



General Regulations

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Based on the General Regulations of the Fédération Equestre Internationale

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INTRODUCTION

As from the date of publication of the present edition of the General Regulations, all other texts covering the same matter (in Sport Rules, previous editions, official minutes or any memoranda) issued prior to this date are superseded.

Article 99 – General Regulations and Sport Rules

These General Regulations (GRs) are published under the authority of the EA Board.

The General Regulations (GRs) are established so that individual Athletes and teams of Athletes may compete against each other under fair and equal conditions, with Horse Welfare being paramount.

The GRs and Sport Rules govern the conduct of all equestrian activities and Events organised by affiliated or licensed organisations or by or on behalf of Equestrian Australia (EA).

Sport Rules are published, under the authority of the EA Board, for each of the Sports.

FEI Veterinary Regulations and FEI Equine Anti-Doping and Medication Control Rules are published to protect the health and wellbeing of horses and to enable Athletes to participate in equestrian Competitions under fair and equal conditions.

Special Regulations are established to govern the conduct of National Championships, Special Events, Series or Competitions. They are published under the authority of the EA Board and National Sport Committees (NSCs).

The GRs, Sport Rules and Special Regulations apply to equestrian Events and/or Competitions organised by persons or bodies affiliated to EA, or otherwise under the jurisdiction of EA.

Sport Rules and Special Regulations must be read in conjunction with the GRs. In cases of conflict of interpretation between the provisions of the Sport Rules or Special Regulations, the GRs will take precedence.

All EA Affiliated groups and all Organising Committees running EA sanctioned Events must use EA or FEI Accredited Officials only, as outlined in Article 100 (1)

Officials accredited by EA and/or FEI are responsible for the implementation of all FEI and/or EA GRs and Rules at official EA Events they are appointed to.

All EA affiliated groups and all OCs must abide by the FEI and/or EA GRs and Rules when organising any EA Event or Competition.

In cases of doubt about the interpretation of Articles or their application to particular circumstances, OCs should obtain a ruling from the EA National Office.

Chapter I Equestrian Activity, Events and Competitions

Article 100 – EA Activity Classification

1. Official and Closed Equestrian Activity conducted under the relevant sport rules may be classified as either Competitive activity; Participation activity or Restricted activity and must abide by the respective conditions as stated below:

Event/Activity type		Discipline Specific Activity							Conditions
		Dressage	Jumping	Eventing	Show Horse	Vaulting	Driving	Interschools	
Official events	Competitive	Grand Prix Intermediate II Intermediate I Prix St George Advanced Medium Elementary Novice Prelim FEI Para-Equestrian	1.05m and above	5 Star 4 Star 3 Star 2 Star 1 Star EvA95	National Championship State HOY Championship	FEI Level Competition (CVI3*, CVI2*, CVI1*) Open Advanced	FEI CAI Level Competitions EA CAN Level Competitions EA Drive -2 EA Drive-1	National Championship State Championship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be an EA Competitor member • Horse must hold EA Full Horse Registration • Must meet state competition licence requirements
	Participation	Novice Prelim Prep EA National Para-Dressage	1.04m and below	EvA80	Affiliated events*	Intermediate Novice Pre-novice Preliminary Barrel	EA Drive-2 EA Drive-1	Regional Events**	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be minimum EA Participant member • EA Horse Registration (Full or Base) is encouraged and may be enforced (<i>for bio-security purposes</i>) • For Jumping 1.04m and below EA Horse Registration (Full or Base) is mandatory • Competition licence not required
Closed events	Restricted	Definition- Club activities for club members against other club members of the same club. Classes or training activities may be of any discipline level but must abide by the conditions of a closed event; AND/OR club activities for club members against invited EA members to a maximum level of class as defined as participation activity.				Conditions - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entries open to members of the host club only • Horses do not have to be registered • Can only be conducted by EA Club Affiliates – not Sport Affiliates or Commercial groups • Classes may be of any discipline level 			

*In the discipline of Show Horse only, EA affiliated Ag Shows are exempt from Show Horse entrants requiring EA membership. Entrants into all other official Club or affiliated events require EA Participant membership at a minimum.

**In the State of QLD only, Regional Events are classified as Interschool events from Rockhampton and north with EA Participant membership the minimum requirement unless wishing to qualify for QLD State Championships (EA Competitor membership then required). All other Interschool events in QLD (all events south of Rockhampton) are classified as Competitive activities and EA Competitor membership is required for entry.

An EA Competitor member may compete/participate at any level per discipline. An EA Participant member may only compete/participate at levels of each discipline classified as participation activities (i.e. below the line only). For specific requirements for the allocation of grading points refer to the respective discipline rules – where a competition licence is required, the member must be an EA Competitor Member.

Refer to the EA Membership and Committee By-laws for membership, affiliation and registration category definitions.

Article 101 – International Events

1. International Events are only those Events that have been sanctioned by the FEI and are run under FEI Rules.
2. Applications to hold an International Event must be approved by the EA National Office and the relevant EA Sport Committee in time for the FEI Calendar Deadline in the year prior to the Event
3. International Events must be organised under the FEI Statutes, FEI GRs, Special Regulations and FEI Rules for the relevant Sport.

Article 102 – EA National (“Australian”) Championships and other Named EA Events & Competitions

1. EA National Championships (called “EA Australian Championships”) for each of the Sports are allocated and sanctioned by EA and the respective National Sport Committee on a 2- to 3-year rolling calendar. Expressions of Interest to host these Events may be submitted to the respective National Sport Committee, which will allocate the Events on such terms as published in the Sport Rules and as it may determine from time to time. The National Calendar will be monitored by the EA National Office to avoid clashes of major Events and Championships across the Sports. National Events may be limited to specific categories such as Young Rider or Ponies etc.
2. The EA Board approves all dates for National Events. EA Australian Championships and other named EA Events must use the official logo of EA on the cover of all programmes, schedules and posters.
3. EA Australian Championships and other National Title Events take precedence over all other Events
4. All EA Australian Championships will be organised under special conditions set by the relevant Sport and EA.
5. All Championships must be organised under the EA and/or FEI GRs, Policies and By-Laws and where applicable under the FEI Veterinary Regulations.
6. Other named EA Events and Competitions may be established by the EA National Board and the relevant Sport Committees in accordance with Sport Rules.

7. Prizes/prize money/trophies for all EA Australian Championships are subject to the EA GRs and the relevant Sport Rules.
8. The relevant National Sport Committee approves all schedules for EA Australian Championships and other National Title Events.
9. At EA Australian Championships and other National Events, Show programmes must include the registered information of owners, breeder, breed, sire, dam, sire of dam, colour, sex and age of all horses, if such information has been provided on the entry form.
10. Only EA may authorise equestrian Competitions/Events to include the terms “Australian” or “National”.

Article 103 – State, Regional, and Club Events

1. State Championships for each of the Sports are authorised by the EA State Branch or State Sport Authority and endorsed by the respective National Sport Committee. State Championships are open to all members of EA, subject to EA activity classification and conditions of the classes conducted. Prizes/prize money or “Value in Kind” must be awarded for all State Championships for an amount set down by the State Sport Authority.
2. Regional Championships, e.g. for clubs and their members domiciled in a specified region of a State, for each of the Sports are authorised by the EA State Branch or State Sport Authority. Regional Championships are normally open to all EA members, although Regional Championship titles may be restricted to Athletes domiciled in the specified region or by the EA Activity classification table (Article 100)
3. Club Championships for each of the Sports must be submitted to the State Sport Authority for scheduling/approval. Club Championships can either be “open” or restricted to Club Members only. If Club Championships are not open Events, then these Competitions are not regarded as Official Competitions, and performances are not valid for grading purposes.
4. Only the State Sport Authority may authorise Competitions/Events to include the term “Name of State/Region”.

Article 104 – Local Activities/Events/Competitions

At Local Events, all Competitions in EA Sports must be organised under the EA GRs and EA Sport Rules. Local Events may comprise of the following:

Official Competitive activities are open to EA Competitor Members. Horses must be EA-registered, and State-specific Competition Licence requirements must be met. Official Competitions/Events are conducted under the EA GRs and the EA Sport Rules. Events that are restricted to a specific breed, age or type of horse may not attract grading points as set down by the EA Sport Rules.

1. Official Participation Activities are open to all members of EA, and horse registration requirements are to be determined by the State Branch/Activity/Event/OC and may be enforced for bio-security purposes. Participation Events can be limited to Athletes of certain categories stated by the OC, e.g. EA Participant members.
2. Official Training Events are normally open to all Athletes who are members of EA, and Horse Registration requirements are to be determined by the Activity/Event/Competition OC and may be enforced for bio-security purposes. Training Events do not require approval from the State Sport Authority. Training Events can be limited to Athletes of certain categories stated by the OC, e.g. Club Members.
3. The State Sport Authority is responsible for the scheduling and approval of all requested dates.

4. All dates of Local Events that are Official Activities as stated on the programme must be sent to the State Sport Authority as early as possible to be approved and included on the Approved Sport Event Calendar.
5. Individual foreign Athletes, other than “Athletes Living Abroad as defined by the FEI, may take part in official activities, provided they have obtained permission from their own NF and from EA. Permission must state the exact period for which it has been granted, and the home NF of individual foreign Athletes must indicate their level in writing so that they are entered in Events and competitions of appropriate level.
6. Closed Club/Restricted activities and for club members against other club members of the same club. Classes or training activities may be of any discipline level but must abide by the conditions of a closed event, and/or club activities for club members against invited EA members to a maximum level of class as defined as Participation Activity. Closed activities do not require approval from the State Sport Authority, may be conducted at any time in conjunction with any other event type (e.g. Official Competitive, etc.). Closed Club/Restricted activities can only be conducted by current EA Club Affiliates.

Article 105 – FEI-Named Events

1. FEI-Named Events are the Championships, Series and Competitions which have been established and/or approved by the FEI Bureau.
FEI-named Events shall always contain the letters "FEI".

Article 106 – Allocation of National (“Australian”) Championships and Other Major Events

1. Australian Championships shall be allocated on advice by the relevant National Sport Committee and in accordance with this article, the relevant Sport Rules and the agreement between EA and the OC.

In principle, EA will not allocate more than one Australian Championship for Seniors in the Olympic disciplines in any one year.

Applications to become the OC for all Australian Championships must be submitted no later than 01 September, two years prior to when the Australian Championship is due to take place, so that the OC can be decided by EA.

When applying, the applicant must submit the location and date on which they intend to deliver the Australian Championships and must agree to comply with EA working agreements.

If no suitable application to organise an Event has been received within the presented time limit, an appropriate allocation may be made by EA.

Article 107 – Competitions

1. Separate Competitions for the following standard categories of Athletes may be included in the schedules for all Events unless stated otherwise in the rules.

1.1 Seniors

1.2 Young Riders

1.3 Juniors

1.4 Participants

1.5 Pony Riders

1.6 Children

1.7 Veterans

Sport Rules may include other Separate Competitions such as Ladies, Students, Rural riders,

etc.

In Competitions open to more than one category, a separate classification may be used to decide the winner of each category.

In Competitions open to more than one category, there shall be only one draw for the starting order.

Article 108 – Titles of Events/Competitions

Each of the Events may be classified as follows:

1. Official Competitive Event/Competition (Athletes must be EA Competitor member and horses hold Full Registration with EA)
 2. Official Participation Event/Competition (Athletes must be at least a Participant member of EA)
 3. Official Training Event/Competition
 4. Official Regional Event State Championships of each Sport for all competitor relevant to the activity classification level and in particular of events organised by or on behalf of EA for Athletes from a well - defined geographical area, in that case the State
 5. Australian Championships of each Sport and in particular of events organised by or on behalf EA for Athletes from any area in Australia
 - Horse of the Year Show (HOTY)
 - Young Horse Event/Competition (YH) (in relevant Sports)
 - International Events
 - FEI-Named Events (i.e. FEI World Cup)
 - Interschool Events
 - Young Rider Events
- The Club and/or OC of any Event must be affiliated to EA or licensed by EA to conduct the Event.

