



Equestrian Australia Eventing Committee - UPDATE

Meeting held 22 Sept 2020

Below is a summary of proceedings at the recent EAEC meeting

MEETING DISCUSSION

Equipment

- Rule 539.2.2 Hackamore Lever Arm- EA application in relation to 20cm shaft interfering with the bit had been submitted to FEI and a final ruling is expected at the General Assembly in November.
- Nose Nets Eventing Exemption – forms are available on the EA website. Exemptions are not available for FEI level, however National phases except Cross Country can be applied for. Online work under development.
- Helmet Tagging – mandatory. Reminder as events start to be scheduled that tagging is available with Covid-19 considerations applied. OC may provide appointment times to negate queues at competitions.
- Back Protector – whilst tagging not mandatory, random checks are conducted during Cross Country phase by Stewards.
- Request for approval of the Racing Lugging Bit was disallowed. This follows FEI ruling due to safety concerns.
- Rule 538.1.5 Boots – wording aligned to FEI rule 538.1.4. and applicable 1.1.21.
- FEI have removed the use of Barefoot boots in Show Jumping and Cross Country, National rules to come in line with this decision.

Health & Safety

The following update was presented to the EAEC by NSM:

- Risk Management plans for each State were sent to NSM for consolidation into an overarching National document.
- Development of a new range of forms updating reporting of Athlete Incidence with paper options mainly for Medical Services and online reporting by Officials and Coaches.
- Proposed formation of a Health & Safety Forum to meet several times per year with representatives from National Discipline Committees.

Other H&S from around the states:

- Victoria proposed Video production of briefing information for volunteers prior to cross country with content examples of how to use a radio etc. These could also double up as educational material for new riders/parents.
- Tasmania has almost completed a briefing education presentation.
- Discussion on national implementation of new 2021 FEI requirement for mandatory equine medication control (swabbing) in the event of athlete fatality.
- FEI require the use of frangibles at 1* and above from 2021.
- Clearer wording at Rule 527.1 Eventing Recorded Warning, Yellow Warning Cards and Suspension stating at “a1) At national events (1*and below) a warning card WILL be issued ~~for~~ **if the athlete continues after** 4 clear refusals.....” implemented 5 August 2020 for safety reasons.

Calendar of Events

Committee ratified FEI dates as presented and discussed. Some state events are still to be determined due to feasibility with border closures.

Fences

The document **EA XC Design Guidelines** had lower grade core fences included. Photos of jumps to be collated and added to the document, to be published on the EA website.

- In consideration of drought conditions, the committee will exempt an OC from filling a water jump upon application.

Officials & Officiating

The following update was provided by EA Pathway Admin- Officials:

- Annex K tables – matrix has been updated to align more closer with rule content and fix anomalies.
- Identification of lack of Officials by state and course/mentoring requirements
- Completion of F2F seminar with positive assessment prior to qualification acceptance within 3 years
- Observer cannot count as course attendance
- Case by case approach to seminar attendance due to covid-19
- FEI course scheduled for Sydney 2021 pending covid-19
- Produce a calendar of courses, States asked to submit Seminar dates by November to EA Pathway Admin-Officials.

The following update was provided by the Steward General Eventing:

- With help from the States, encourage use of Stewards at grassroots level to support and benefit education of riders.
- Payment to Stewards by OC was discussed and this should be a discussion with OC. NSW provide reimbursement form on Eventing NSW page.

Australian Eventing Forum

Started by Technical Delegates initially as a forum to keep Officials engaged during covid-19, the monthly zoom meetings now also reached out to Riders and Coaches, with 40 to 50 interested members listening in to discussions on a variety of topics, eg. Tracks and fences. The Facebook platform had 450 members to date.

EAEC delegates Pollyann Huntington, Emma Mason, Jade Findlay and Nina Clarke will form a working group to discuss and assist with safety recommendations.