes and of the horses allocated to the Athletes definitively starting, chosen from those included on the official entry forms. Declaration of starters by the Chef d'Equipe or his/her representative will take place within one to three hours after the first inspection of the horses, at the previously announced discretion of the PGJ.
- 819.2.2 Each Chef d'Equipe and/or Person Responsible is responsible to ensure the proper supervision, care and feeding of any spare/unused horses on event day.

### **819.3 Substitutions:**

- 819.3.1 Substitutions after Definite Entries: After the Definite Entries have been sent in, substitution of horses and/or Athletes from their country's own list of Nominated Entries (if any) may only be made with the written permission of the NF and the OC, such consent not to be unreasonably withheld. All substituted horses and/or Athletes to be correctly qualified as per Art 816.3.
- 819.3.2 Substitutions in Case of Accident or Illness: In case of an accident or illness of a Athlete or a horse, occurring between the declaration of starters and the start of the competition, where such accident or illness makes it impossible for that Athlete or horse to take part in the competition; substitutions can be made up to 2 hours before the start of the competition. The following conditions must be met; 1) a certificate of the condition from an officially recognised physician for the Athlete, and from a veterinary surgeon/Team Veterinarian for the horse, and 2) permission of the President of the Ground Jury.
- 819.3.3 An Athlete or a horse, either or both, can only be replaced by another Athlete or horse or by Athlete/horse combination taken from those who have been duly entered and have successfully passed the First Horse Inspection.
- 819.3.4 At any Championship or any other CEI 4-Star ride horses can only be substituted by the Athlete's National Federation with horses that have been included on that National Federation's Nominated Entries list and that are qualified according to Art. 818.

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### Chapter III Inspections, Examinations, Control of Medication

#### Article 820 - VETERINARY CONTROL

- 820.1** The Veterinary Commission has absolute control on all matters concerning horse welfare.
- 820.2** The FEI Veterinary Regulations apply to all International Endurance Rides.
- 820.3** The series of examinations and inspections required by these Rules are established in the interest of the health, safety and welfare of the horse in the competition.
- 820.4** The decision of the Ground Jury taken on the direct advice of the Official Veterinarians is final and there can be no appeal against them. However, the Ground Jury is obliged in all cases to provide the reasons for the elimination of any horses.
- 820.5** Should an entered horse die for any reason during the period between the first inspection and the final inspection, the Foreign Veterinary Delegate will assist the Ground Jury to write a report on the circumstances to the National Federation of the country in which the Ride is taking place, which shall be filed with the FEI Veterinary Committee for review of circumstances.
- 820.6** Should a horse that has competed die for any reason within a set period of time (see FEI Veterinary Regulations) following a Championship event, the NF of the horse must provide a written report of same to the FEI Veterinary Committee for review of circumstances.
- 820.7** Only Athletes whose horses have passed all the inspections and examinations are entitled to be classified in the final list of results.
- 820.8** After each FEI Endurance event detail of a horse's, completed distance to the nearest vet gate, grounds for non classification (metabolic, lameness or both), treatments at the venue, referral for hospitalisation, mandatory rest periods and any other comments necessary to protect the horse's future competition safety and welfare deemed necessary by the veterinary commission must be recorded either in the horse's passport or National Federation Log Book. Only the Veterinary Delegate, President of the Ground Jury and Appeal Committee can make entries in the official record.
- 820.9** All the relevant information required at the inspections and examinations must be recorded on an individual veterinary record for each Combination and must, in principle, be available at all subsequent inspections and examinations. Such records being produced electronically (with back up) or by hard copy. Athletes are entitled to see and copy the record referring to their horses immediately after the inspection or examination. Veterinary cards may be retained by the Organising Committee. Veterinary cards in respect of horses that have received immediate invasive treatment must be sent to the FEI by the event Foreign Vet Delegate together with details of such treatment provided.
- 820.10** The arrival time into the Vet Gate must be recorded and the horse must be presented within the presentation time according to these Rules and as confirmed in the schedule to the Veterinary Commission for inspection.