Article 109 – Organisation of Events

1. All Events must have an Event Schedule and Entry Form, which clearly states that the EA GRs, the relevant Sport Rules, and/or the FEI GRs and Rules apply.
 2. If a Competition under other rules is included during the course of an Event, EA Rules come into force as soon as the results of the Competition under other rules have been announced. The EA and /or FEI GRs, Policies, By- Laws and Sport Rules remain in force throughout the Event.
 3. Stable, yards and portable yards (if used) must be a minimum of 3 metres x 3 metres and be of safe and solid construction.
 - OCs have the right:
 - o To cancel any class or Event.
 - o To divide any class.
 - o To alter advertised times.
 - o Refuse any entry.
 - o Transfer Athletes between sections of a class.
 - o To alter or amend the schedule as the OC sees fit. (refer Article 115.1)
- OCs of Events must send to the EA State Branch within one week following the conclusion of the Event and preferably in electronic form:
- o The results of Official Competitions (i.e. placings, plus percentage points, penalties, faults

or other scores relevant to each Sport) and the number of starters in all Competitions forming part of the Event

- o The prize money paid out for each place for all Competitions.
- o A copy of the programme of the Event, when available.
- o The names of Officials.

OCs of all EA Events should provide medical assistance and other facilities so first aid is readily available. Where Sport Rules outline a minimum medical standard they must be complied with.

OCs of all EA Events must have a documented Risk Management Plan and ensure that safety precautions are taken.

OCs of all EA Events must ensure that suitable facilities for horses and riders are available.

OCs of all EA Events are bound by and must apply the EA Code of Conduct.

Article 110 – Schedules for Events

1. The OC must publish/provide Event Schedules for all Events at least four weeks prior to the Event commencing. Any changes to the Event Schedule must be notified to all Athletes and Officials as soon as possible. OCs are encouraged to publish their Event Schedules in official EA publications or State Branch publications and the EA web event calendar and other web sites.
2. All schedules must give the dates and location of the Event and the conditions under which entries will be received. The schedule will include the following:
 - o The Sport(s) in which Competitions will be held.
 - o Event classification (Official or Closed)
 - o The programme of Competitions.
 - o Whether the competitions will be indoors or outdoors.
 - o If possible the type and dimension of arenas and all courses.
 - o The stabling and accommodation available.
 - o For championships classes, how the champion is determined.
 - o The value of the prizes and prize money and how and when they are distributed.
 - o Disclaimer of liability.
 - o Reservation of rights.
 - o Whether or not dogs are permitted on the grounds.
 - o That GST on the prize money will be paid only to prize winners who provide their registered ABN, and withholding tax will be deducted when required from prize money won.
3. All schedules must include a statement that the Event will be held under EA GRs and Sport Rules and where applicable FEI GRs and Rules.
4. All program 'booklets' where 'produced' should include the following:
 - o A statement that the Event is held under EA GRs and Sport Rules and where applicable FEI GRs and Rules.
 - o Timetable of Competition Classes and Tests.
 - o List of entries.
 - o List of officials, including Organiser, Technical Delegate, Ground Jury, Appeal Committee,

Veterinary and Medical Officers.

- Whether presentations of prizes are mounted or unmounted.
 - “FEI Welfare of the Horse” statement
 - EA Code of Conduct.
5. The following additional items may be included:
- Plans of courses.
 - Rule on unauthorised assistance.
 - Brief rules and system of scoring.
 - The logos and/or emblems of EA and the relevant Sport, subject to the approval of any such use by EA or the relevant Sport respectively.

Article 111 – Events with Borrowed Horses

1. Events or Competitions may be organised with horses provided by the OC according to the Rules of the appropriate Sport.
2. The relevant Rules and the Event Schedule must state whether home Athletes may ride their own horses.
3. The horses must wear their usual bit and bridle which must not be changed during the Event unless permission is given by or on behalf of the owner of the horse.
4. Each Athlete will be given the opportunity to ride the horse obtained in the draw in riding sessions according to the rules established by the OC.
5. If there is an apparent complete incompatibility between horse and Athlete, the OC may substitute a reserve horse at the discretion of the Ground Jury.
6. The Person Responsible is the Athlete. In the case of a Borrowed Horse, the PR is also the Athlete, but the Owner or the person who is normally in charge of the horse may also be considered as an additional PR.

Article 112 – The Official Calendar

1. The relevant National Sport Committee must submit the dates for Australian Championships and International Events to the National Office for approval and inclusion on the rolling calendar.
2. The National Sport Committee shall send notice of the places and dates of Events intended to be conducted by that Sport to the EA National Office as soon as possible and make such information available on request.
3. A National Calendar will be established and once approved, published in official EA publications and on web sites
4. The Official Calendar for each Sport shall be established by the relevant State Sport Authority and/or National Sport Committee that will if necessary seek approval from the EA Board. All such calendars must take into account article 104, rule 4.
5. OCs may not organise any Official Events/Competitions that have not been included in the Official Calendar or that were not authorised by the relevant State Sport Authority or National Sport Committee.

Chapter II Participation of Athletes and Horses

Article 113 – Membership and Athlete Licenses

1. All Athletes in Official Events/Competitions run under the Rules, Regulations and By-Laws of EA and the relevant Sport Rules must be a current EA Member and hold the minimum necessary level of EA Membership
2. All Athletes who wish to compete in a foreign country in an International Competition must apply for and be granted an International Rider's Licence by EA. The Athlete, while keeping EA as their own National Federation through EA membership, comes under the jurisdiction of the host National Federation for the abovementioned Events during the period of the validity of the licence, and they must take part according to the relevant regulations.
3. Foreign riders residing in Australia must hold a Guest Athlete Licence to take part in Competitions held in Australia. Guest Athlete Licences may be issued for a period of no more than twelve (12) months. After this time, if the foreign rider is still residing in the country, they will be required to become a full financial member of their respective State Branch of Equestrian Australia and register any competition horses.

Article 114 – Horse Identification at Events

1. All Horses registered with EA must have a microchip meeting Australian Standard AS 5018/5019 inserted.
2. All Horses entering in Official Competitive classified activities/events/competitions must hold EA Full Horse Registration and be licensed to compete as determined by the respective state.
3. Horses entering any EA Official competition must match all details registered with EA
4. OCs at major Events such as the EA Australian Championships must give an identification number (bridle number) to each of the participating horses.
5. The identification number must be worn during the whole Event at all times when the horse is out of the Event stables.

Article 115 – Invitations

1. Invitations extended to overseas Athletes or to other National Federations must be made through the EA National Office.
2. Invitations to overseas events extended to Australian Athletes by other National Federations must be processed by the EA National Office.

Article 116 – Entries

1. The number of horses that may be entered for an Event must be in accordance with the Schedule, the GRs and the relevant Sport Rules.
2. All Athletes nominated for an international Event held in another country must be entered by EA. National Sport Selectors must approve combinations for certain Competitions, e.g. Pacific League Finals. OCs may not accept other entries.
3. The number of teams and individual Athletes allowed to be entered to take part is laid down in the relevant Sport Rules.
4. OCs may refuse the entry of any Athlete. The governing body (EA Branch Board/Sport Committee) of the State in which the Event takes place may ask the OC to refuse an entry.
5. It is recommended that when entries are made in advance of the Event, the OC either charges a non-refundable nomination fee or an entry fee. If an Athlete withdraws a horse after an entry

fee has been paid, an automatic refund should be made, except for a portion of the entry fee, which may be retained to cover the costs involved. The size of this portion and the procedure for such refunds shall be determined by the relevant National Sport Committee.

6. Entries shall be made on the official entry form. All entry forms must include the EA Horse Registration Number and EA Membership Number of the rider and owner.
7. EA or the Branch in which the event takes place may place a levy on entries.
8. At an Event, an Athlete may withdraw any or all their horses from a Competition, but may not add a horse that had not previously been entered for that Competition, without the approval of the OC and the Ground Jury.
9. The person making the entry is responsible for ensuring that the horse is eligible for the Competition/s in which they are making the entry, and that all details of the horse (including physical appearance) match the EA database as per registration.

Making an entry at a recognised Event shall constitute an agreement and affirmation that the person making it, along with the owner, lessee, Chef d'Equipe, driver, rider, vaulter, or their Representative and the horse:

10. Shall be bound by and subject to the Constitution, Rules, By-Laws and Regulations of EA, the FEI, the Rules of the relevant Sport, the Event Schedule and conditions of the Organising Committee.
 - 10.1 That every horse, rider and/or driver is eligible as entered
 - 10.2 Will accept as final the decisions of an EA Appeal body on any question under said Rules and agree to hold EA, the OC, FEI their officials and employees harmless for any action taken.
 - 10.3 Owners, riders, vaulters or drivers, and any of their agents or representatives agree to hold EA, OC, the FEI and their officials, directors, employees and agents harmless for any injury or loss suffered during or in connection with the Event, whether or not such injury or loss resulted, directly or indirectly, from the negligent acts or omissions of said officials, directors, employees or agents of EA, FEI or OC.
11. OCs may, at their absolute discretion, and shall, if they consider it expedient to do so, decline to receive any entry or return any fee without being liable for any compensation.
12. OCs may, at their discretion, refuse entries received after the closing date for entries as published in the Event Schedule.

Article 117 – Selection of Australian Representative Teams and Individuals

1. EA has the final responsibility for the selection of all Athletes and horses to represent Australia, provided that the Athletes and horses are qualified in all respects under the conditions laid down for each FEI Event. Refer to EA Selection Policies as reviewed from time to time.
2. Australian representatives for each Sport will be selected by a selection panel appointed by the relevant Sport in accordance with rules set down by EA and in accordance with the relevant selection policy.
3. Only horses and Athletes meeting the Minimum Eligibility Standard (MES) may be entered for World Championships and Olympic Games in accordance with the FEI Special Regulations.
4. EA may appoint a Goodwill Ambassador for international competitions and/or for a period of time. The appointment will be at the discretion of the Board and CEO, considering factors such as experience, reputation, contribution to the sport and alignment with EA's strategic objectives.

Article 118 – Persons Responsible

1. The Person Responsible for a horse has legal responsibility for that horse under EA Regulations, Rules and By-Laws, and unless otherwise stated, is liable under EA policies and procedures.
2. It is the obligation of the Person Responsible and of every other person subject to the Constitution and By-Laws, Regulations and Rules to know the Constitution and By-Laws, Regulations and relevant Rules, and lack of such knowledge does not relieve these persons from liabilities under the Statutes, Regulations and Rules.
3. The Person Responsible shall normally be the Athlete who rides or drives the horse during an Event, but the owner and other support personnel, including but not limited to grooms and veterinarians, may be regarded as additional Persons Responsible if they are present at the Event or have made a relevant decision about the horse. In Vaulting, the lunger shall be an additional Person Responsible.
4. Athletes under 18 years of age:
 - 4.1 If the Athlete is under 18 years of age when entry is submitted, the parent or guardian or the Chef d'Equipe of the Athlete must nominate a representative for the Athlete.
 - 4.2 The representative may be a parent of the Athlete, the Chef d'Equipe, the team coach, the team veterinarian, the Owner or some other responsible adult, whose name must be communicated to the OC with the entry.
 - 4.3 If there is no Person Responsible nominated, either parent of the Athlete may be considered as the representative.
5. Persons Responsible making an entry are responsible for ensuring that the horse is eligible and fit for the Competition or Competitions in which the entry is being made.
6. Persons Responsible, together with the Chef d'Equipe if present, are responsible for the condition, fitness, management and for declaring or withdrawing from competition of each and every horse under their jurisdiction and must know the relevant Regulations and Rules.
7. The Person Responsible is responsible for any act performed in the stables to any horse under their jurisdiction, by themselves or by any other person with access to the horse, and is responsible while riding, driving or exercising any horse under their jurisdiction. The Person Responsible is not relieved from such responsibility as a result of the lack or insufficiency of stable security.
8. If, for any reason, Person Responsible are unable or are prevented from caring for the horses under their jurisdiction they must immediately notify the Secretary of the OC.
9. OCs at major Events such as the EA Australian Championships must give an identification number (bridle number) to each of the participating horses. The identification number must be worn during the whole Event at all times when the horse is out of the Event stables.

