

ZIMBABWE EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION



SPORT RULES FOR EVENTING

LAST AMMENDED AFTER THE JANUARY 2022 MEETING AND EFFECTIVE 1ST MARCH
2022

PREAMBLE

These National Eventing Regulations should be read in conjunction with the ZEF General National Regulations and the FEI Rules for Eventing, where these rules are silent.

Regulations for Eventing published March 2022 replace and supersede all previously published Eventing Regulations.

It is not possible to provide for every conceivable eventuality in these Rules. If there is no rule to deal specifically with a particular circumstance, or if the nearest interpretation of the pertinent rule would result in an obvious injustice, it is the duty of those responsible to make a decision based on common sense and fair play, thus reflecting as closely as possible the intention of these Eventing Regulations.

“IN ALL EQUESTRIAN SPORTS THE INTERESTS OF THE HORSE MUST BE CONSIDERED PARAMOUNT

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE WELFARE OF THE HORSE.

The Zimbabwe Equestrian Federation expects all those involved in equestrian sport to adhere to this Code of Conduct and to acknowledge and accept that at all times the welfare of the horse must be paramount and 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 should be fit, competent and in good health before they 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 competitive careers are over. This covers proper veterinary care, competition injuries, euthanasia and retirement.
5. The ZEF urges all involved with the sport to attain the highest levels of education in their areas of expertise.

The object of Eventing is to show the Athlete's spirit, boldness and knowledge of training and conditioning his horse to obtain its best performance across country and to show the handiness, courage, jumping ability, speed and control of the well-trained horse.

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SECTION 1 GENERAL EVENTING REGULATIONS

1.0. GENERAL

Eventing constitutes the most complete combined equestrian competition, demanding of the Athlete relevant experience in all branches of equitation and a precise knowledge of the horse's ability, and of the horse a degree of general competence, resulting from intelligent and rational training.

1.0.1 RESPONSIBILITY FOR KNOWING THE RULES

An Athlete is ultimately responsible for knowing these rules and complying with them. The appointment of a steward or official, whether or not provided for in these rules, does not absolve the athlete from such responsibility.

1.1. DEFINITIONS APPLICABLE TO EVENTING

1.0.2 DEFINITIONS

- (a) Eventing General term covering the discipline.
- (b) Event Events comprising Dressage, Cross Country and Showjumping.
 The Event may take place over one, two or even three days.
- (c) International Competitions (CCI).
 These Events shall not be held in Zimbabwe without the special permission of the Central Committee of the Zimbabwe Equestrian Federation.
- (d) National Eventing comprises the same three tests as above. The Dressage Test always takes place first. Either the Cross Country or the Showjumping may form the last test.
- (e) Recognised Event. Shall mean an Event staged by an Organising Committee that has been accepted by the Central Committee of The Equestrian Federation or a Branch Committee in accordance with ZEF Rules, and in respect of which the schedule has been considered and approved by the Central Committee of the ZEF or a Branch Committee.

1.2. APPOINTMENT OF A TECHNICAL DELEGATE

1.2.1 The Branch Committee shall annually appoint at least one, preferably three Technical Delegates. It is recommended that Technical Delegates should either be Official Judges or Course Designers, who shall be given a copy (by the Branch) of the FEI Memorandum for Eventing Sports Rules for Eventing and the General Regulations. The Branch Committee shall, at the beginning of the Season, once the calendar has been approved, appoint a specific Technical Delegate for each event. That appointee shall also act as the ZEF Representative.

1.2.2 The Technical Delegate shall be responsible to the Branch Committee. It is the duty of the Technical Delegate to inspect the course with the Course Designer in advance of the Competition date. In cases of disagreement regarding obstacles, distance etc., the Technical Delegate shall have the final decision. The Technical Delegate shall also be responsible for

calling to the attention of the Organising Committee, and the relevant officials, any breach of the rules and regulations, and insist that they be rectified.

