

2018 Rule Updates for Eventing

The time of the year when we can start preparations for a successful 2018 season
FEI registrations for horse and rider due for renewal January 2018

[http://www.equestrian.org.au/sites/default/files/FEI Registration Form 2018 0.pdf](http://www.equestrian.org.au/sites/default/files/FEI%20Registration%20Form%202018%200.pdf)

Rider and /or horse cannot compete in an FEI event unless registration for 2018 has been completed.

EA passport for horses starting in FEI competitions for the first time compulsory

<http://www.equestrian.org.au/forms>

Equestrian Australia National Eventing Rules (updates for 2018 in red)

CHAPTER 7 GENERAL COMPETITION RULES

538 Dress

538.1 General

Whilst riding in Competition, Athletes must ensure that long hair is tied and neat.

538.3 Cross-Country Test

Body protectors are compulsory for this Test, including when schooling over Cross-Country fences, at any time. **A back protector of Beta 3 standard, ASTM standard F1937 or equivalent is recommended**

539.2 Dressage Test

539.2.2 Permitted

c) A breast plate may be used.

d) Ear hoods are permitted for all Events and may also provide noise reduction. However, ear hoods must not cover the Horse's eyes and ear plugs are not permitted (with the exception of Dressage Rules Art.428.7.2). **The ear hoods should be discreet in colour and design.**

e) Neck straps are permitted in test at levels EvA95 and below, and at EvA105 and above in warm-up only.

For drawings of permitted bits and nosebands, see Dressage Rules – Saddlery, table Bits and table Nosebands.

539.2.3 Forbidden

Martingales, bit guards, any kind of gadgets (such as bearing, side, running or balancing reins, etc.), **neck straps at levels EvA105 and above**, any form of blinkers, earplugs, nose covers and saddle covers, are under penalty of elimination, strictly forbidden, see Dressage Rules and Art. 538.2.1 above.

False tails are permitted provided they are not weighted or otherwise enhanced in any way whatsoever.

539.3 Cross Country and Jumping Tests

539.3.1 Permitted

The type of saddlery is optional. Gags or “bitless bridles” are allowed as are unrestricted running martingales or Irish martingales. Reins must be attached to the bit(s) or directly to the bridle. The stirrup iron and stirrup leathers must hang free from the bar of the saddle and outside of the flap. **Neck straps are permitted.**

Blood on Horses

Blood on Horses may be an indication of abuse of Horse and must be reviewed case by case by the Ground Jury or Technical Delegate in consultation with the Veterinarian at CNC.

In minor cases of blood in the mouth, such as where a Horse appears to have bitten its tongue or lip, or minor bleeding on limbs, after investigation the Ground Jury Technical Delegate in consultation with the Veterinarian at CNC may authorise the Athlete to continue.

All rules regarding bits, bridles and nosebands must be read in conjunction with FAQ,s for Eventing

<http://inside.fei.org/sites/default/files/2017%20Use%20of%20Tacks%20Equipment%20%26%20Dress%20-%202014%20Nov%202017.pdf>

Summary of Approved or Not Permitted equipment for FEI Dressage Events

http://inside.fei.org/system/files/1_New%20approved%20equipment%202017%20-%20DRE_update%2007.11.17.pdf

FEI Eventing Rule Updates for 2018

[http://inside.fei.org/sites/default/files/2018%20Eventing%20Rules%20December%202017%20-%20changes%20highlighted .pdf](http://inside.fei.org/sites/default/files/2018%20Eventing%20Rules%20December%202017%20-%20changes%20highlighted.pdf)

CIC now Short Format

CCI now Long Format

526.4 Blood on Horses

Blood on Horses and must be reviewed case by case by the Ground Jury. **Not all cases of blood will lead to elimination.**

In minor cases of blood in the mouth, such as where a Horse appears to have bitten its tongue or lip, or minor bleeding, after investigation **in consultation with the Veterinarian**, the Ground Jury may authorise the Athlete to continue. **The cases indicating Abuse of Horse will be dealt with according to the provision of Art. 526.2 (Abuse of Horse – Warnings and Penalties).**

7.1. **Ear hoods** are permitted for all Events, and may also provide noise reduction. However, ear hoods must not cover the horse's eyes and ear plugs are not permitted, with the exception of Article 428.7.2. The ear hoods should be discreet in colour and design.

Ear hoods may not be attached to the noseband.

These updates are a summary of dress and saddlery requirements, there are other updates throughout the rule books which all officials and competitors need to be aware of.