Article 119 – Nationality Status of Athletes for International Events

1. Only Athletes properly licensed by their NF may be accepted as entries for an International Event.
2. Athletes and horses whose NF has been suspended or expelled by the FEI may not be accepted as entries for an International Event, or National Event outside their country, during the period of the suspension or expulsion.
3. Also refer to FEI GRs for FEI Competitions.
4. The NF of a country from which an Athlete holds their passport is their own NF.
5. Athletes Living Abroad - Athletes are considered to be living abroad if they spend more than six months of a year in one foreign country (the host country).

6. Athletes Living Abroad in Australia can take part regularly in any National event and in International events for Juniors, Young Riders and Pony Riders in Australia if they are given permission by EA or, in very exceptional circumstances, given special approval by the FEI. Athletes, while keeping their own NF, come under the jurisdiction of EA for the above-mentioned events and he must take part according to the relevant regulations.

Article 120 – Chefs d'Equipe

1. EA appoints a Chef d'Equipe for each team entered in International Team Events. If only individual Athletes are entered or no separate Chef d'Equipe is appointed, EA will nominate one of the Athletes to act as Chef d'Equipe.
2. The State governing body of each Sport must appoint a Chef d'Equipe for each team entered for National Championships.
3. Chefs d'Equipe must attend all technical meetings organised for them in relation to the Event.
4. The Chef d'Equipe shall be responsible for the following:
 - 4.1. The general management and fitness of the horses entered for the Event and the observance of the FEI Veterinary Regulations by Team Veterinarians and other official team members.
 - 4.2. The declaration and the withdrawal of Athletes and horses entered for team Competitions and, if appointed for individual Competitions, the scratching of Athletes and horses entered for individual Competitions.
 - 4.3. The general management, fitness and behaviour of Athletes, especially those under the age of 18, in accordance with the EA Member Protection Policy, EA Code of Conduct, and EA Safeguarding Children and Young Persons Policy. In the case of Athletes under the age of 18, Chefs d'Equipe are responsible for the behaviour of both their teams and individuals for the entire duration of an event and are obligated to stay with their teams and individuals.
 - 4.4. Notifying the OC which Athletes and horses have been selected to start in team Competitions, and if appointed for individual Competitions.
5. The Chef d'Equipe may change the Athletes and the horses within the selected team but he cannot add or substitute any member and/or horse of the official team by an individual Athlete and/or horse entered in that event but not selected for the team, except in cases of accident or illness (unless the requirements of a Certificate of Capability prevent this change).
6. Chefs d'Equipe are not allowed to perform any other official functions at an Event.
7. A Chef d'Equipe or EA may appoint a deputy to attend meetings or perform other functions, but the deputy, unless otherwise qualified, shall not be entitled to any of the rights conferred on Chefs d'Equipe by the Special Conditions for Olympic Games and World Equestrian Games.

Article 121 – Declaration of Starters

1. Chefs d'Equipe must declare the Team entries for National Championships, and the names of individual Athletes, by the time laid down by the OC in accordance with the Sport Rules.
2. In the case of any individual Competition, Persons Responsible (PR) or their agent must declare the entries by the time laid down by the OC in accordance with the Sport Rules.
3. In case of accident or illness of a team member and/or horse nominated for a team competition, an individual Athlete and/or horse entered in that event may be substituted for the team member and/or horse in question. This must be announced by the Chef d'Equipe at the latest one hour before the start of the relevant competition. The Athlete/horse being withdrawn cannot then take part in any other competition.

Article 122 – Dress and Salute

1. In all Competitions that take place in an arena under the jurisdiction of a Ground Jury, each Athlete may be asked to salute the President of the Ground Jury as a matter of courtesy, unless the President gives other instructions. The OC in agreement with the President of the Ground Jury may instruct Athletes to salute Heads of State when present and may do so if there are special guests occupying the official box.
2. The President or a member of the Jury shall acknowledge all salutes.
3. Athletes must be properly dressed when appearing before spectators.
4. Except where Sport Rules allows otherwise, riders and drivers competing in an EA competition, must wear an approved helmet with the chin strap fastened at all times. The same is recommended when riding a horse at any time. **Protective headgear must conform with one of the current approved safety standards and in addition, the product must have passed quality testing (quality testing monitors the ongoing quality of the product according to the original standard);**

1 Jan 2026 until 31 Dec 2026 at least one of the below standards

- AS/NZS 3838 (2006 onwards)
- PAS 015:2011 & updates
 - Snell E2016 or E2021
 - CE Mark helmets referencing EN1384:2023 or VG1 & EN 1384:2017
 - ASTM F1163:23 or ASTM F1163:2015

1 Jan 2027-31 Dec 2027 (FEI Rules) and 31 Dec 2028(National Rules)

At least one of the below standards

- PAS 015:2011 & updates
 - Snell E2016 or E2021
 - CE Mark helmets referencing EN1384:2023
 - ASTM F1163:23
 - CE Mark helmets referencing VG1 & EN1384:2017 when used with any of the above standards
 - ASTM F1163:2015 when used any of the above standards (except ASTM F1163:23)

1 Jan 2028 onwards (FEI Rules) and 1 Jan 2029 onwards (National Rules)

Helmet must meet at least TWO of the four key standards listed below

- PAS 015:2011 (and updates)
- Snell E2016 or E2021
- CE Mark helmets referencing EN1384:2023
- ASTM F1163:23

In all cases(except VG1 in 2026)) at least one of the standards must carry a quality test mark

- 4:
 - 1.8 Current Australian standard **AS/NZS 3838** (2006 onwards) provided they are SAI Global marked.
 - 1.9 New Australian standard **ARB HS 2012** provided they are SAI Global marked.
 - 1.10 Current American standards **ASTM F1163** (2004a or 04a onwards) provided they are SEI marked, or standard **SNELL E2001**.

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1.11—Current British standard **PAS 015** (1998 or 2011) provided they are BSI Kitemarked.

1.12—Protective headgear carrying a CE mark referencing EN1384:2023 or VG1 provided they are InspectG or BSI Kitemarked.

Note: products carrying VG1 without a kitemark will be allowed until 1 January 2027.



2.5 All Athletes must wear properly fastened Protective Headgear whenever mounted at an EA or FEI event in Australia.

“Protective Headgear” is a helmet that:

- i. Meets one of the current approved safety standards set out at in Art. 122.4 of these General Regulations; and
- ii. is tagged with a current visible EA ‘helmet tag’

Failure to wear such Protective Headgear where and when required after being notified to do so by an Official, shall result in a Recorded Warning or Yellow Warning card being issued to the athlete unless exceptional circumstances apply.

Helmet tagging is currently mandatory for the following disciplines as follows:

- a) Eventing – mandatory from 1st January 2020
- b) Jumping – mandatory from 1st January 2022
- c) Dressage – mandatory from 1st July 2022
- d) Driving – mandatory from 1st July 2022
- e) Endurance – mandatory from 1st July 2022

3.6 Unless stated above, all other dress requirements are contained within the Rules of the relevant Sport.

Article 123 - (intentionally left blank.)

Article 124 – Young Riders, Juniors, Children and Veterans

1. Athletes may take part in Competitions and Championships for Children from the year they reach the age of 12 until the end of the year they reach the age of 14.
2. Athletes may take part in Competitions and Championships for Juniors from the year they reach the age of 14 until the end of the year they reach 18.
3. Athletes may take part in Competitions and Championships for Young Riders from the beginning of the calendar year they reach the age of 16 until the end of the calendar year they reach the age of 21.
4. Athletes of the appropriate age may take part in Competitions and Championships of more than one category mentioned in paragraphs 1 to 3 above, but in each Sport only in one of these Championships in any one calendar year.
5. Athletes may take part in Senior competitions and Championships from the beginning of the year they reach the age of 18 but they may only take part either in a Junior or a Young Rider or a Senior Championship in the same discipline in any calendar year.
6. Exceptions regarding age limits are laid down in the Rules of the relevant Sport subject to approval by the EA Board.

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Chapter III Ceremonies Prizes and Expenses

Article 125 – Ceremonies

1. EA publishes a recommended standard process for prize-giving ceremonies, which should be followed at major Events held in Australia. Major Events include FEI-sanctioned events (CIs) and National Championships. Other events are encouraged to follow the suggested procedure as well. Refer to the EA Ceremony Guidelines in the appendices for more information.
2. The representative of EA, or if no representative is present, the President of the Ground Jury, must be invited to participate in the prize-giving ceremony of all EA Australian Championships
3. If requested by OCs in the schedule of the event, all Athletes invited to be present at prize - giving ceremonies must remain mounted on the Horses on which they have competed, or on their carriages. If a podium is used for the ceremony, the prize winners may be asked to dismount. The Ground Jury has the ability to approve substitutions.
4. OCs should avoid the necessity for Horses to stand for long periods before and during these ceremonies.

Article 126 – Prizes

1. All prizes in cash or in kind easily convertible into cash are awarded to the owners or lessees of the horses. Cups and mementos are awarded to the Athletes unless specifically allocated to the owners of horses.
2. All prize money constitutes a partial reimbursement of the costs of keeping a stable and of training and travelling expenses.

Article 127 – Allocation of Prizes

1. In National Championships, prizes must be distributed in accordance with the provisions of this Article. This Article should also be used as a guideline for other Events.
2. The value of the first prize for individuals or teams, either in cash or in kind easily convertible into cash, may not ever exceed one third of the total value of the prize money and prizes convertible into cash, offered for the whole Competition. Where only cash prizes and no prizes in kind easily convertible into cash are offered, this rule must be followed. OCs are allowed some flexibility where prizes in kind easily convertible into cash are offered, especially where they carry substantial value (e.g. a saddle). In these circumstances, OCs should do their best to comply with the spirit of this regulation. Where possible, prizes in kind should be reserved as trophies for “championship-type” series or competitions (see also paragraph 5 below).
3. The value of the last prize must be in accordance with the Regulations and Rules of the relevant Sport and should where possible at least be equal to the entry fee. (*Amended 16 May 2008*)
4. The minimum number of prizes offered for each competition must be allocated on the basis of one prize for every five Athletes, with a minimum of three prizes where there are fewer than 15 Athletes.
5. A single prize in cash, or in kind, may be allocated for a general classification at the conclusion of a Series of Qualifying Competitions or at the end of the Event for the accumulation of points, or at the conclusion of a Series of Qualifying Events, provided always that prizes have been offered for each of the preliminary or Qualifying Competitions or Events.

Article 128 – Distribution of Prizes

1. The full number of prizes shown in the schedule MUST at National Championships and SHOULD if at all possible at all other Events, be distributed unless fewer Athletes have taken part in the Competition than the number of prizes allocated. Under these circumstances the

provisions of the schedule in the Competition must apply. Any prizes remaining undistributed revert to the OC, unless the schedule has been changed and made public.

2. If prize money is to be distributed after the Event, a statement to this effect must be made in the schedule, otherwise prize money must be distributed to the winning owners, lessees, Athletes or Chefs d'Equipe not later than immediately after the last Competition of the Event, provided they have met all their financial and other obligations to the OC.
3. Prizes for a Competition may not be distributed while any objections or appeals relating to that Competition are under consideration.
4. Prizes must not be withheld simply because medication control sampling ("swabbing") has taken place at the event.

Article 129 – EA Medals

EA Medals shall be awarded to participating individuals and teams in order of merit at EA Championships according to the Rules of the relevant disciplines.

