



Equestrian Australia Eventing Committee - UPDATE

Meeting held 11th May 2021

Below is a summary of proceedings at the recent EAEC meeting

MEETING DISCUSSION

Paperless Dressage Scoring

The meeting agreed that athletes need to receive their tests back to be able providing feedback from Judges allowing them to improve future performance. Athletes understand that during COVID paperless scoring or scoring without comments was a means to being able to run competitions under the pandemic situation, but this method was no longer suitable. FEI do not sanction paperless scoring for FEI events. Under the EA National Dressage Rules every judge must have a writer / penciller. It was agreed that all OCs must ensure that there is a writer/penciller per judge and that tests should be collected and made available for athletes.

The EAEC discussed electronic / paperless scoring and the potential issues including scoring differences with more than one judge, user error with the applications and poor internet connection. It was agreed that OCs need to ensure that all these issues are addressed before committing to use electronic / paperless scoring **for National events only**. In addition, if electronic / paperless scoring is used, then score sheets must be returned to the athlete and include comments. State representatives were asked to ensure that this information was passed on to their State Eventing Committees.

Helmet inspections post fall of rider

The EAEC discussed that in other nations when a rider has had a fall, their helmet is sent for inspection by the manufacturer, and the athlete receives a voucher towards a replacement helmet. This ensures that potentially unsafe helmets are replaced, and valuable data is gained.

The EAEC is of the view that this is not practicable in Australia as most manufacturers are overseas based. The EAEC has asked the EA Sports Team to work with the EA insurer to see if the cost of replacement helmets is included as part of the athlete's insurance cover.

Consistency of cross-country tracks across the nation at all levels

There was discussion about tracks and if they are of a consistent standard. Part of the TD education is to ensure that these tracks are up to height and consistent and they could think of very few courses that do not meet these criteria. Where needed, TDs also provide feedback to OCs on their standard of courses. The EAEC was mindful that where needed, upgrades were costly and could often only be done by OCs over time.

The EAEC concluded that no action was required and that the feedback provided at a State level via TD reports, and mentorship for TDs and CDs sufficiently addressed the question. General feedback was that there were no or very few courses not up to the required standard.

Low-Level Eventing Rules (less than 80cm)

EA National Eventing Rules do not cover classes below 80 cm. It was agreed that the States would provide their current Low-level rules to allow data collection and comparison of the rules used by States and this would then be presented to EAEC for their consideration.

Rule updates

The following amendments to the EA National Eventing Rules were approved by the EAEC. These amendments will be sent to the EA Board for their approval. Implementation dates will be published following approval.

EA 515.3.7 CCN Technical Delegate

The Technical Delegate ("T.D.") is appointed by the Branch as its official representative at each Official Event.

- to ensure Events are conducted in accordance with the Rules;
- to act as Technical Delegate;
- to act in the place of the Ground Jury in the case of a CCN-S where there is no formal Ground Jury.
- to provide appropriate help and guidance;
- to inspect and approve the cross-country and jumping courses before they are shown to the riders;
- to authorise appropriate alterations being made if, in his opinion, these courses are not in all respects within the limits laid down in the Rules or are unsuitable for the classes of horses expected to take part;
- to submit a report to the relevant EA State Branch or State Eventing Committee within ~~10~~ 7 days of the event;
- may not perform any other role at an Official Event.

~~Expenses incurred by Technical Delegate will be the responsibility of the Organiser.~~

The Organising Committee is responsible for each Technical Delegate's expenses and must pay each Technical Delegate a minimum of \$100 OR a Fee determined by the State Branch OR a fee as negotiated between the Technical Delegate and the Organising Committee.

Article 513.8.3 Number of Technical Delegates per Event

In the case of more than 1 competition (International and National) at the same event.

- a) One Technical Delegate must be appointed for two Competitions.
- b) Two Technical Delegates must be appointed in the case of three or four Competitions.
- c) Three Technical Delegates must be appointed in the case of five Competitions or more.

- d) Additional or Assistant Technical Delegates may be appointed
- e) In the case of a competition with 100 or less competitors in EA Classes, only One Technical Delegate is required.
(Competition is defined as an event with classes which may include any or all of the following levels: EvA80, EvA95, CCN1*, CCN2*, CCN3*, CCN4*)

545.1.2 Starting Box

In order to simplify the task of the starter, an enclosure approximately five meters per five meters will be built at the start of the Cross Country, with an open front through which Horses will start and a gap in one or both sides from which the Horses will enter.

Each Athlete must start from within the enclosure and is at liberty to move around and through the enclosure as he pleases.

An attendant may lead the Horse into the enclosure and may hold the Horse until the signal to start is given. From that instant, the Athlete is considered to be on the course and no further assistance may be given.

EA 545.1.2.2 Start Intervals

Intervals between starting of each rider must, at a minimum, be the following intervals.

- EvA80-CCN2* - 1 Minute
- CCN3* and CCN4* - 2 minutes

Under exceptional circumstances after the commencement of the Cross-Country Phase, the Technical Delegate in conjunction with the Cross-Country Controller, may agree to reduce the gap between riders. The Organising Committee must be informed of this decision.

EA 520.4.1 Minimum Eligibility Requirements (applies to National Events)

Short Format CCN-S

All results must be as a combination unless the rider is Nationally or Internationally categorised at the level they are entering. Refer to rule EA 519.1

- For an uncategorised rider to start in EvA95-S they must have three qualifying results in an official EvA80 or Grade 3 Pony Club competition or NSW Grade C Pony Club. Results must be as a combination for Junior Riders. Exemption by application may be considered by the EA Eventing Committee via the applicable state branch. One of these results may not have more than 20 XC jumping faults. The other two must be clear of XC faults and at least one of these results must be at an Official EA Competition.

539.3.1 Permitted

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

EA 539.3.1.1 Permitted

The type of saddlery is optional but must be of an English type saddle. Gags are allowed as are unrestricted running martingales or Irish martingales. Reins must be attached to the bit(s) or directly to the bridle. The stirrup iron and stirrup leathers must hang free from the bar of the saddle and outside of the flap.