

## FEI Technical Committee overview/comments to the Task Force Proposals

Articles which are considered in need of change/amendment/removal:

RED: Change/Ammendment  
BLUE: Removal  
Yellow: Outstanding

Please note that Annex information will be produced after comment/feedback is received from FEI National Federations.

### 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 speed 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 rider is to ensure the health and welfare of the horse by diligent application of their skill together with a caring, knowledgeable attitude by the rider. 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 be more than **40 km or less than 20 km** in length.

802.2. *Boundary Flags:* Boundary flags or other acceptable indicators must be used to mark defined sections of the entire 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 provide **proper control to ensure** that the obligatory passage is respected.

### Article 807 – Competition & Fair Play

807.1. A rider may lead or follow their horse on course, but must be mounted to pass the start **and end** of any day under penalty of disqualification.

807.2. *Forbidden Assistance:* Please see **Annex** for an itemisation of examples of Forbidden Assistance. However, in general terms the following types of activities are forbidden, subjecting offending riders to possibility of yellow or red card violation, **time penalties** or disqualification at the discretion of the GJ, including but not limited to:

807.2.1. To be followed, preceded or accompanied on any part of the course by any bicycle, pedestrian or a rider not in the competition.

807.2.2. To be provided aid on any part of the course not specifically designated for such aid.

**807.2.3. To accept aid on any part of the course by someone not authorised to provide it.**

### 808.1. Article 809 – Dress Code

809.1. Protective headgear, of a recognised equestrian/endurance standard and adequately secured, is compulsory for all persons at all Endurance events whilst mounted.

809.2. Safe riding footwear with heels of 12 mm or more, or cages/boxed **stirrups/equestrian safety stirrups** are required to compete in a CEI event.

## Article 812 - Weights

**The Committee, whilst accepting the concept under 812.2, do have concerns over removal/reduction of weights but would be willing to accept the amended wording below on a trial basis:**

- 812.1. At all senior CEI 3\* and Championship events, the minimum riding weight for riders **must** be 70kg.
- 812.2. **For 1\* and 2\***, 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.
- 812.3. There shall be no minimum weight in Young Rider and/or Junior competitions.
- 812.4. 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.
- 812.5. Riders must be weighed out and, where necessary, be weighed with all riding equipment (excluding bridle). Such weighed out riding equipment must then be carried by the rider at all times throughout the competition under penalty of disqualification. It is the rider's responsibility to weigh in immediately after crossing the finish line if requested to do so by an FEI Official.
- 812.6. **When a minimum weight is required** riders are allowed to lose a maximum of 2 kilos from their body weight during the ride,
- 812.7. Organisers must provide a reliable weighing machine.

## Article 814 - Duties of Officials

### 814.2. *Technical Delegate*

- 814.2.1. **The Technical Delegate must, in coordination with the Organising Committee check and approve, and participate in course design where possible, in advance the layout of the course.** The Technical Delegate must approve the technical and administrative arrangements for the conduct of the event: for the examinations and inspections of horses; for the accommodation of horses and riders and for the stewarding of the event.

### 814.4. *Chief Steward*

- 814.4.1. The Chief Steward is responsible for the organisation of stewarding throughout the event.
- 814.4.2. 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**.

### 815.3. *CEI 3 Star Endurance Events*

- 815.3.1. There must be a minimum of 1 Treatment Veterinarian from the FEI list of approved **treatment** veterinarians per 30 competing horses.

## Article 816 - Categories of Endurance Rides

- 816.1.1. CEIs are defined in the FEI Calendar. CEIs are divided into four different star levels as follows:

816.1.1.1. **4 Star:** Senior **World and Continental** Championships of a minimum of 160 km in one day, Junior and Young Rider Championships of a **minimum** of 120 km, **maximum 130km** in one day. Maximum Pulse at Vet Gates: 64 bpm within 20 minutes. FEI Passports are required.

816.1.1.2. **3 Star: Regional Championships.** All rides of 140 km – 160 km in one day, or 90-100 km over 2 days, or 70- 80 km over 3 days or more. **However for Regional Championships only the OC can apply for a change of distance to take into account local climatic conditions.** Maximum Pulse at Vet Gates: 64 bpm within 20 minutes. FEI Passports are required.

## **816.2. CEIOs**

816.2.1. 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 Country may enter up to a maximum of six** competitors of the same nationality. **Up to four riders must be declared as a team, with the three best results to** 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.