Article 130 – EA Cups/Trophies

1. All National Trophies will be displayed at the relevant Event, presented to the winners and returned to EA for engraving at the expense of EA and safe keeping until the following year's Event.
2. Sport-specific Trophies may be held by the winners if allowed for in the Rules of the Sport. In the event of the trophy being damaged or misplaced, the holder of the trophy shall be responsible to cover the cost of damages or the replacement of the trophy.
3. All International Trophies (e.g. Trans-Tasman) will be displayed at the relevant Event, presented to the winners and returned to the winning National Federation for engraving at the expense of this National Federation and safe keeping until the following year's Event.
4. New National Trophies need the approval of EA and the respective National Sport Committee. As a rule, the trophy should not be awarded for more than ten year, unless EA and the respective National Sport Committee has given approval and set conditions for continued presentation, and the donor/sponsor should provide a replica trophy or similar memento that can be kept by the winner of the trophy.

Article 131 – Expenses

For any National events, Athletes/owners are responsible for meetings the costs for their participation except for items for which the OC has accepted responsibility and has published details in the event schedule.

Article 132 – Privileges

1. Owners of horses present at an Event, who are not Athletes, are entitled to a pass provided by the OC giving them access to the venue, warm-up arena and a special pass to the stables if access to stables is restricted. OCs must provide one pass each for a minimum of two owners per horse; however, for stable access not more than two owners per horse may be admitted.
2. Members of the EA Board or of National Sport Committees are entitled to free admission to all events (for National Sport Committee members: in their respective sport) under the jurisdiction of EA. The National Office provides certificates to all persons entitled to this privilege upon request.
3. Holders of the certificates must apply, preferably well in advance, to the particular OCs for the necessary tickets and passes. Certificates must be presented with the application and must be returned with the tickets or passes.

Chapter IV Commercial and Sponsorship

Article 133 – Commercial Rights (Also refer to Event Sanctioning Policy and other relevant EA Policies)

1. EA owns all rights to its name and emblem, the title of all National (“Australian”) Championships and owns all rights to named EA Events or Competitions.
2. EA owns the Official National Ranking Lists resulting from the ranking of competition and horses competing at the events and competitions held under its authority.
3. EA has the following exclusive rights:
 - 3.1 The use of the EA emblem and title for commercial purposes.
 - 3.2 The television rights, radio, film or video or other broadcasting rights including new media, Internet and TV in all its forms, of any Events or Competitions run under EA or FEI Rules and the sale of those rights.
4. With regard to Championships and other named Events, a "Working Agreement" shall be reached between EA and the relevant OC, which defines their respective rights and duties related to the exploitation of all commercial properties and the possible sharing of the revenues from this.
 - 4.1 It shall recognise previous commitments of EA and OC and resolve any possible conflicts.
 - 4.2 Subject to the provisions in paragraph 3 of this Article, the normal basis for the Working Agreement will be the sanctioning of the event and its commercial properties for a fee and for possible profit sharing.
 - 4.3 With regard to the FEI-Named Series and Competitions organised as a part of other Events, the Working Agreement shall be reached between the FEI, EA and the OC, which shall respect previous commitments of EA and the OC, unless otherwise agreed.
5. EA National Championships must be named “EA Australian Championships.
6. If an EA-named event has a title sponsor, the sponsor’s name may appear in conjunction with the relevant title.

Article 134 – Sponsorship

1. Sponsorship is defined as the use or promotion of a registered company, product, trademark or recognised trading name, in association with a rider/s or owner/s participating in EA Official Competition on equipment, whether in the arena or on the grounds of the Event.
2. For Teams and Individuals selected to represent Australia, EA’s Team Sponsorship arrangements will take precedence over any arrangements expressed in private sponsorship agreements.
3. Where Athletes’ personal sponsorships conflict with the major sponsorship of an Event or Competition, Athletes should be encouraged to respect the rights of such major sponsor and adhere to the provisions of Article 135 in respect of advertising and displays on Athletes and horses and refrain from a too obvious displays of the competing brands, especially when in the competition arena or when invited to sponsor hospitality areas.

Article 135 – Advertising and Publicity on Athletes and Horses

1. At all Events, except Regional and Olympic Games under the patronage of the ‘International Olympic Committee’ (IOC) (see Olympic Regulations for Equestrian Events at Olympic Games), Athletes may wear the identification (name and/or logo) of the

manufacturer of clothing and equipment or as an alternative that of a sponsor as outlined below:

1.1. Identification of the Manufacturer

1.1.1. While present in the Competition area and during the prize-giving ceremonies the identification of the manufacturer of the clothing and equipment may appear only once per item and may appear on a surface area not exceeding a) 3 cm on each side of carriages. for clothing and equipment; b) 50 cm If the manufacturers of clothing and equipment act as sponsors, the provisions under paragraph 1.2 of this article apply.

1.2. Identification of Sponsors

1.2.1. While present in the Competition area and during the prize-giving ceremonies the name and/or logo of the individual's sponsor(s) and/or team sponsor(s) may appear on a surface area not exceeding:

- a) 400 cm² on each side of carriages and vaulting back pads;
- b) 200 cm² on each side of the saddle cloth;
- c) 80 cm² only once on jackets or top garments at the height of breast pockets except during the endurance test of Eventing and Endurance Events;
- d) 80 cm² on each of the two sides of jackets or top garments at the height of breast pockets for Jumping Events.
- e) 100 cm² only once on Vaulting outfits;
- f) 16 cm² on both sides of the shirt collar;
- g) 200 cm² on arm of top garment for the endurance tests of Eventing and Endurance Events;
- h) 400 cm² on a horse rug.

1.2.2 OCs of EA Championships may state in the schedule that such logos are not permitted in Team competitions.

1.2.3 Only in the marathon phase of Driving Events, the surface area of the name and/or logo of the individual's and/or team's sponsor(s) appearing on the dash board and both sides of the carriage may not exceed 2520 cm²; on the backs of the grooms, they may not exceed 1260 cm².

1.2.4 The OC may display the name and/or logo of a Competition and/or Event sponsor(s) on members of the arena party and on the numbers worn by Athletes and on stable rugs while present in the Competition area and during the prize-giving ceremonies at all FEI Events. The size of name and/or logo on the Athlete's number shall not exceed 100 cm².

2. No advertisement or publicity other than logos defined in paragraph 1 above may be displayed on any Athlete, official, horse or carriage while present in any Competition arena or during the performance. However, Athletes inspecting the course may wear the logo of their sponsor within a frame not exceeding 400 cm² on head gear. on the front and back of their top garments and within a frame not exceeding 50 cm² on head gear.
3. Advertising may appear on obstacles and on the sides of the arena provided the TV agreement allows for it. Specifications for sponsored obstacles are covered in the Rules for the relevant Sport.
4. For the purposes of this article, the Competition area shall include all areas where the Athlete is being judged or their horse is undergoing a horse/veterinary inspection. It shall not include collecting rings, the "10 minute box" in Eventing, the holds at the veterinary gates in an Endurance Event or the compulsory rests in a Driving Event.

5. The EA logo or Australian Flag can only be carried on the saddlecloth when officially representing Australia.
6. Only Athletes who have officially represented Australia at Olympic Games and World Equestrian Games can wear an Australian Flag badge on their riding jacket.
7. Other team representatives designated by EA may wear Australian Flag badge on their riding jacket for the duration of the Event in which they are representing Australia.

Chapter V Horses

Article 136 – Age and Definition of Horses and Ponies

The age of Horses taking part in FEI competitions shall be specified in the relevant Sport Rules.

Article 137 – Horse Registration and Identification

1. Except as provided in this paragraph (1), horses and ponies must be registered with EA to enter Official Competitive Activities, Events and Competitions. Registration is a means of identification, to establish ownership for competition purposes and if need be, proof of identification and a measure of bio -security. Horses and ponies are encouraged to hold at a minimum EA Base Horse Registration to take part in Official Participation Activities, Events or Competitions and/or Closed Club/Restricted Activities and may be enforced at a State or OC's discretion.
2. EA Identification Certificate must include the registered number with EA, the full name and address of the owner, or owners. The description of the horse must be accurately completed. If the name of the horse is ever changed or any pertinent changes are made the owner, or owners must request the Identification Certificate is updated to reflect the changes.
3. EA Horse Documentation by way of an EA Identification Certificate (and/or FEI/EA Passport) and Competition Licence/s should be available at Competitive Events in case proof is requested by an EA Official or Organising Committee member
4. A horse must be microchipped according to the standard AS 5018/5019, before it can be registered.
5. The Person Responsible for a horse at an Event is responsible for the accuracy of their EA Identification Certificate and keeping accurate results records for each Sport. The EA Identification Certificate (and/or FEI/EA Passport) must be available for inspection when required by an official of EA or the Organising Committee.
6. A horse may only have one FEI/EA Passport Identification document. If EA is satisfied that an Identification document has been lost, it may issue a new one clearly marked 'duplicate' and bearing the same number as the original Identification Document.
7. The President of the Ground Jury may arrange for random inspections of the horses' EA Identification Certificates (and/or FEI/EA Passport), particularly those horses that win prize money so the horses concerned can be positively identified. Every case of misleading or inaccurate information on an EA Identification Certificate (or EA/FEI Passport), or if the horse cannot be positively identified, must be reported to EA or the relevant State Branch, giving the number of the identification paper and the name of the horse and the Person Responsible.
8. When a horse dies the EA Identification Certificate may be retained by the owner. However, the owner or owners must change the horse status to deceased.
9. Details of registration for the grading and/or classification of horses in each Sport are provided for in the Rules of each Sport.
10. EA shall maintain and be responsible for a register of horses for all Sports in Australia.
11. Prize money, vouchers and rewards of any kind may be withheld by the Organising Committee until the Person Responsible produces a Horse EA Identification Certificate and proof of payment of the Organising Committees entry fee and any Sport Competition levies.
12. Foreign Owned Horses or imported horses will be classified at the discretion of the Sport concerned.
13. EA reserves the right to refuse to register any horse or to refuse to renew the registration of any horse.
14. Horse registration fees shall be payable to the EA State Branch according to each Branch's schedule of fees.

15. Horses competing within Australia in certain FEI Events must obtain an EA National Identification Document, an FEI Recognition Card or an FEI Horse Passport, depending on the level of the event. Refer FEI Regulations.
16. Horses competing outside Australia in FEI Events must have been issued with an FEI Horse Passport or, if they have an EA National Identification Document, with an FEI Recognition Card. Refer FEI Regulations.

Article 138 – Names of Horses

1. Horses registered with EA are registered for life. A horse can only be registered once with EA, but may upgrade from Base to Life registration where appropriate. Members attempting to do a new registration of a horse that is already registered may be subject to penalty.
2. In principle, the first registered name of a horse registered with EA will remain on permanent record.
 - 2.1. When applying for the initial registration of a horse or pony with EA at least five names ranked in preference must be given.
 - 2.2. Horses cannot be registered as trade names i.e. Versace, Calvin Klein or Nescafe. This is an FEI rule.
 - 2.3. Horse names may not exceed 28 characters including spaces.
 - 2.4. There are certain horse names which may never be reused even if the horse is retired or deceased. These names have been given exclusive rights if the horse has made significant achievements usually relating to the Olympic or World Equestrian Games e.g. *Peppermint Grove, Kibah TicToc*.
 - 2.5. Prefix initials (e.g. "CH") are not permitted. (Example: "November Rain" cannot be "CH November Rain".)
 - 2.6. Punctuation marks (e.g. full stops, commas, etc.) and special characters (e.g. *[asterisk]* *, *[ampersand]* &, etc.) must not be used in names. (Example: "Mr Burns" cannot be "Mr. *[full stop]* Burns".)
3. Horses that have been registered with another recognised breed society may be EA registered using that name. Where the name exists already, a trailing number may be added. This rule also applies to horses being imported into Australia.
4. If the owner applies for a name change or a change to the commercial prefix/suffix, the horse's registration papers, and Identification Document must retain the old name or prefix/suffix for the next 12 months as follows: *new name* and/or *new prefix/suffix* **ex** *previous name/prefix/ suffix*.
5. A horse/pony name including a prefix or suffix may be registered with EA provided it complies with one of the following conditions:
 - 5.1. A commercial prefix/suffix may be added to the name and must be entered in the passport and registration papers. However, at Regional and Olympic Games under the patronage of the IOC, such prefix/suffix cannot appear in a program and cannot be used in any other way.
 - 5.2. A Breeder/Stud prefix or suffix shall be given to a horse or pony bred by breeders and studs who are a member of EA or a recognised Breed Society. Breeders/Studs can register a prefix/suffix with EA for this purpose on application and the payment of a fee. At the time of registration, proof of the breed society registered prefix/suffix must be provided to EA.
 - 5.3. Where a breeder/stud has registered a horse with the breeder/stud prefix and that the breeder/stud has bred the horse subsequent owners of that horse cannot change the horses' EA registration to remove the breeder/stud prefix without the written consent of

the breeder/stud that first registered the horse. The written consent may be given at the time of the sale of the horse or at some later date.