The compulsory halts are operated by establishing a vet gate with an inspection area that the Athletes/grooms enter with the horse when they decide that the horse is ready to pass the veterinary inspection. When Athletes/grooms have entered the inspection area, they must proceed with the horse directly to the nominated vet at a reasonable pace showing constant forward motion. No more than three people can accompany an

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individual horse within the inspection area, and that number may be further limited by Schedule or pre-announced decision of the GJ. Additionally, at Championships and CEIOs, the Team Veterinarian and the Chef D'Equipe have access to the vet gate during the competition and must report their presence to the PGJ

- 820.11** During this period, the horse may be inspected more than once if the Veterinary Commission or Ground Jury so decides. However, before the scheduled presentation time has elapsed, the horse must demonstrate its fitness to continue which is assessed upon three criteria: heart rate recovery, metabolic stability and gait.
- 820.12** These inspections for heart rate recovery, metabolic stability and soundness must be conducted at the same time and the horse must meet the minimum criteria for the Star level of the event. If there is any alteration to how the inspections will be conducted, that must be announced prior to the competition by the GJ or published in the Schedule.
- 820.13** Once a horse has successfully met the required heart rate parameters its timed hold, starting from the moment the horse was presented to the Veterinary Commission, continues for the stated period. During the timed hold, all the other aspects of the inspection, including trotting the horse, will be carried out.
- 820.14** The Technical Delegate or the Ground Jury together with the Veterinary Commission can decide to modify the length of timed holds according to extreme weather conditions or other exceptional circumstances. Modifications must be announced to all Athletes and/or Chefs d'Equipe before the start of the phase concerned.
- 820.15** The Organising Committee, the TD, the President of the Veterinary Commission, the Foreign Vet Delegate and the PGJ are required to provide for appropriate aftercare and veterinary treatment controls including arrangements with an equine referral facility with surgical capabilities. For CEI 4 Star events and Championships, triage and emergency treatment facilities must be provided on site. Such arrangements must be clearly written in the Schedule and approved by the Technical Delegate prior to the First Examination. After the First Examination, the President of the Veterinary Commission and Foreign Vet Delegate in consultation with the Ground Jury may recommend changes in the treatment arrangements including the placement of members of the veterinary commission, or scheduling of their availability, for help in the treatment/aftercare area. Such arrangements must identify the treatment veterinarian(s) and the treatment group must include a veterinarian licensed to practice veterinary medicine in that geographical location.

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### Article 821 - VETERINARY INSPECTIONS AND EXAMINATIONS OF HORSES

#### 821.1 Veterinary Examination

- 821.1.1 The first examination shall take place as soon as possible after the arrival of the horses at the stables of the Ride and definitely before the horses are released to their assigned stables.
- 821.1.2 It should be performed by an official veterinarian appointed by the Organising Committee and, if not available, by a Veterinary Surgeon of the host country. The PGJ and the FVD should be present whenever possible.
- 821.1.3 The aim is first to establish the horses' identity (passports, registration documents, etc.) and second, to establish the general health of the horse, and in particular, to identify any contagious conditions. Doubtful cases should be reported to the Foreign Veterinary Delegate or Ground Jury on arrival, but in any case not later than one hour before the first inspection.
- 821.1.4 At CEIs, these examinations can be coupled with the first inspection.
- 821.1.5 At CEIOs and Championships, these examinations must occur separately and far enough in advance to allow for quarantine of compromised horses and their travelling partners until health questions or concerns are satisfied. That also means the OC must provide adequate quarantine facilities for those purposes.