1.2.3 In unforeseen circumstances it shall be the responsibility of the Technical Delegate, after consulting the Cross Country Course Designer and Organising Committee, to decide whether or not an event shall be cancelled or postponed.

The Technical Delegate shall liaise closely with the President of the Ground Jury during the latter's period of jurisdiction.

1.2.4 The Technical Delegate shall report in writing to the Branch Committee, on the general conduct of the Event, and such report shall include details of any irregularities rectified or not.

1.3. APPLICATION OF ZEF GENERAL REGULATIONS

1.3.1 AGE OF HORSES

Horses may only compete from the 1st August of the calendar year in which they reach the age of :-

- a) four years (Or have turned 4) for Eventing 85,
- b) five years (Or have turned 5) for Eventing 95, 105 and CCI1*
- c) six years (Or have turned 6) for Eventing 110 and CCI2*

1.3.2 AGE OF ATHLETES

- a) A child may compete in Eventing Competitions up to Eventing 75 at any age, providing the Organising Committee is satisfied that the child is competent to compete.
- b). A child may compete in Eventing Competitions from January 1st of the year in which they turn 8 years of age, providing the Organising Committee is satisfied that the child is competent to compete.

1.4. CANCELLATION FEE

When an Event is cancelled through no fault of the Organising Committee, and the Event cannot be rescheduled, then the Organising Committee may retain up to 20% of the net entry fee (excluding any levies).

1.5. DRAW FOR ORDER OF STARTING

The Organising Committee of the Event shall draw the order of starting for each competition. If two or more horses ridden by the same Athlete are drawn within five places of each other, then the starting order may be adjusted as far as it is practical. Such Athlete may, at the time of entry, nominate in which order they wish to ride their various horses. Failure to do this will result in the Athlete having to ride in the order of the draw. This provision will not apply to Team Competitions where the team horse must always be ridden first.

The order of starting for all tests shall be the same as that drawn by the Organising Committee for the first test. Except that the order of starting for the Showjumping Test, when it occurs after the Cross Country Test, in Championships will be in reverse order of cumulative penalties of the preceding tests.

If two or more horses ridden by the same athlete are scheduled to start in the Showjumping Test within five places of each other, the starting order may be adjusted upwards provided that the horse(s) concerned are not scheduled to start in the last three places at that stage. Where two or more Tests take place on the same day each horse must be allowed a minimum of 30 minutes between Tests. If the Cross Country takes place before the Showjumping there must be an interval of at least 45 minutes between the finish of the Cross Country and the start of the Showjumping for each horse.

Athletes may not ride out of order. Any request to ride out of order must be referred to the President of the Ground Jury, whose permission shall only be granted in exceptional circumstances.

SECTION 2 GENERAL EVENTING REGULATIONS

2.1. STANDARDS

2.1.1 Standards/Levels. The standard or level of a Class at a Recognised Event.
Eventing 65 Eventing 75, Eventing 85, Eventing 95,
Eventing 105 , CCI1*- L or S (Long or Short)
Eventing 110 , CCI2*- L or S (Long or Short)

2.1.2 A grading system may be introduced at such time when there are sufficient horses to justify this.

2.2. QUALIFICATIONS

2.2.1 QUALIFYING RESULTS (QRs)

In order for a competitor to move up to the next level once in Eventing 85, there is a requirement to achieve the QRs by competing at 2 Recognised Events at the previous level.

a). To move from Eventing 95 and upwards, there is the requirement to complete 2 Events at the lower level without incurring any of the following:

- Dressage Test – not more than 45 penalties (55.00% min)
- Cross Country Test – 0 penalties at obstacles and not exceeding the optimum time by more than 75 seconds.
- Showjumping Test – not more than 16 penalties at obstacles.

These QRs may be achieved as a combination, or separately by athlete and horse.

To qualify for Eventing 105/CCI1*, one QR must be achieved by the combination at Eventing 95.