6. EA reserves the right to refuse to register any horse under any particular name.

Article 139 – Owners and Lessees

1. All individual owners, including part-owners and syndicates, must be a current member to the respective EA State Branch. Commercial Group affiliates may register a horse under a business name but forfeit the rights of an individual member. EA Clubs and Sport Affiliates are not eligible to register or be part-owners of a horse. The Primary Owner is the owner who is to receive any information relating to the horse, i.e. its EA Identification Certificate, competition licence etc. Usually the rider/person responsible or the owner with the largest ownership share is the primary owner.
2. EA accepts registrations on the understanding that the Person or Body making the registration is the bona fide owner, part-owner or lessee of the horse. EA will accept no responsibility on cases of disputed ownership, which must be settled by the parties concerned.
3. EA will keep a register of the owners of horses including multiple ownerships. Changes of owners and records of leasing agreements must be entered in the EA Identification Certificate by EA.
4. Owners of horses sold or leased must update their EA Identification Certificate immediately and change the horse status to sold or leased. The new owners or lessee will pay any change of ownership or lease fee.
5. Leasing of horses is permitted under the following conditions.
 - a. The form and duration of the lease agreement is a matter for the parties concerned; it does not require the approval of EA.
 - b. The member to whom the horse is leased is regarded in all respects by EA as the bona fide owner and shall have the same rights and duties.
 - c. When a horse is leased this will not be regarded as a change of ownership for the purposes of competition.
 - d. If a leasing agreement is cancelled during the period of lease or is renewed, EA must receive written confirmation from the parties of the lease.

Chapter VI Protection of Athletes and Horses

Article 140 - Protection of Athletes

1. The Ground Jury (where applicable) or designated Official after consultation with the responsible Medical Officer may at any time exclude any competitor, EA member or non-member, from further participation in a Competition, or an entire Event, or Equestrian Activity, who is deemed unfit to continue by reason of a serious or potentially serious injury/illness or health condition.
2. Concussion Protocol
 - 2.1 EA Concussion Protocols must be adhered to by all EA sport disciplines, affiliated clubs and coaches. <https://www.equestrian.org.au/content/health-and-safety-training>.
 - 2.2 If a suitably qualified medical service provider is on site at the competition, an event or equestrian activity the EA member or non-member (rider) must be assessed for a suspected concussion.
 - 2.3 If there is no suitably qualified medical service provider on site at the competition, event or equestrian activity the EA member or non-member (rider) must be assessed by a designated Official, Coach or other relevant person, using standardised sport concussion tools (e.g. CRT6 or Headcheck). The affected rider should then be referred for medical review.
 - 2.4 Upon recognition or a suspected concussion, the affected rider will be removed from competition, an event or equestrian activity.
 - 2.5 The actions outlined in Art 2.2, 2.3 and 2.4 must be completed, taking a conservative approach in assessing and managing a suspected concussion. The following process for a return to equestrian competition, event or activity for riders with a diagnosis of concussion will apply. The EA member or non-member will be stood down from competition for a minimum of twenty-one (21) days following the day of the incident where the concussion occurred, and The EA member or non-member will not be able to resume competition until a medical clearance (from a medical practitioner) has been received by EA.
 - 2.6 The EA member or non-member must follow the Graded Return to Sport Protocol as outlined in the Concussion in Sport Australia position statement. https://www.concussioninsport.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0004/1133545/37382_Concussion-and-Brain-Health-Position-Statement-2024-FA.pdf
 - 2.7 It is the EA Member or non-member's responsibility to comply with all EA Concussion Protocols and follow Graded Return to Sport Protocols. For all Members 18 and under it is the responsibility of their parents or guardian.
 - 2.8 It is the responsibility of a designated Official, Coach or other relevant person to ensure EAs Incident reporting Protocols are completed including that EA-HSMS-MED-Incident-Referral Report Form for suspected concussion is submitted to EA at reporting@equestrain.org.au within 24 hours. In addition, as soon as practical, the EA member or non-members support person should receive the EA-HSM-MED EA Member Concussion Advice Form <https://www.equestrian.org.au/content/health-and-safety-training>
 - 2.9 EA will maintain all EA Member and non-member "concussion on hold" records but it remains the individual's responsibility to comply with stand down advice and Graded Return to Sport Protocols.
3. EA Accredited Coaches
 - 3.1 Only EA Accredited Coaches (paid or voluntary) can be used at all State and National Squad Clinics or EA sanctioned training events.
 - 3.2 The coach must hold an appropriate EA Coaching accreditation for the level they are coaching.
 - 3.3 The EACC recognises from time to time that the AIS funded High-Performance Program will utilise specialist international coaches in accordance with their agreed medal outcomes, all other International Coaches not holding a current EA Coaching Accreditation may be granted an exemption on application to the EA Coaching Committee provided they hold an equivalent overseas qualification as detailed in the IGEQ matrix.

Article 141 - Protection of Horses

1. In cases of a Horse's illness or injury during an Event the Ground Jury will decide, after consulting the Veterinary Delegate or Commission, whether the Horse may continue in that or subsequent Competitions.
2. A Horse's sensory hairs may not be clipped and/or shaven or otherwise modified in **any way nor may the hair in the auricles be removed or shortened within the rims of the auricle under penalty of elimination from the event.** Individual sensory hairs may be removed by a veterinarian to prevent pain or discomfort for the Horse.
3. Areas of hair that must be clipped, shaven or removed to allow veterinary treatment are exempt from this rule. Veterinary treatments are exempt from this rule.
4. Horses found competing with clipped/shaven/otherwise modified sensory hairs will be eliminated from the event.
5. **From 1st January 2025, horses found competing with hair in the auricles removed or shortened within the rims of the auricle will be issued a recorded warning and from 1st July 2025 will be eliminated from the event.**

Article 142 – Abuse of Horses

1. No person may abuse a horse during an event or at any other time.
2. "Abuse" means an action or omission which causes or is likely to cause pain or unnecessary discomfort to a horse, including without limitation any of the following:
 - 2.1 To whip or beat a horse excessively
 - 2.2 To subject a horse to any kind of electric shock device;
 - 2.3 To use spurs excessively or persistently;
 - 2.4 To jab the horse in the mouth with the bit or any other device;
 - 2.5 To compete using an exhausted, lame or injured horse;
 - 2.6 To "rap" a horse.
 - 2.7 To abnormally sensitise or desensitise any part of a horse;
 - 2.8 To leave a horse without adequate food, drink or exercise;
 - 2.9 To use any device or equipment which causes excessive pain to the horse upon knocking down an obstacle.
 - 2.10 To excessively lunge a horse.
3. Any person witnessing an Abuse must report it in the form of a protest (Art 163) without delay. If an Abuse is witnessed during an Event, it should be reported as a protest (Art 163) to an Official. If the Abuse is witnessed at any other time it should be reported as a protest (Art 163) to the EA Branch Manager of the State in which the event is taking place. Persons witnessing an Abuse should where possible endeavour to stop the Abuse.

Article 143 – Medication Control, Anti-Doping and Protection of Athletes

1. Medication Control and Anti-Doping provisions are stated in the Anti-Doping Rules for Human Athletes, in conjunction with The World Anti-Doping Code, and in the FEI Equine Anti-Doping and Controlled Medication Regulations.
2. The Decision as to whether a Horse may compete in an Event when under treatment or medicated with a Prohibited Substance is made by the President of the Ground Jury on the recommendation of the Veterinary Delegate or Commission according to the procedures set out in the FEI VRs.

Chapter VII Event Officials

Article 144 – Officials

1. An EA Official is a participating member who has successfully completed an EA Officials Accreditation as defined in the Sport Rules and or relatable Policies.
2. A person appointed by EA, the FEI and/or an Organising Committee to perform a specifically defined officiating duty at an EA and or FEI Event.

Article 145 – Judges

1. A Judge is a member of a Ground Jury appointed to control a Competition or Event. The number and category of Judges to be appointed as members of a Ground Jury for a Competition or Event is laid down in the GRs and Rules for each Sport.
2. There are up to four categories of Judges: National Judges, FEI International Candidate Judges (C), FEI International Judges (I), FEI Official International Judges (O). The details of the necessary qualifications for each category are laid down in the Rules for each Sport.
3. The “National” category may be split further as appropriate under EA Sport Rules.
4. EA State Branches shall send to EA National Office the names and qualifications of persons in their States who are recommended to exercise the functions and fulfil the duties required of National Judges with reference to the requirements and training laid down in the Rules for each Sport. National Sport Committees shall appoint National Judges and Judges for their respective Sports. EA maintains records of all National Judges.
5. Judges in each category may not fill appointments at a higher level than laid down in the respective Sport Rules according to their qualifications. All judges must be a current EA Participating Member (as defined in the EA Constitution).

Article 146 - (Intentionally left blank.)

Article 147 - (Intentionally left blank.)

Article 148 - (Intentionally left blank.)

Article 149 – Ground Juries – Appointment

1. The Ground Jury shall consist of a President and a number of Judges of the appropriate categories as laid down in the Rules for each Sport and in any Special Regulations. The Ground Jury is responsible for the technical judging of all Competitions for which it is appointed, for all other decisions in respect of such Competitions except as otherwise provided in the Rules of the relevant Sport or the GRs of EA.
2. The period of jurisdiction of a Ground Jury extends from one hour before the start of the Competition or the Event until half an hour after the announcement of the final results of the Competition or Event for which the Ground Jury has been appointed. If an objection is made during the period of jurisdiction the Ground Jury remains responsible until the objection has been settled.
3. The duties of the Ground Jury are set out in Article 159.

Article 150 – Appeal Committee

1. An Appeal Committee consisting of a President and at least two members must be appointed for all EA National Championship Events unless the Rules of relevant Sport provide otherwise.

Appeal Committees consisting of at least one member are recommended for all State Championship Events.

2. The following must not serve as members of the Appeal Committee:
 - 2.1. An Athlete taking part in the Event.
 - 2.2. Chefs d'Equipe and other Team officials whose Athletes are entered in the Event.
 - 2.3. The Technical Delegate, the Course Designer, the Veterinary Delegate.
 - 2.4. Judges and Stewards officiating in the Event.
3. The Presidents and Members of the Appeal Committees must have expertise in equestrian events. They may be chosen from among the following:
 - 3.1. The members of the EA Board.
 - 3.2. The members of the National/Branch Sport Committees
 - 3.3. Persons of EA who are qualified and expert as required above.
 - 3.4. Persons of any EA Lists of Officials, active or retired Judges, Stewards.
4. The duties of the Appeal Committee are set out in Art. 160.

Article 151 – Course Designers

1. EA maintains records of National Course Designers (CDs), and FEI Official International CDs, International CDs, and International Candidate CDs.
2. The qualifications and training necessary to be appointed a National Course Designer are laid down in the Rules for each Sport.
3. State Branches are required to send to EA qualifications of EA members who are recommended to be accepted by the relevant Sport Committee as National Course Designers as laid down in the Rules for each Sport. National Course Designers can be appointed by the relevant EA Sport Committee.
4. The Course Designer is responsible to the Technical Delegate - if one is appointed - or to the President of the Ground Jury, for laying out the course, building any obstacles and for measuring the course.
5. The Course Designer must report to the Technical Delegate -if one is appointed - or to the President of the Ground Jury, when satisfied that the course is ready in all respects.
6. The Ground Jury may not order a Competition to start until either the Technical Delegate or the Course Designer has reported that the course is ready. Thereafter the Ground Jury is solely responsible for the conduct of the Competition.
7. A Course Designer may not compete in any Competition at a National Championship for which he has acted as Course Designer.
8. Course Designers for National Championships must be selected from EA or FEI List of Course Designers and appointed with the agreement of the appropriate Sport Committee.
9. All Course Designers must be a current **EA Participating Member (as defined in the EA Constitution)**.