## **Article 817 - Eligibility**

817.3.2 If a horse is eliminated for metabolic reasons **which require immediate invasive treatment** at any CEI event, it must be given a mandatory minimum rest of **40** days before it is again eligible to participate in a CEI event.

817.3.3. If a horse is eliminated 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.

## **Article 818 - Qualification Procedure & Certificates of Capability:**

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

**818.1.1.** Horses and riders must, though not necessarily as a combination:

**818.1.1.1.** Successfully complete 2 rides of distances of between 40-79 km and 2 rides of between 80-90 km at speeds of 16 kph or under; or alternatively,

**818.1.1.2.** Successfully complete 3 rides of distances of 80-90 km at speeds of 16 kph or under.

**818.1.2.** Riders and Horses must complete the requirements of this qualifying phase within a 24 month period to qualify to take part in FEI competitions.

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

**818.2.1.** All horses and riders must have successfully completed Novice Qualifying to be eligible for CEI Star Qualifying.

**818.2.2.** Horses and riders, not necessarily as a combination must successfully complete FEI competitions to progress through the Star system, beginning with a successful completion at the 1-Star level, thereby qualifying to move up through each Star category as defined in Art 816.

**818.3 4\* Championships:**

- 818.3.1. 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.
- 818.3 Horses must have successfully completed at least 3 CEI 2\* events or higher.
- 818.3 Of these 3 CEI events, at least one must be at the same distance, minimum speed and time frame as the 4-Star Championship and achieved no earlier than 24 months prior to, no later than 60 days before, the close of nominated entries for Championship and must be in combination with the nominated rider.
- 818.3 Riders 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.
- 818.3 Riders must have successfully completed at least 5 CEI 2\* events or higher.
- 818.3 Of those 5 CEI events, one must be at the same distance, minimum speed and time frame as the 4\* Championship and achieved no earlier than 24 months prior to, no later than 60 days before, the close of nominated entries for the Championship and must be in combination with the nominated horse.
- 818.3 *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 is still remains with each NF.

## **Article 819 – Invitations**

### **819.1. CEIs**

The number of officials and competitors, 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 competitors which can be accepted will be stated in the official invitation to National Federations.

### **819..2 CEIOs, and Championships**

A minimum of four competitors and five horses and a maximum of **six** competitors 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.

### **819.3. Grooms**

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

### **819.4. Teams and Individuals**

At Championships, the following applies to individuals and teams who are eligible to take part.

- 819.4.1. *Teams:* If an NF starts 3 or more competitors, they shall (maximum of **6**) have **4** **which** constitute members of their Team, but **all** are also eligible for individual classification and placing/awards.

## **Article 820 - Entries**

**820.1. The General Regulation applies (see Annex).**

## Article 822 - Veterinary Control

822.1. Should a horse who has competed die for any reason within 30 days following a Championship event, the NF of the horse shall provide a written report of same to the FEI Veterinary Committee for review of circumstances as well.

In principle good, but unenforceable in opinion of TC

## Article 823 - Veterinary Inspections and Examinations of Horses

### 823.2. Horse Inspections:

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- 823.2.1. *First Inspection:* Whenever possible, **this 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: **Temperature**, Heart Rate, Respiratory System, General Condition, 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, an example of which is attached herein in **Annex**.
- 823.2.2. *Inspections Generally:* There are no differences between the Veterinarians responsibilities to evaluate a horse between the First Inspection and the Final Inspection. The same standards apply to judging fitness to continue both metabolically and in terms of gait evaluation.
- 823.2.3. *Inspection Decorum:* The inspection areas should remain politely quiet in respect to riders and horses under the stresses of intense competition, and the GJ and Stewards are responsible to enforce that decorum. At the same time, riders and their crews or owners or Team Staffs are also responsible to respect the nature of what is occurring there, the examination 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 Technical Committee may provide a list of specifically prohibited behaviours under threat of disqualification or other discipline in **Annex**. However, this list is not intended to be exhaustive and the good judgment of the GJ and Stewards shall be sacrosanct.
- 823.2.4. *Compulsory Recovery Inspection:* 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-examination, up to 15 minutes before that competitor's scheduled departure time from that Vet Gate.
- 823.2.5. *Requested Recovery-Inspection:* The examining veterinarian may ask a competitor to present their horse for re-**inspection** during its hold time and 15 minutes prior to departure if after passing the horse, the veterinarian retains concerns about the horse's continuing stability.