- b). If a combination is ranked and competing in the calendar year in question at 1.10m in Showjumping and Preliminary Dressage, this combination may commence the Qualification Results at Eventing 95 and not have to qualify in the Eventing 85.
- c). If an athlete has competed, and incurred no jumping penalties in the cross country phase, in a CCI*-Intro or above, they may start a new horse in the Eventing 95.

2.2.2 REVERSE QUALIFICATION

A reverse qualification is the obligation for a Horse to show restored competence at a lower level (QR) after a number of unsuccessful attempts at a certain level. Reverse qualification only applies to the Horse.

A reverse qualification is triggered by two (2) consecutive Cross Country eliminations.

For this purpose the relevant reasons of elimination on Cross Country would be:

- a) Four (4) refusals cumulative, Three (3) refusals at same obstacle.
- b) Fall of Horse or Athlete
- c) Dangerous riding

Reverse qualifications remain unless cleared by a QR.

SECTION 3 THE LEGAL SYSTEM COVERING PROTESTS, APPEALS, ETC

3.1. THE GROUND JURY

The Ground Jury is responsible for the judging of the competition and the final placing of the athletes. It must deal with all cases of violation or infringement of ZEF Regulations and Rules, and with all protests occurring during its period of jurisdiction. The Ground Jury as a whole is responsible for all decisions except where otherwise stated in these rules.

3.2. THE PERIOD OF JURISDICTION

The period of jurisdiction of the Ground Jury extends from the opening of the cross country course until thirty minutes after the announcement of the official result. Any protests lodged during this period shall be dealt with by the Ground Jury and or the Appeal Committee as defined in the ZEF General Regulations.

3.3. LEGAL SYSTEM

All relevant matters regarding the Legal System are covered in full in the ZEF General Regulations.

SECTION 4 GENERAL RULES FOR EVENTING

FEI EVENTING RULES *Article 528*

4.1. SADDLERY/ DRESS

FEI EVENTING RULES Article 538

4.2. ABUSE OF HORSE

4.2.1. Abuse of Horse is defined in the ZEF General Regulations and FEI Eventing Rules Article 526.

4.2.2 No horse may compete more than once at any event.

4.3. MEDICAL AND VETERINARY

4.3.1 A Veterinary Surgeon must be present during the Cross Country and available during Showjumping Tests.

4.3.2 An Ambulance must be present during the Cross-Country phase and the minimum of a Medic at Showjumping and Dressage phases.

4.3.3 Athletes are obliged to submit to the OC full details of their Medical Aid and details of any allergy or medical condition requiring the attention of medical personnel.

4.4. SAFETY

4.4.1 FALLS

At all Events an Athlete will be eliminated after one fall during the competition. An Athlete who has a fall anywhere at the venue during the course of an Event, must have medical clearance from a suitably qualified person before being allowed to continue in competition.

4.5. OFFICIAL NOTICE BOARD

4.5.1 The Organising Committee shall be responsible for providing an Official Notice Board. This should display any official notices concerning any information which needs to be communicated to the Athletes e. g. The notification of Cross Country Course distances and Time Allowed (Optimum Time); time and place of Athlete's Briefing, etc.

SECTION 5 RULES FOR EVENTS

5.1. EVENTS

5.1.1 TESTS

Events shall consist of the following tests for the same combination of horse and athlete: (a) Dressage Test (b) Cross-Country Test (c) Show Jumping Test

5.1.2 ORDER

In Events, the normal order of the three tests, i.e. dressage, cross-country and show jumping, need not necessarily be adhered to, except that the dressage must come first.

5.1.3 TIMING

In Events, tests need not take place on consecutive days, i.e. the dressage test may take place at an earlier date at the discretion of the Organising Committee.