Article 152 – Technical Delegates

1. EA maintains a record of Technical Delegates. The following are general requirements. Respective Sport Rules may define their duties and responsibilities in more detail.
2. Technical Delegates are required to approve all the administrative arrangements for an Event from the time of their appointment until the end of the Event. They must commence their duties early enough to be able to satisfy themselves that the accommodation and the stabling for the horses, and the training area etc, are suitable in all respects.

3. Any proposed visits to be made by the Technical Delegate, between the time of appointment and the beginning of the Event, must be arranged with the agreement of the Chairman of the relevant Sport in the case of the National Championship and with the OC in other cases.
4. The Technical Delegate should be at the venue of the Event at least on the day before the start of the first Competition.
5. The Technical Delegate has the following duties and responsibilities at the Event:
 - 5.1. To inspect the course and arenas and to satisfy himself that the technical details are in accordance with the Regulations and Rules.
 - 5.2. To be satisfied that the course is fair and that knowledge of local conditions would not give an unfair advantage.
 - 5.3. To instruct the OC and the Course Designer to make any alterations to the arena or the course, or to any technical detail associated with the conduct of the Competition that he or she considers necessary.
 - 5.4. To help the Ground Jury to supervise the technical conduct of the Competition after indicating to the President of the Ground Jury satisfaction with the arrangements.
6. EA maintains records of Technical Delegates.
7. Technical Delegates appointed by EA Sport Committees are required to send a report to that committee at the conclusion of the Event.
8. All Technical Delegates must be a current EA Participating Member (as defined in the EA Constitution).

Article 153 – Appointment of Technical Delegates

1. A Technical Delegate must be appointed by EA Sport Committees for EA National Championship Events and are to be selected from the official EA lists, except in the case of Dressage. The President or a member of the Ground Jury can act as Technical Delegate for Dressage Competitions and Events.
2. For State Championship Events, the appointment of a Technical Delegate is not compulsory but is recommended.
3. For other events, a Technical Delegate is not compulsory unless stated otherwise in the rules, but OCs are encouraged to appoint a person selected from the EA lists of Technical Delegates to assist in the preparation and conduct of the Events.

Article 154 – Veterinary Delegates

1. Veterinary Delegate are nominated by EA and should be appointed for all National Championship Events
2. EA maintains records of all FEI Event Veterinarians.

Article 155 – Stewards

1. The OCs of Events should, and at National Championships *must* appoint a Chief Steward and an appropriate number of Stewards under the authority of the Chief Steward wearing distinctive badges or other identification, with complete freedom of access to all areas mentioned in paragraph 2 below.
2. OCs are responsible for the administration and organisation of the Chief Steward and the Stewards.
3. During the whole Event in every part of the stables, exercise and schooling areas, collecting rings and all other areas under the control of the OC, the Chief Steward and the Stewards officiating at the Event shall:
 - 3.1 assist the Athletes in their reasonable training;
 - 3.2 where reasonably practical, intervene in time in order to prevent any abuse of the horse by riders, grooms, owners or any other person;
 - 3.3 where reasonably practical, intervene in order to prevent any contravention of EA GRs and Sport Rules or of the common principles of behaviour, fairness and accepted standard of sportsmanship;
 - 3.4 be familiar and assist with medication control rules and procedures.
4. One Steward must be on duty at the collecting ring whenever it is in use.
5. Any irregularities must be reported immediately by the Chief Steward to the President of the Ground Jury.
6. At National Championships and major Events, the Chief Steward is required to send a report to the CEO on the stewarding of the event as a whole and on any incident which occurs during that event. A copy of the report must be given to the Steward General and to the President of the OC of the event.
7. The Chief Steward must be a person experienced in equestrian sports, particularly in the Sport of the Event where appointed to officiate. The name of the appointed Chief Steward should be published in the schedule and in the programme of the Event.
8. Stewards are Event Officials.
9. All Stewards must be a current EA Participating Member (as defined in the EA Constitution).

Article 156 – Status and Liability of Officials

1. All Officials at an Event are acting on behalf of EA and therefore have no personal liability for any act, omissions or Decisions taken in good faith in connection with their duties.
2. Any Judges or other National Officials may be removed from a list, or from office, or demoted by the body that appointed them. This paragraph confers no power of removal on the OC of an Event.
3. Any proposal to take action under paragraph 2 must be reported and approved by the EA Sport Committee or the EA Board.

Chapter VIII EA Legal Structure

Article 157 – Preamble

1. The Legal Structure of EA is established by its Constitution and By-Laws.
2. This section of the GRs summarises the provisions of the Constitution and By-Laws and provides for the following:
 - 2.1. The legal powers and responsibilities of Officials and Bodies required to be appointed under the Constitution, By-Laws, Regulations and Rules.
 - 2.2. A procedure for lodging Objections, Complaints and Reports against the actions or behaviour of individuals or bodies involved in any capacity at Events under the jurisdiction of EA.
 - 2.3. A process of appeal to a higher body against decisions or penalties by any person or body acting under the Constitution, By-Laws, Regulations and Rules.
3. Any case of violation of the Constitution, By-Laws, Regulations and Rules, or of the common principles of behaviour, fairness, and accepted standards of sportsmanship, which occurs:
 - 3.1. During, or in direct connection with, an Event under EA Regulations and Rules shall be dealt with by the Ground Jury and/or the Appeal Committee, according to their competence as laid down in this Chapter;
 - 3.2. At any other time, or during an Event but which was not known or reported until after the end of the Event, shall be reported to EA and dealt with by the appropriate Tribunal according to their competence under this Chapter.
4. Appeals, Objections, Complaints or Reports concerning incidents not known at the time of the Event, or which do not occur during the jurisdiction of the Ground Jury or the Appeal Committee at an Event, must be sent to EA and must reach EA no later than 14 days after the end of the Event.
5. Before reaching a Decision on any protest or Appeal the relevant body must examine the available evidence, whether written or oral, hear all the parties concerned (provided they are available) and take into account all relevant material, in every case trying to reach a fair and equitable Decision.

Article 158 – Conflict of Interest

1. A substantial appearance of a conflict of interest exists whenever others may reasonably infer from the given circumstances that a conflict exists. A conflict of interest is defined as any personal or financial relationship, including relationships of family members, that could influence or be perceived to influence objectivity when representing or conducting business or other dealings for or on behalf of the FEI. Conflicts must be avoided whenever practicable. However, conflicts may be linked to experience and expertise that is necessary to qualify Officials, the specific balance between conflict and expertise shall be regulated by the relevant Sport Rules.

Article 159 – Ground Jury – Duties

1. The Ground Jury is competent to deal with all Protests and Reports which relate to anything occurring during or in direct connection with an event and are presented within the period of its jurisdiction.
2. The period of jurisdiction of the Ground Jury commences one hour before the beginning of the first horse inspection and terminates, so far as each sport is concerned, half an hour after the announcement of the final results in that sport.

3. In appropriate cases involving veterinary matters and in the absence of an Appeal Committee, the Veterinary Delegate (if appointed) may be invited to join the Ground Jury in an advisory capacity.
4. The Ground Jury may impose the following penalties on Officials (other than those appointed by EA), owners of horses, Persons Responsible, Athletes and team officials:
 - 4.1 A Warning.
 - 4.2 A Yellow Warning Card
 - 4.3 A fine up to a maximum of \$500.00 or an amount set by the EA Board from time to time.
 - 4.4 Disqualification with one or more horses from the Competition
 - 4.5 Suspension with one or more horses for the following 24 hours of an Athlete whose horse has left without permission the restricted area. The horse in question will automatically be disqualified for the rest of the event.
 - 4.6 In serious cases, immediate disqualification during the event with a referral to the Appeal Committee (or to and EA Tribunal if there is no Appeal Committee).
5. Decisions must be notified in writing to the parties concerned. Cases involving penalties must be recorded and sent to EA for publication.
6. There is no appeal against decisions of the Ground Jury arising from the field of play, which are final and binding, such as, but not limited to:
 - 6.1 Where the question for Decision is a factual observation of performance during a Competition or the award of marks for performance Examples (which are not exhaustive): whether an obstacle was knocked down, whether a Horse was disobedient, whether a Horse refused at an obstacle or knocked it down while jumping, whether a rider or Horse has fallen, whether a Horse circled in a combination or refused or ran out, what was the time taken for the round, or whether an obstacle was jumped within the time; whether, according to the Sport Rules, the particular track followed by a competitor has caused him to incur a penalty. The elimination of a horse for veterinary reasons, including non-acceptance of a Horse at a Horse Inspection;
 - 6.2 The imposition of a Warning without additional penalties or of a Yellow Warning Card.
 - 6.3 Immediate disqualification during a Competition.
7. The Ground Jury shall report the following to the Appeal Committee:
 - 7.1 Any case which is beyond its competence;
 - 7.2 Any case within its competence which it considers deserving of more severe penalties than the Ground Jury may impose;
 - 7.3 Any matter concerning alleged acts of abuse of Horses the Decision of which is not immediately required for the purpose of judging a Competition and which, having regard to its primary duty to judge the Competition, it deems more appropriate to be dealt with by the Appeal Committee or an EA Disciplinary Tribunal.

Article 160 – Appeal Committee – Duties

1. Where appointed, the Appeal Committee must be available throughout the Event. If a protest lodged with the Ground Jury is still pending, the Appeal Committee must be available and has jurisdiction until one hour after the relevant Decision of the Ground Jury has been announced.
2. The Appeal Committee shall deal with the following matters:
 - 2.1 Appeals against decisions of the Ground Jury, except as specified in Article 163. In these cases, the decision of the Appeal Committee is final.

- 2.2 Protests addressed to the Appeal Committee or referred to it by the Ground Jury, and all cases that are beyond the competence of the Ground Jury.
- 2.3 Reports of passport irregularities in accordance with Article 139.6.
3. Where appropriate in cases involving veterinary matters, the Veterinary Delegate at an Event may be invited to join the Appeal Committee in an advisory capacity.
4. The Appeal Committee may impose the following penalties on Officials, Owners of Horses, Persons Responsible and Athletes:
 - 4.1 A Warning.
 - 4.2 A fine up to a maximum of \$1,000.00 or an amount set from time to time by the EA Board
 - 4.3 Disqualification with one or more horses from a Competition or from the whole Event.
 - 4.4 Suspension with one or more Horses for the following 24 hours of an athlete, whose Horse has left the restricted area without permission. The Horse in question will automatically be disqualified for the rest of the event;
 - 4.5 In serious cases, immediate disqualification with one or more Horses from a Competition or from the whole Event with a referral to EA for further disciplinary action.
5. The Appeal Committee shall report to EA
 - 5.1 Any case outside its competence.

- 5.2 Any case within its competence, other than an Appeal, which it considers deserving of more severe penalties than the Appeal Committee may impose.

Article 161 – Hearing Tribunal

1. A Tribunal appointed in accordance with EA Complaints, Dispute and Discipline Policy shall consider all cases reported to it by EA and after considering the evidence (written and/or oral) it may impose sanctions that include but are not limited to:
 - 1.1 A Warning.
 - 1.2 A fine up to a maximum of \$20,000 or another amount set from time to time by the EA Board
 - 1.3 Disqualification with one or more Horses from Competitions or from Events.
 - 1.4 Suspension of a body for a period.
 - 1.5 Suspension of individuals and horses for a period up to suspension for life.

Article 162 – Appeal Tribunal and the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS)

1. An appeal body may impose more severe penalties than those imposed in the first instance, provided they are within the limits of the penalty jurisdiction of the body from which the Appeal is brought to the CAS.