#### 821.2 Horse Inspections:

- 821.2.1 First Inspection: In principle, it should take place on the day preceding the start of the competition and is performed by the Veterinary Commission, together with the Ground Jury. It will be conducted according to the standards for all inspections, as outlined below, to include: Heart Rate, Respiratory System, General Condition and Metabolic Status, Gait Evaluation, Soreness, Lacerations, Wounds, Range of Motion and other matters and items which from time to time may be added to the Veterinary Card.
- 821.2.2 Inspections Generally: There are no differences between the Veterinarians' responsibilities to evaluate a horse at all inspections. The same standards apply to judging fitness to continue both metabolically, heart rate and in terms of gait evaluation.
- 821.2.3 Inspection Decorum: The inspection areas should remain politely quiet in respect to Athletes and horses under the stresses of intense competition, and the GJ and Stewards are responsible to enforce that decorum. At the same time, Athletes and their crews or owners or Team Staffs are also responsible to respect the nature of what is occurring there, the inspection and evaluation of the ongoing health and fitness to continue of horses under stressful physical demands. As a result, no gamesmanship will be tolerated in terms of delaying or interfering with a fair presentation. From time to time, the FEI may provide a list of specifically prohibited behaviours under threat of disqualification or other disciplinary action. However, this list is not intended to be exhaustive and the good judgment of the GJ and Stewards shall be sacrosanct. (See Endurance Notes for Guidance)
- 821.2.4 Compulsory Re-Inspections: The Veterinary Commission, in consultation with the Ground Jury, will establish at which Vet Gates they will require horses to be presented for a compulsory re-inspection, no earlier than 15 minutes before that Athlete's scheduled departure time from that Vet Gate.
- 821.2.5 Requested Re-Inspections: The examining veterinarian may ask an Athlete to present their horse for re-inspection during its hold time and no earlier than 15 minutes prior to departure if after passing the horse, the veterinarian retains concerns about the horse's continuing stability. This rule is in place to provide the benefit of the doubt for the opportunity to continue to the horse.
- 821.2.6 Vet Gate Inspection: The first mandatory inspection of the horse at the end of each phase.
- 821.2.7 Heart Rate Re-Inspection: If during the Vet Gate Inspection the horse's heart rate is higher than the parameters defined for that Inspection the horse may be presented a second time within the time allowed as defined.
- 821.2.8 Heart Rates: Horses with abnormally high heart rates, or heart rates higher than the parameters defined in the schedule or as amended by the Ground Jury upon recommendation from the Veterinary Commission, will not be allowed to continue in the competition and will be deemed to have failed to qualify for the next phase. Any abnormal heart sounds must be recorded. For

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a horse to fail to qualify for the next phase on heart rate a second veterinarian must immediately confirm that the horse's heart rate is above the parameter defined in the schedule.

- 821.2.9 Respiratory System: Abnormalities in rate or character of the breathing deemed by the Veterinary Commission to be of such a nature as to endanger the safety of the horse will be cause for failure to qualify for the next phase.
- 821.2.10 General Condition and Metabolic Status: Horses in a generally poor condition or with an abnormally high temperature will fail to qualify for the next phase.  
Metabolic Status: The metabolic Status will be assessed by the examination and recording of those parameters that indicate the horses fitness to continue including (but not exclusive to) mucous membranes, capillary refill time, hydration, intestinal activity, demeanour and cardiac recovery index.  
Failure to qualify for the next phase, for metabolic status, soft tissue injuries or other reasons will require a review by a three-vet panel who will, by secret individual vote for a pass or fail, communicate their vote directly to a member of the Ground Jury.
- 821.2.11 Irregularity of Gaits:  
At the first or the final inspection or any inspection during the course, a horse with an irregularity of gait; which must be consistently observable at trot, or an equivalent gait; and is observable through evaluation by trotting the horse on a loose lead in hand straight out and back, without prior flexion or deep palpation; which must be observed to cause pain, or threaten the immediate ability of the horse to safely perform athletically; will be removed from competition and will fail to have qualified for the next phase.
- 821.2.11.1 The inspection must be run on a flat firm surface.
- 821.2.11.2 If, after having once trotted the horse, the observing Veterinarian questions the horse's fitness to continue, the horse will be re-trotted by a three-vet panel. The vet panel review must be carried out under the observation of three veterinarians who will by secret individual vote opt for a pass or fail and communicate their vote directly to a member of the Ground Jury.
- 821.2.11.3 Any of the three veterinarians can call for a further trot up prior to voting if they so wish, giving the horse and Athlete the benefit of the doubt, and will communicate that request to the member of the Ground Jury present who will request the horse be trotted again. The ultimate decision based upon the majority vote from the three veterinarians, independent and without discussion, will then be final.
- 821.2.11.4 However, if the panel is still unable to conclude based upon 3 attempts (one by the original examining veterinarian and twice by the panel) that the horse is fit to continue, whether it is because of a presentation failure or according to veterinary criteria, the horse will be eliminated.
- 821.2.11.5 Any unusual feature about a horse's gait must be noted on the veterinary card of the horse, whether it is deemed grounds for elimination or not.
- 821.2.12 Soreness, Laceration and Wounds: Any evidence of soreness, lacerations and wounds in the mouth, on the limbs and on the body, including girth and saddle galls, must be recorded. If participation in or continuation of the competition is bound to seriously aggravate any such soreness, lacerations or wounds, the horse will not be allowed to continue.
- 821.2.13 Shoes and Feet: Horses may be ridden without shoes, but if shod they must be correctly shod and the shoes must be in a suitable condition for the competition. Horses which are shod at the first inspection may cross the finish line without one or more shoes. Equi-boots and pads are allowed. However, in all cases, the ongoing condition of the horse's feet and its adverse effect on the horse's immediate ability to perform athletically or which is observed to be causing the horse pain in proceeding shall mean the horse has failed to qualify for the next phase.