5.1.4 RESTRICTIONS ON SCHOOLING HORSE

At the Event venue and after the official opening of the course for inspection, and for the duration of the Event, it is forbidden under penalty of disqualification for anyone other than the Athletes who will ride the horse in the competition to school a horse. A groom, while mounted, is not permitted to school the horse but only to hack it, exercise it or ride from one place to another. A groom may also work the horse in hand or on the lunge. Under penalty of disqualification, riding close to cross country obstacles, or riding in the Dressage or Showjumping Arenas prior to the actual competition is forbidden.

5.2. DRESSAGE TEST

REFER TO FEI EVENTING RULES Article 542 WHERE RULES ARE NOT STATED

5.2.1 ARENAS

(i) These tests are permitted to be performed in either a 20 x 60 metre arena or a 20 x 40 metre arena. It is recommended that wherever possible they be run in a 20 x 60 metre arena. When a 20 x 40 metre arena is used the Technical Delegate should be advised beforehand.

(ii) The Technical Delegate may, after consultation with the Dressage Judge(s), in circumstances where the arena surround is of a flimsy or insubstantial construction, decide that it shall be treated as "not completely enclosed" in accordance with the relevant Dressage Rule.

5.3. CROSS COUNTRY TEST

REFER TO FEI EVENTING RULES Article 545 WHERE RULES ARE NOT STATED

5.3.1 IDENTIFICATION

Two identification numbers must be worn, one on the chest and one on the back during the Cross-Country Test.

5.3.2 OBSTACLES

An obstacle is considered as such only if its extremities are marked by a Red and White flag. Each obstacle shall have a number placed on the right side. These numbers shall be coloured to correspond to each grade. It is the Athlete's responsibility to jump the obstacle to the left of this number. Each obstacle is considered a separate entity and judged as such.

5.3.3 COURSE PROCEDURES

(a) OVERTAKING. An Athlete who is about to be overtaken by a following Athlete must immediately give way to the following Athlete. When the Athlete is approaching an obstacle and about to be overtaken he must follow the directions of the Officials. Any Athlete overtaking another Athlete must do so only at a safe and suitable place. The penalty for wilful obstruction of an overtaking Athlete, failure to follow the instructions of officials, or causing danger to another Athlete is elimination at the discretion of the Ground Jury. The time during which the Athlete is held up by officials will be recorded and deducted from the time taken by the Athlete to complete the course. Any Athlete disregarding these rules may, at the discretion of the Ground Jury, be eliminated.

5.3.4 FENCE JUDGES

Fence Judges must be appointed for all obstacles on the course, but one Fence Judge may take charge of more than one obstacle, provided that they are all clearly visible to him and he is in a position to maintain adequate control.

5.3.5 ACCESS TO COURSE

It is the OC's decision when the course is closed to competitors.

5.3.6 TIME

Completing the test in more than 20 seconds under time allowed (optimum time) is penalized by 0.4 penalties per second commenced.

Any other is as per FEI rules.

5.3.7 PENALTIES AND ELIMINATION

Refusals, Run outs or circles. First Refusal, run out or circle 20 penalties; Second refusal, run out, circle of horse at same obstacle 40 penalties; Third refusal, run out, circle of horse at same obstacle Elimination; Fourth cumulative refusal, run out or circle on course Elimination.

Eliminated horses on the Cross Country course may not continue and must leave the course at a walk. The horse must be checked by the Course Veterinarian before leaving the venue.

5.3.8 ELIMINATION AND RETIRING

Athletes eliminated or retiring from any part of the course for any reason whatsoever, other than a fall of horse or rider, have no right to continue and they must take every precaution to avoid disturbing other Athletes. Athletes being eliminated as a result of a fall, should have a Medical Check-up before proceeding to the finish area either mounted or dismounted.

5.3.9 REPEAT OFFENDERS

Athletes disregarding this rule will be warned. Persistent offenders will be subject to disciplinary proceedings.