Article 163 – Protests

1. Protests may be lodged against any person or body involved in any capacity in an Event or otherwise subject to the jurisdiction of EA including for failure to observe the Constitution and By-Laws, Regulations or Rules or violation of the common principles of behaviour, fairness, or accepted standards of sportsmanship, whether occurring during or in connection with an EA event or at any other time.
2. Protests may only be lodged by Officials, Chefs d'Equipe or, if a Chef d'Equipe is not present, by a Person Responsible or a Team Veterinarian responsible for horses taking part in the event, with the exception of protests for abuse which may be lodged by any person or body.
3. Protests must be lodged with the Ground Jury during its period of jurisdiction for failing to observe the Constitution and By-Laws, Regulations or Rules in the organisation or conduct of a Competition, including the matters referred to in paragraph 7 below. Protests for other matters must be lodged with the Appeal Committee (if appointed) during its period of jurisdiction.
4. Protests regarding matters which have not occurred during or in direct connection with an EA event or which were not known until after the end of the event shall be reported to the CEO or the respective Branch Manager. A case shall only be deemed to occur in direct connection with an event if it occurs during the journey towards the event or, after arrival, including during the period of quarantine, training or acclimatisation.
5. Protests lodged with the CEO or the respective Branch Manager for assessment and possible referral to a Hearing Tribunal should be received by the CEO or the respective Branch Manager not later than 14 days after the end of the event.
6. Protests must be in writing, signed by the authorised person making the protest, and presented personally to the President of the Ground Jury, to the President of the Appeal Committee or sent to the CEO or the respective Branch Manager, as the case may be, together with any supporting evidence, names of witnesses and the necessary deposit.

7. Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, protests against any of the following matters may only be lodged with the Ground Jury and within the following time limits, and a decision by the Ground Jury in these matters is a prerequisite to a right of appeal to the Appeal Committee:

7.1. Protests concerning the eligibility of an Athlete or horse or to the conditions of the arena: not later than 30 minutes before the start of the relevant competition;

7.2. Protests concerning an obstacle, or the plan or length of the course for a jumping competition or the obstacle phase of a driving competition: not later than 15 minutes before the start of the competition;

7.3. Protests concerning the steeplechase or cross-country obstacles or courses in Eventing or marathon course or obstacles in Driving, or the course in Endurance not later than 1800 hours on the day before the relevant Competition;

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- 7.4 Protests concerning irregularities or incidents during a Competition, or the classification of a Competition: not later than 30 minutes after the announcement of the results.
8. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, the CEO or the respective Branch Manager may, in special circumstances which – in their sole discretion – warrant a decision, refer to a Hearing Tribunal a protest against any person or body made by any person or body or on their own initiative, at any time, in regard to any matter and even without the payment of a deposit.
 9. Any person making a protest should, if possible, secure witnesses to the incident and any other form of evidence, and either bring them to the body before which the protest is lodged, or obtain written statements from them, duly signed, together with their names and addresses.
 10. The Technical Delegate and Veterinary Delegate must report to the CEO or the respective Branch Manager all acts or omissions constituting a protest (without a deposit).

Article 164 – Reports

1. Officials appointed are required to send reports to the CEO or respective Branch Manager at the conclusion of Events, in accordance with these GRs and the applicable Sport Rules. Matters giving rise to Protests must be included in such reports.

Article 165 – Appeals

1. An Appeal may be lodged by any person or body with a legitimate interest against any Decision made by any person or body authorised under the Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations and Rules, provided it is admissible. (See paragraph 2 below):
 - 1.1 With the Appeal Committee (or with an EA Tribunal if there is no Appeal Committee) against a Decision of the Ground Jury.
 - 1.2 With the Appeal Tribunal or CAS through the CEO against decisions of a Hearing Tribunal.
2. An Appeal is NOT admissible:
 - 2.1 Against the decision of the Ground Jury in cases covered by Article 159 (or in cases in relation to the arena, an obstacle or course if there is no Appeal Committee);
 - 2.2 Against Decisions by the Appeal Committee of Appeals from Decisions by the Ground Jury.
3. Appeals to the Appeal Committee must be in writing and signed by the appellant and accompanied by supporting evidence in writing or the presence of one or more witnesses and must be lodged not later than one hour after the Decision of the Ground Jury.
4. If there is no Appeal Committee, Appeals to a Tribunal must be in writing, signed and accompanied by supporting evidence in writing or the presence of one or more witnesses and must reach the CEO no later than 14 days after the end of the Event. So far as Competitions are concerned, the right of Appeal is limited to questions of eligibility of an athlete or Horse and questions involving the interpretation of the Sport Rules.
5. Appeals to the CAS together with supporting documents must be dispatched to the CAS Secretariat pursuant to the Procedural Rules of the CAS Code of Sports-related Arbitration:
 - 5.1 So as to reach the CAS within 30 days of the date on which the CEO's notification of the FEI Tribunal Decision was received by the Person Responsible;
 - 5.2 A copy of the statement of Appeal should be sent to the CEO at the same time.
 - 5.3 Appeals reaching the CAS after the time limits as indicated above will not be considered

6. No new evidence may be presented on Appeal, other than in circumstances where it is shown that such new evidence could not have been obtained, with reasonable diligence, prior to the hearing in the first instance.

Article 166 – Deposits

1. Protests and Appeals to the Ground Jury or the Appeal Committee must be accompanied by a deposit of \$150.
2. Protests and Appeals to a Tribunal must be accompanied by a deposit of \$500.

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3. No deposit is required for protests concerning Horse Abuse.
4. Protests and Appeals to the CAS must be accompanied by a deposit to the CAS of the equivalent of CHF 500. - pursuant to the CAS Code of Sports-related Arbitration.

Article 167 – Recording Protests, Appeals and Penalties

1. The President of the Ground Jury must report to EA all Decisions and penalties awarded by the Ground Jury. The President of the Appeal Committee must report to EA all Decisions and penalties imposed by the Appeal Committee.
2. The CEO is responsible for:
 - (i) Recording delivery of Yellow Warning Cards;
 - (ii) Recording proceeding of the Hearing Tribunals and Decisions of the CAS;
 - (iii) Notifying the Decisions of these bodies, including the dates on which they become effective, to the parties concerned;
 - (iv) Publication of all Decisions which the CEO believes warrant publication, or which have to be published;
 - (v) Processing reports of Event Officials.

Article 168 – Time of Implementation of Decisions

1. Decisions against which there can be no Appeal shall become effective immediately and must be notified as soon as possible to the persons or bodies concerned.
2. Decisions to which the parties concerned have formally renounced their right of Appeal shall become effective on the date when the renunciation reaches EA, provided such renunciation is made following the notification of the decision.
3. Decisions taken by Ground Juries and Appeal Committees, which are subject to appeal, shall be effective from the expiration of the time for lodging an Appeal or the earlier formal renunciation of the right to Appeal.
4. Notwithstanding any right of appeal, decisions taken by a Hearing Tribunal in the first instance or Decisions taken on the second or final instance by an Appeal Tribunal or the CAS may be made effective from the day of written notification to the persons and bodies concerned or on a specific date of the Appeal Tribunal or the CAS so decides.
5. Decisions taken on the second or final instance by Appeal Committees shall be effective from the day of notification of the persons or bodies concerned.

Article 169 – Penalties

1. In deciding on the appropriate penalties to be imposed, the following factors may be taken into consideration, together with any other relevant factors:
 - 1.1. Whether the action or omission resulted in an unfair advantage to the offender or an Athlete;
 - 1.2. Whether the action or omission resulted in a material disadvantage to any other person or body involved;
 - 1.3. Whether the action or omission involved the maltreatment of horses;
 - 1.4. Whether the action or omission affected the dignity or integrity of any person involved in the sport;
 - 1.5. Whether the action or omission involved fraud, violence or abuse or similar criminal acts.
 - 1.6 Whether the action or omission was deemed to be deliberate.

2. An oral or written warning is appropriate in cases of minor violations or contraventions committed unintentionally and without significant consequences.
3. A fine is appropriate particularly in cases where the offender has acted negligently.
4. Disqualification is appropriate when it is specified in the Constitution and By-Laws, Regulations or Rules, or if the circumstances require an immediate action.
 - 4.1. Disqualification from a Competition means that the Athlete and Horse or Horses concerned - even should they change ownership – are removed from the list of starters and the classification and includes the forfeiture of prize money won in that particular Competition.

- 4.2. Disqualification from an event means that the Athlete and Horse or Horses concerned - even should they change ownership - may take no further part in that event and it may include (in addition to what is mandated under paragraph 4.1.) the forfeiture of any prize money won in previous competitions at that event where this is provided for in the Constitution and By-Laws, Regulations or Rules.
5. A suspension, on such terms and subject to conditions as a Hearing Tribunal may impose, is appropriate in cases of intentional or very negligent violations or contravention. In certain cases, suspension may be automatic under the Constitution and By-Laws, Regulations or Rules.
- 5.1. Suspension must be for a stated period and during that period the person, Horse or body suspended may take no part in competitions or events as competitor or Official or in the organisation of, or participation in, any event under the jurisdiction of EA.
- 5.2. In deciding when any suspension will commence, the appropriate body shall, in order to achieve a just penalty, have regard to the gravity of the offence.
6. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary indicated in paragraphs 3 to 5 above, the penalties listed below shall be imposed in the following cases:
- 6.1. The penalties provided for in the FEI Equine Anti-Doping and Medication Control Rules will be applicable in cases covered by these rules.
- 6.2. Abuse of horses in any form (rapping, abnormal sensitisation or desensitisation of limbs, banned schooling methods etc.) shall entail a fine of up to \$15,000 and/or a suspension of a minimum of 3 months up to life;
- 6.3. Incorrect behaviour towards Event Officials or any other party connected with the Event (other athlete, journalist, public etc.) shall entail a fine of \$200 to \$10,000 and/or a Suspension of a minimum of 3 months up to 12 months;
- 6.4. Fraud of any kind, violence and other acts defined as criminal by the national law prevailing at the Event shall entail a fine of \$1,000 to \$15,000 and/or a Suspension of a minimum of one month up to life.
- 7 Awarding a Yellow card
- 7.1. In cases of offences mentioned in paragraphs 6.2 and 6.3 above and which are of a less serious nature, any Official as defined in the relevant Sport Discipline Rules for the purpose of awarding a Yellow Warning Card, may award a Yellow Warning Card to the Person Responsible. The Official who awards the Yellow Warning Card must notify the Person Responsible, the Ground Jury and the EA CEO of the Yellow Warning Card as soon as possible. The Yellow Warning Card is to be delivered personally during the Period of the Event. If for any reason that is not possible, then the Yellow Warning Card must be provided to the Person Responsible within fourteen (14) days by mail or email or other suitable means. A Yellow Warning Card may be issued in addition to any other sanction(s) that may be issued in accordance with these GRs and/or the relevant Sport Rules.
- 7.2. There is no appeal against the awarding of a Yellow Warning Card.
8. Should the same Person Responsible receive any further Yellow Warning Card or Cards at the same or any other Event (whether Australian or International) within one year of the award of the first Yellow Warning Card, the matter shall be considered by the CEO who shall determine whether to refer the Person Responsible to a Hearing Tribunal.

9. The penalty imposed in any given case can consist of a combination of fine, suspension and disqualification. The amount of a fine and the duration of a suspension shall be decided according to the guidelines mentioned in paragraph 6 above and to the circumstances of the case.
10. All fines imposed by any body under the Legal System are due to EA. They must not be paid to the OC or any other body but must be paid to EA on receipt of a demand. Any person who has not paid a fine within 30 days of receiving a demand for payment will be automatically suspended until the fine is paid. If fines are inadvertently paid to the OC or any other person such fines shall be remitted to EA.
11. Decisions of a Hearing Tribunal may also impose on unsuccessful parties the payment of costs borne by EA for the judicial procedure in the amount of \$500 to \$5,000. In addition, a party may be ordered to pay further costs not exceeding \$10,000 if the costs of the procedures borne by EA have been increased by conducting a hearing or by excessive prolongation of the procedures or other exceptional cause. In the interests of fairness, the cost to EA of any hearing which is held in conjunction with other hearings shall be separately calculated.