## **ENDURANCE RULES**

### **821.3 Individual Veterinary Cards**

The individual veterinary cards (vet cards) must be issued before the first inspection and be completed after each inspection.

### **821.4 Final Inspection**

At the Final Inspection, the first trot-up of all horses must be in front of a panel of three members of the Veterinary Commission. A member of the panel may ask to see the horse trot only one more time before voting takes place.

At the Final Inspection which takes place after the horse crosses the finish line of the competition, there is only one presentation allowed and must be within the time allowed as defined.

821.4.1 To qualify for presentation to the veterinary commission at the final inspection the horse's heart rate must have attained 64 bpm or less within 30 min (or the parameters as detailed in the schedule) of crossing the finish line. Horses that do not meet these criteria will not be classified and must still be presented to the veterinary commission for inspection within 30 minutes after crossing the finish line.

821.4.2 In any case, pulse must be taken and registered on the vet card within the time limit shown in the schedule.

821.4.3 The Final Inspection is to determine whether the horse is still fit to continue, to be ridden after a normal rest period for another full phase and it will be performed in the same manner as previous inspections with the same control and criteria as the inspections during the course with the exception that only one opportunity to qualify for presentation is allowed. Each horse shall also be checked against its vet card.

821.4.4 At all Endurance Competitions of 160 km in one day or of an average of 100 km on 2 or more days, all competing horses must remain in the stable area of the Ride to stay under Veterinary supervision for a period of hours after the finishing time as established by the Veterinary Commission.

### **821.5 Other Inspections**

Other inspections may be carried out by the Ground Jury or the official veterinarians on all or any horses selected at random at any time during the course of the competition.

## **Article 822 - BEST CONDITION AWARD**

**822.1** The OC may organise a Best Condition Award at all FEI Endurance Events.

**822.2** The purpose of this Award is to find the horse which is in the best condition having completed the event and been classified among the best horses (maximum the first ten horses).

**822.3** A horse can only be entered in the Best Condition Award if it successfully completes the competition in a riding time which is within an additional percentage of the winning time, to be decided by the Ground Jury.

**822.4** Horses which enter the Best Condition Award are deemed to be still in the competition until after the prize giving ceremony for the Best Condition Award.

**822.5** Athletes are not obliged to enter their horse in the Best Condition Award.

**822.6** The procedure laid down in the Endurance Notes for Guidance should be used to establish the Best Condition Award. All entrants in the Best Condition Award remain subjected to medication control.



## **ENDURANCE RULES**

### **Article 823 - VETERINARY TREATMENT DURING COMPETITION**

Veterinary treatment may not be administered to a horse during the competition without the written approval of the Veterinary Commission. Authorised treatment does not affect classification of the horse. (see FEI Veterinary Regulations)

## **Chapter IV Officials for Endurance Events**

Criteria in respect of appointment, promotion and maintenance of status for all FEI Endurance Officials will be published regularly on the FEI web site in accordance with the published education and standards criteria.

### **Article 824 - DUTIES OF OFFICIALS**

#### **824.1 Ground Jury**

- 824.1.1 The Ground Jury will supervise all arrangements made by the Organising Committee for the judging, veterinary control and timekeeping of the Endurance competition.
- 824.1.2 The Organising Committee shall enlist the assistance of other officials, stewards and veterinarians, according to the number of entries, but the Ground Jury will remain in overall control of the competition.