Refer to FEI Rules

5.4. SHOWJUMPING TEST

5.4.1 COURSE

The Showjumping Course Designer and the Technical Delegate are to liaise regarding the standard of the Showjumping Course to be set. The final decision shall rest in the hands of the Technical Delegate prior to the period of jurisdiction of the Ground Jury. Distance and Speed shall conform to the limits shown in Appendix EV/A. The course will be standard Showjumping. There will be approximately 8-12 numbered obstacles including at least one double. The dimensions of the obstacles shall not exceed the limits laid down in Appendix EV/A. Closed combinations are not permitted. A water jump is not permitted but a water ditch, or water tray, with rails over is allowed.

5.4.2 TEST

The Showjumping Test consists of one round of the course judged under Table A of the showjumping rules. There is no jump-off. Time shall be recorded. The order of jumping should be in reverse order of penalties of the previous tests. When the Showjumping Test precedes any of the other tests the Athletes will ride in programme order.

5.4.3 JUDGING

Except for the provisions included in 5.4.4 or 5.4.5 below the Showjumping Test shall be conducted and judged in accordance with the FEI Sports Rules for Showjumping.

5.4.4 PENALTIES

After the signal to start, time will commence either when the Athlete crosses the starting line, or after the expiry of 45 seconds if the Athlete has not crossed the line.

Faults on the Course: Knocking down an obstacle 4 penalties; First run out, refusal or circle 4 penalties; Second run out, refusal or circle 8 penalties, third run out, refusal or circle Elimination in the whole test; fall of rider Elimination; fall of horse Elimination;

Time Penalties. For every commenced period of one second in 0.4 penalties excess of time allowed.

APPENDIX EV/A

DISTANCES AND MAXIMUM DIMENSIONS FOR EVENTING STANDARDS

LEVEL	CROSS COUNTRY TEST										SHOWJUMPING TEST			
	Distance m	Height m	No Ht Spread m	Spread with Ht Top m	Spread with Ht. Bottom m	Brush Fixed m	Brush Overall m	Drop m	Max No of Efforts	Speed mpm	Max No of Obstacles	Max Height m	Spread m	Speed mpm
Eventing75	1200/2000	0.75	1,20	0,90	1,00	0.70	0.85	0,90	15	300	11	0.75	0.80	300
Eventing 85	1800/2600	0.85	1.30	0,90	1,20	0.80	0,95	1,00	20	435	11	0.90	0.95	325
Eventing 95	2000/2800	0.95	1.80	1,00	1,50	0.90	1,05	1,20	24	450	11	1.00	1.05	325
Eventing 105 /CCN*-S (FEI CCI* Intro)	2200/3000	1.05	2.30 /2.40	1,20	1,80	1.00	1.15 /1.25	1,40	28/25	475/ 500	12	1.10	1.15	350
CCI** (FEI CCI**)	2600/3120	1.10	2.80	1.40	2.10	1.10	1.30	1.60	29	520	12	1.15	1.35	350
CCN** (FEI CCI**)	3640/4680								32					

ARENA EVENTING: APPENDIX EV/E

1.1 Definitions

(i) Arena Eventing: An event comprising of Dressage, Cross country and Showjumping within an arena. Normally over one day.

All Eventing Rules will remain in place, with the following exceptions only for Arena Eventing.

5.3.6 Fence Judges

For Arena Eventing there will be one judge, with assistants, for the Cross country and Showjumping phases. The track will be designed so that the judge is able to see all fences. If further assistance is required because a fence is obscured from view it will be provided in the form of helpers notifying the judge with flags.

5.3.12 Method of Starting

There will be no official starter for Arena Eventing. The judge will ring a bell to notify the competitor that they may start and then the time will start as the competitor passes between the start flags.

Appendix: Eventing /A

Distances for Arena Eventing will be influenced by the venue; the Course Designer will build a flowing track within the arena to test both the athlete and horse. The tracks do not have to be built to the specifications of this table for Distance, however all the other criteria will be adhered to.

The Speed mpm for the Cross-Country test will be changed to the following:

Eventing 65 300-325

Eventing 75 300-350

Eventing 85 350-460

Eventing 95 350-480

Eventing 105 400-500