Chapter IX Strict Liability Offences

Article 170 – What are Strict Liability Offences

1. The Strict Liability Offences are defined in Appendix A.
2. Strict Liability Offences carry the corresponding sanctions defined in the table of the definition, set out in Appendix A.
3. Where the CEO of EA or a Branch Manager becomes aware of any person or organisation bound by these General Regulations as having allegedly committed any Strict Liability Offence, then the CEO or the Branch Manager will within 14 days thereafter issue a notice to that person or organisation, specifying:
 - 3.1 the date of the alleged breach;
 - 3.2 the Strict Liability Offence(s) alleged to have been committed;
 - 3.3 the corresponding sanction specified in these General Regulations; and
 - 3.4 the right of the person or organisation to seek a review of the charge and penalty in accordance with this Article 170.
4. A person or organisation that receives notification in accordance with Article 170(3) may, within 10 days of the date on which the notification is issued, by notice in writing, respond in writing to the CEO of EA or the Branch Manager (as the circumstances dictate) in relation to the allegations that the person or organisation has committed a Strict Liability Offence.
5. A notice issued by a person or organisation under Article 170(4) must set out and be accompanied by all of the facts, circumstances, evidence, matters and material relied on by the person or organisation for the purposes of the review.
6. The CEO of EA or Branch Manager (as the case may be) may, after considering any written response to the notification issued under Article 170(3), determine that:
 - 6.1 The Strict Liability Offence(s) has been committed, and impose the sanction notified in the notice.
 - 6.2 The Strict Liability Offence(s) has not been committed, in which case the notification issued under Article 170(3) shall be deemed withdrawn.
 - 6.3 A different Strict Liability Offence(s) may have occurred, in which case the notification shall be deemed withdrawn where the CEO of EA or the Branch Manager (as the case may be) may issue a new notice under Article 170(3).
7. If the charged person or organisation fails to request a review of the strict liability offence and penalty by writing to the CEO of EA or the Branch Manager (as the case may be) within 10 days of notification, the penalty notified will automatically be invoked.

Appendix A Definitions

Abuse of Horse: An action or omission which causes or is likely to cause pain or unnecessary discomfort to a Horse, including without limitation any of the following:

- To whip or beat a Horse excessively;
- To subject a Horse to any kind of electric shock device;
- To use spurs excessively or persistently;
- To jab the Horse in the mouth with the bit or any other device;
- To compete using an exhausted, lame or injured Horse;
- To "rap" a Horse.
- To abnormally sensitise or desensitise any part of a Horse;
- To leave a Horse without adequate food, drink or exercise;
- To use any device or equipment which cause excessive pain to the Horse upon knocking down an obstacle.

Athlete Any person taking part in an FEI Event, including but not limited to, a rider, a lungier, a driver, or a vaulter.

Branch has the same meaning as given to that term in the Constitution.

Branch Manager means, in relation to Chapter IX, the Chief Executive Officer, Executive Officer or equivalent of a Branch, and in each case the delegate of that person.

Category: (a) A defined group of Athletes/Horses and/or (b) the level at which the Event is organised.

CEO of EA the Chief Executive Officer of Equestrian Australia or their delegate.

Competition: Refers to each individual class in which Athletes are placed in an order of merit and for which prizes may be awarded.

Competition Activity: The overall classification of activity levels within each Sport that is targeted towards EA Competitor members to facilitate the competitive environment of equestrian sport.

Competition Environment: Equestrian activity involving physical exertion and skill with the primary focus of contributing, developing and conducting competitions through athletes, coaches, officials, owners and key administrators.

Competitor Living Abroad: A competitor who spends more than six (6) months of a year in one foreign country (the host country).

Constitution means the constitution of Equestrian Australia, as amended or replaced from time to time.

Discipline: Any Equestrian Discipline approved by the EA Board such as Dressage, Jumping, Eventing, Driving, Endurance, Vaulting, Reining, Show Horse and Para-Equestrian.

Equestrian Australia means Equestrian Australia Limited ACN 077 455 755.

Event: A complete meeting, "Show", "Championship" or "Games". Events may be organised for one or more than one Discipline.

1. Dressage Event - Events where the Competitions are exclusively for the Sport of Dressage.
2. Driving Event - Events where the Competitions are exclusively for the Sport of Carriage Driving.

3. Endurance Event - Events where the Competitions are exclusively for the Sport of Endurance Riding.
4. Equestrian Event - Events that include Competitions for more than one Sport.
5. Eventing Event- Events where the Competitions are exclusively for the Sport of Eventing including Three-Day Events (3DE). Two-Day Events (2DE). One-Day Event (ODE),
6. Jumping Event - Events where the Competitions are exclusively for the Sport of Jumping.
7. Para-Equestrian Event – Events where the Competitions are exclusively for Athletes with a disability.
8. Reining Event – Events where the Competitions are exclusively for the Sport of Reining.
9. Show Horse Event - Events where the Competitions are exclusively for the Sport of ShowHorse.
10. Vaulting Event - Events where the Competitions are exclusively for the Sport of Vaulting.
11. Special Event [consider adding here or stand alone]

Horse: Refers also to a pony or other member of the genus Equus unless the context requires otherwise. A horse shall be born from a mare.

Horse Welfare...[consider linking to the FEI Welfare of the Horse]

Hearing Tribunal: means the NST General Division or other first instance tribunal (including a Hearing Tribunal established internally by a Relevant Organisation) established to conduct a hearing under this policy or EA's Complaints, Dispute & Discipline Policy.

Junior: A competitor who may take part in FEI Competitions for Juniors from the year he/she reaches the age of 14 until the end of the year he/she reaches the age of 18.

Official: A person appointed by EA and/or the FEI or by an Organising Committee to perform a specifically defined officiating duty at an EA and/or FEI Event.

Official Competition means any equestrian competition, event or similar conducted under the control of, or under the auspices of Equestrian Australia or a Branch or Affiliate of Equestrian Australia.

Organiser or Organising Committee (OC): Any organisation, group, society, body, or person which is recognised by the applicable NF and held to be responsible for the management of any Event.

Participation Activity: The overall classification of activity levels within each Sport that is targeted towards EA Participant members to encourage participation in the Participation/Grassroots environment of equestrian sport.

Participation/Grassroots Environment: Equestrian activity involving physical movements and skill development with the primary focus of health, wellbeing, education and enjoyment.

Period of an Event: commences one hour before the beginning of the first Horse Inspection and terminates, so far as each Discipline is concerned, half an hour after the announcement of the final results in that Discipline, unless the Sport Rules for the respective Discipline provide otherwise.

Phase: Refers to separate parts of a Competition at the same Event which are taken together to arrive at the final classification.

Pony Rider: A competitor who may take part in FEI Competitions for Pony Riders from the year in which he/she reaches the age of 12 until the end of the year he/she reaches the age of 16 for Jumping, Eventing and Dressage.

Round: Two or more consecutive circuits of the same, or a similar, course as part of a single Competition.

Series: A number of International Competitions held successively at different Events and the results of which lead to a final classification or qualify Horses and/or Athletes for a final Event or Competition or prize. All Series must be approved by the Bureau and the NFs concerned.

Sport: refers to the FEI Discipline or EA Sport, such as Dressage Jumping, Eventing, Show Horse, Carriage Driving, Endurance, Vaulting, Reining, Para-Equestrian and Show Horse.

Sport Rules: As defined in the Statutes, and shall include but not be limited to Rules for the Equestrian Disciplines, Veterinary Regulations, Equine Anti-Doping and Medication Control Rules, Anti-Doping Rules for Human Athletes, Olympic Regulations, and Paralympic Regulations.

Strict Liability Offences means each of the following offences specified in the table below and the corresponding sanctions, where:

1. For offences involving competitors or exhibitors, the penalties apply to both the competitor and the exhibitor, that is, where they are not the same, both receive the relevant penalty; and
2. For the purposes of these General Regulations insofar as the General Regulations concern Strict Liability Offences, a **competitor** is a person riding, driving, leading or otherwise presenting a horse in any EA or Branch competition, event or activity to which these General Regulations apply, and an **exhibitor** is an owner, lessee or representative of the owner or lessee of a horse entered in any EA or Branch competition, event or activity to which these General Regulations apply:

	Short description of offence	Sanction to be imposed
1	Competing in an Official Competition on an unregistered horse	First offence: A fine of \$100.00. Second offence: A fine of \$200.00. Third and subsequent offences: To be dealt with by a tribunal with requisite jurisdiction, which may impose a fine of up to \$500.00 and/or suspension of up to six (6) months.
2	Competing in an Official Competition on a horse whose registration and/or performance card is not current.	First offence: A fine of \$100.00. Second offence: A fine of \$200.00. Third and subsequent offences: To be dealt with by a tribunal with requisite jurisdiction, which may impose a fine of up to \$500.00 and/or suspension of up to six (6) months.
3	Competing in an	First offence: A fine of \$200.00. Second offence:

	Official Competition with a horse outside the required age, grade or height.	A fine of \$400.00. Third and subsequent offences: To be dealt with by a tribunal with requisite jurisdiction, which may impose a fine of up to \$500.00 and/or suspension of up to twelve (12) months
4	Forging or falsifying a birth certificate or any part thereof for entry into any competition or event.	First offence: A fine of \$200.00. Second offence: A fine of \$400.00. Third and subsequent offences: To be dealt with by a tribunal with requisite jurisdiction, which may impose a fine of up to \$500.00 and/or suspension of up to six (6) months.
5	Falsifying a performance record for entry into any competition or event	First offence: A fine of \$200.00. Second offence: A fine of \$400.00. Third and subsequent offences: To be dealt with by a tribunal with requisite jurisdiction, which may impose a fine of up to \$500.00 and/or suspension of up to six (6) months.
6	Falsifying information on application for registration of a horse or for membership.	First offence: A fine of \$200.00. Second offence: A fine of \$400.00. Third and subsequent offences: To be dealt with by a tribunal with requisite jurisdiction, which may impose a fine of up to \$500.00 and/or suspension of up to six (6) months.
7	Entering a registered horse in official competition using an incorrect name or listing an incorrect owner.	Each offence: A fine of \$100.00.
8	Competing in an Official competition or event while the membership of exhibitors or of the rider is not current.	First offence: A fine of \$200.00. Second offence: A fine of \$400.00. Third and subsequent offences: To be dealt with by a tribunal with requisite jurisdiction, which may impose a fine of up to \$500.00 and/or suspension of up to six (6) months
9	Competing in an Official Competition having failed to comply with the terms of any sanction applied under any FEI	Each offence: suspension of membership for three (3) months.

	or EA rule or by-law.	
10	Competing in an Official Competition while under suspension.	Each offence: Suspension of membership for twelve (12) months.
11	Failing to transfer ownership of a registered horse within 120 days of the sale.	Each offence carries a fine equivalent to twice the applicable transfer fee.
12	Falsely representing themselves as an EA registered Coach.	First offence: A fine of \$200.00. Subsequent offences: To be dealt with by a tribunal with requisite jurisdiction, which may impose a fine of up to \$500.00 and/or suspension of up to six (6) months.
13	Falsing Representing themselves as an EA registered Official.	First offence: A fine of \$200.00. Subsequent offences: To be dealt with by a tribunal with requisite jurisdiction, which may impose a fine of up to \$500.00 and/or suspension of up to six (6) months.
14	Failing to pay a fine imposed by EA or FEI or any EA or FEI tribunal within the required time frame	Members who fail to with the payment conditions of any fine imposed on them will be deemed to be unfinancial from the date the payment was due and will thereby be prohibited from taking part in any EA competitions and are suspended from membership of EA squads until the fine is paid in full.

Young Rider: A competitor who may take part in FEI Competitions for Young Riders from the beginning of the year they reaches the age of 16 until the end of the year he/she reaches the age of 21.

Any other terms with a capitalised letter in the GRs are defined in the Statutes.