#### **824.2 Technical Delegate/Course Designer**

- 824.2.1. The Technical Delegate must, in coordination with the FEI approved Course designer (if appointed) check and approve, in advance, the layout of the course. For 1\*, 2\* and 3\* events the Technical Delegate may also act as the Course Designer. For 4\* and Championships the FEI will appoint an FEI approved Course Designer in association with the Organising Committee who must participate in the course design with the OC.
- 824.2.2. The Technical Delegate must approve the technical and administrative arrangements for the conduct of the event: for the correct entry procedures, examinations and inspections of horses; for the accommodation of horses and Athletes and for the stewarding of the event.
- 824.2.3. The Technical Delegate will supervise the briefing(s) and the conduct of all technical personnel.
- 824.2.4. The Technical Delegate will investigate all aspects and report to and advise the Ground Jury on any decisions they are required to make.
- 824.2.5. Until the Technical Delegate has reported to the Ground Jury that he is satisfied with all the arrangements, the authority of the Technical Delegate shall be absolute. Thereafter the Technical Delegate will continue to supervise the technical and administrative conduct of the event and will advise and assist the Ground Jury, the Veterinary Commission and the Organising Committee.
- 824.2.6. At 3 Star or lower star rated events, the Technical Delegate, if suitably qualified, may also serve on the Ground Jury.
- 824.2.7. At 4 Star events, the Technical Delegate must be foreign.

#### **824.3 Veterinary Commission**

- 824.3.1 The Veterinary Commission has absolute control on all matters concerning horses' safety, health and welfare. The FEI Veterinary Regulations apply to all FEI-sanctioned Endurance rides.
- 824.3.2 The President of the Veterinary Commission and the Foreign Veterinary Delegate should be consulted by the OC and the TD as early as practicable regarding planning for vet gates and other horse safety issues at the event.
- 824.3.3 At 1 Star events, the President of the Veterinary Commission will also be responsible for the duties normally undertaken by a Foreign Veterinary Delegate.

## **ENDURANCE RULES**

### **824.4 Chief Steward**

- 824.4.1 The Chief Steward is responsible for the organisation of stewarding throughout the event.
- 824.4.2 The Chief Steward must ensure that stable security is adequate for the level of event and that sufficient stewards are available at each Vet Gate and on course.
- 824.4.3 The Chief Steward assists the Organising Committee, Ground Jury and Technical Delegate to ensure the smooth running of all defined functions during a competition such as opening and closing ceremonies or any required organised function within the competition.
- 824.4.4 The Chief Steward is responsible for the overall security and welfare of participants at the event.
- 824.4.5 The Chief Steward must liaise closely with the President of the Ground Jury, the Technical Delegate and the President of the Veterinary Commission, and should be consulted by the OC and the TD as early as practicable regarding planning for the event.

**824.5 Appeal Committee:** The duties of the Appeal Committee are as laid down in the General Regulations and in the Veterinary Regulations.

## **Article 825 - OFFICIALS REQUIRED FOR INTERNATIONAL ENDURANCE EVENTS**

### **825.1 World Championships**

- 825.1.1 The Ground Jury must consist of a President and at least four members chosen from the FEI list of Endurance Judges, one of which must be foreign, appointed by the FEI in consultation with the FEI Endurance Committee and the OC. All members must meet the then-current \*Rating requirements for Endurance Judges.
- 825.1.2 The Veterinary Commission must consist of a President, a Foreign Veterinary Delegate and one additional veterinarian per 15 horses, with the minimum number of commission members being 5, including the PVC and the FVD. At least half of the members must be foreign, chosen from the FEI list of Endurance veterinarians and appointed by the FEI in consultation with the FEI Endurance Committee and the OC. All members must meet the then-current \*Rating requirements for Endurance veterinarians.
- 825.1.3 The Endurance Veterinary Treating Officials (EVTs) must be approved FEI Treatment Veterinarians appointed by the FEI in consultation with the FEI Endurance Committee and the FEI Veterinary Committee. There must be a minimum of 1 EVT per 20 competing horses. At least 50% of the EVT's must be experienced in CEI competition at the Championship level.
- 825.1.4 The Foreign Technical Delegate must be chosen from the FEI list of Endurance Technical Delegates and appointed by the FEI in consultation with the FEI Endurance Committee and the OC and meet the then-current \*Rating requirements for Endurance Technical Delegates.
- 825.1.5 The Chief Steward must be chosen from the FEI list of Endurance Chief Stewards and shall be appointed by the OC.
- 825.1.6 The FEI approved Course Designer will be appointed by the FEI in consultation with the FEI Endurance Committee and in consultation with the OC.
- 825.1.7 Appeal Committee: The General Regulations apply, such Appeal Committee being compulsory and appointed by the FEI in consultation with the FEI Endurance Committee and in consultation with the OC.

### **825.2 CEIO's, Regional Games and Continental Championships for Seniors, Young Riders and/or Juniors and other CEI 4 Star Endurance Events**

- 825.2.1 The Ground Jury must consist of a President and at least three members chosen from the FEI list of Endurance Judges, one of which must be Foreign, appointed by the FEI in consultation with FEI Endurance Committee and the OC. All members must meet the then-current \*Rating requirements for Endurance judges.
- 825.2.2 The Veterinary Commission must consist of a President, a Foreign Veterinary Delegate and one additional veterinarian per 15 horses, with the minimum number of commission members being 5 including the President and the FVD.

## ENDURANCE RULES

At least half of the members must be foreign, chosen from the FEI list of Endurance veterinarians and appointed by the FEI in consultation with Endurance Committee and the OC. All members must meet the then-current \*Rating requirements for Endurance veterinarians.

- 825.2.3 At CEI 4 Star events, the Endurance Veterinary Treating Officials (EVTs) at the venue must be FEI approved Treatment Veterinarians appointed by the FEI in consultation with the FEI Endurance Committee and the FEI Veterinary Committee. There must be a minimum of 1 EVT per 20 competing horses. At least 50% of the EVT's must be experienced in CEI competition at the Championship level.
- 825.2.4 The Foreign Technical Delegate must be chosen from the FEI list of Endurance Technical Delegates and appointed by the FEI in consultation with the FEI Endurance Committee and the OC and meet the then-current \*Rating requirements for Endurance Technical Delegates.
- 825.2.5 An FEI approved Course designer is required who is appointed by the OC.
- 825.2.6 The Chief Steward must be chosen from the FEI list of Endurance Chief Stewards and shall be appointed by the OC.
- 825.2.7 Appeal Committee: The General Regulations apply, such Appeal Committee being compulsory and appointed by the FEI in consultation with the FEI Endurance Committee and in consultation with the OC.

### **825.3 CEI 3 Star Endurance Events**

- 825.3.1 The Ground Jury must consist of a President and a Foreign Judge chosen from the FEI list of Endurance Judges and appointed by the OC for a maximum of 30 entries. An additional Jury member is required for each additional 30 entries up to a maximum of four Judges to include the President. Other members, if any, may be National Endurance Judges appointed by the OC. All members must comply and meet the requirements of the then-current \*Rating requirements for Endurance judges.
- 825.3.2 The Veterinary Commission must consist of a President and two members from the FEI list of Endurance veterinarians appointed by the OC. One of them must be foreign. There must be a minimum one Commission Veterinarian per 20 competing horses. All such members must meet the then-current \*Rating requirements for Endurance Veterinarians All other members must be experienced Endurance Veterinarians and appointed by the OC.
- 825.3.3 There must be a minimum of 1 Endurance Veterinary Treating Official (EVT) at the venue from the FEI list of approved Treatment Veterinarians per 30 competing horses.
- 825.3.4 The Technical Delegate must be chosen from the FEI list of Endurance Technical Delegates and appointed by the OC and meet the then-current \*Rating requirements for Endurance Technical Delegates. The Technical Delegate may act as a member of the Ground Jury once the competition begins.
- 825.3.5 The Chief Steward must be chosen from the FEI list of Endurance Chief Stewards and appointed by the OC.
- 825.3.6 An Appeal Committee is not required.

### **825.4 CEI 1 & 2 Star Endurance Events**

- 825.4.1 CEI 1\* : The Ground Jury must consist of a President who must comply and meet the requirements of the then-current \*Rating requirements for Endurance judges. The Official to be chosen from the FEI list of Endurance Judges appointed by the OC for a maximum of 30 entries. An additional Jury member is required for each additional 40 entries up to a maximum of four Judges to include the President. Other members, if any, may be experienced National Judges.
- 825.4.2 The Veterinary Commission must consist of an FEI President and a minimum of 2 members who may be National Endurance veterinarians. All National members must be experienced Endurance veterinarians and appointed by the OC.
- 825.4.3 At CEI 1\* events there must be a minimum of 1 Endurance Veterinary Treating Official (EVT) at the venue from the FEI list of approved Treatment Veterinarians per 50 competing horses.

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- 825.4.4 The Technical Delegate must be chosen from the FEI list of Endurance Technical Delegates and appointed by the OC and meet the requirements of the then-current \*Rating requirements for Endurance Technical Delegates . The Technical Delegate may act as a member of the Ground Jury once the competition begins.
- 825.4.5 The Chief Steward must be chosen from the FEI list of Endurance Chief Stewards and appointed by the OC.
- 825.4.6 An Appeal Committee is not required.
- 825.4.7 CEI 2\* : The Ground Jury must consist of a President who must meet the then-current \*Rating requirements for Endurance judges. To be chosen from the FEI list of Endurance Judges appointed by the OC for a maximum of 20 entries. An additional Jury member is required for each additional 20 entries. All other members, if any, may be experienced National Judges.
- 825.4.8 The Veterinary Commission must consist of a President and a minimum of 2 members from the FEI list of Endurance veterinarians appointed by the OC. All such members must meet the then-current \*Rating requirements for Endurance veterinarians. One of them must be foreign. All other members must be experienced Endurance veterinarians and appointed by the OC.
- 825.4.9 At CEI 2\* events there must be a minimum of 1 Endurance Veterinary Treating Official (EVT) at the venue from the FEI list of approved Treatment Veterinarians per 50 competing horses.
- 825.4.10 The Technical Delegate must be chosen from the FEI list of Endurance Technical Delegates and appointed by the OC and meet the requirements of the \*Rating requirements for Endurance Technical Delegates . The Technical Delegate may act as a member of the Ground Jury once the competition begins.
- 825.4.11 The Chief Steward must be chosen from the FEI list of Endurance Chief Stewards and appointed by the OC.
- 825.4.12 An Appeal Committee is not required.

For CEI 1\*, 2\*, CEI 3\* and CEIO competitions, in special circumstances , the FEI has the right to consult with OCs, in a timely manner, to ask for a different balance of experience and expertise within the team of Officials proposed in the schedule of the competition.

At all CEI 1\*, 2\* and 3\* Events, the FEI may grant dispensation to General Regulations Art.149.10 subject to a request being received from the National Federation concerned and compliance with the conditions as detailed in the FEI Endurance Notes for Guidance.

## **Chapter V Awards and Prize-giving Ceremonies**

### **Article 826 - AWARDS**

- 826.1** An award must be given to all Athletes who successfully complete the course.
- 826.2** There is no minimum value for awards in Endurance Rides.
- 826.3** For distribution of prize-money, refer to the FEI General Regulations.

### **Article 827 - PRIZE-GIVING CEREMONIES**

The Veterinary Commission should exclude any unfit horse from participation in the prize-giving ceremony.

## ENDURANCE RULES

### Annex 1: Rated Officials required for competitions:

<b>1*</b>	<b>Ground Jury</b>	President	2* or above
	<b>Technical Delegate</b>		2* or above
	<b>Vet. Commission</b>	President 2 Members	3* or above
	Treatment Veterinarian	President	2*
	Chief Steward		2*
<b>2*</b>	<b>Ground Jury</b>	President	3* or above
	<b>Technical Delegate</b>		3* or above
	<b>Vet. Commission</b>	President 2 Members	3* or above 2* or above
	Treatment Veterinarian	President	3*
	Chief Steward		3*
<b>3*</b>	<b>Ground Jury</b>	President Foreign Judge	4* 3* or above
	<b>Technical Delegate</b>		4* or above
	<b>Vet. Commission</b>	President and/or FVD 2 Members	4* 3* or above
	Treatment Veterinarian	President	4*
	Chief Steward		4*
<b>4*</b>	<b>Ground Jury</b>	President Foreign Judge Members	4* 4* 4*
	<b>Foreign Technical Delegate</b>		4*
	<b>Vet. Commission</b>	President and FVD Panel	4* 4*
	Treatment Veterinarian	President	4*
	Chief Steward		4*