



Eventing Safety and Risk Management Statistics 2018

(all references to Star levels relate to 2018 definitions)

Thank you to all the Technical Delegates, fence judges and scorers for providing the reporting that supports the compilation of this report and thank you to Lynne and Vicki for doing the background work to produce the numbers.

Risk Management

We are taking a multifaceted approach to risk management in Eventing that involves preventive and protective measures addressing cross country course design and construction as well as horse and rider competency and behaviour of horse and rider.

XC construction

The implementation of frangible devices continues and their use is now widespread in star classes. Course Designers are enthusiastically embracing these technologies and they are beginning to be included more widely in national classes. The approval by the FEI of the skinny post and rail kit gives another option for our CDs to use.

To make this possible TD's and CD's work together with the OC well before the event to ensure that fences that can be made frangible are made frangible. The rules specify that this must happen for star class fences; there were a few cases through the year where this was unable to be achieved and in those cases TDs made the difficult but necessary decision to remove the fences from competition.

		Period			
Item	Description	H1 17	H2 17	H1 18	H218
Frangible Devices	# star class tracks without devices	24	30	15	14
	# star class tracks with devices	33	39	31	64
	# national class tracks with devices	NR	NR	NR	14
	# Activations	5	8	3	9
	# false activations	0	1 failed activation	0	0

Both the FEI and National XC Guidelines call for the use of sloping front shoulders on spread fences with upright fronts-seminars have been run throughout the year for OCs and all eventing officials (in conjunction with frangible device technology) in all states to communicate the importance of this. More than 100 people have taken advantage of this opportunity.

SIMP and Event Risk Management Plan

The reported quality of these items indicates that around 90% of the plans are rated acceptable or excellent against current yardsticks.

Whilst the percentage of unreported events is very low this should be zero and hopefully will be in the next reporting period.

Item	Description	H1 17	H2 17	H1 18	H218
Event Risk Management Plan	# Events rated 1(unacceptable or unavailable)	3	4	2	2
	# Events rated 2(acceptable)	14	18	22	16
	# Events rated 3(Excellent)	8	20	31	24
	# Events - not reported	14	2	1	3
Serious Incident Management Plan	# Events rated 1(unacceptable or unavailable)	0	2	1	0
	# Events rated 2(acceptable)	13	19	16	10
	# Events rated 3(Excellent)	11	22	38	32
	# Events - not reported	14	2	1	3

Concussions

Reporting of concussion and the implementation of concussion protocol is a key item for Equestrian Australia –if you have any questions on the concussion protocol and its implementation please contact NSO@equestrian.org.au

There were 18 reported suspected concussions in 2018.

Warnings and sanctions

The warning and sanction process is a key part of influencing rider behaviour to reduce risk and it is important that it is applied consistently across Australia –the table below indicates the % of warnings issued in each state in comparison to the % of starters in that state

Rider Sanctions	% Starters H2 2018	% Sanctions H1 2017	% Sanctions H2 2017	% Sanctions H1 2018	% Sanctions H2 2018
NSW	44.7%	32.14%	25.00%	34.38%	33.33%
Vic	26.7%	53.57%	29.17%	43.75%	36.11%
WA	10.4%	7.14%	8.33%	3.13%	11.11%
Qld	12.8%	0.00%	20.83%	6.25%	13.89%
SA	4.4%	0.00%	16.67%	6.25%	11.11%
TAS	1.0%	7.14%	0.00%	6.25%	0.00%

Statistics

The statistics below are for the full year 2018-in some cases the numbers are too small to draw any systemic conclusion but they are of interest;

Participants

The number of starting combinations increased by 11% over 2017

	Total number of starters per level						
	Up to 0.80 cm	0.95 cm	1m05	1m10	1m15	1m20	Total
2017	8028	3999	2781	1715	771	356	17650
2018	8985	4342	2905	1989	976	408	19605

Rider Falls

The number of rider falls has increased slightly in absolute numbers but has decreased marginally as a percentage of starters.

	Total number of rider falls per level						
	Up to 0.80 cm	0.95cm	1m00	1m10	1m15	1m20	Total
2017	231	87	71	43	26	22	480
2018	266	101	63	51	26	18	525

Horse Falls

The number of horse falls has declined both in absolute numbers and as a percentage of starters at most levels however at the **1m10 (1*)** level there has been a significant increase in numbers over 2017

	Total number of horse falls per level						
	Up to 0.80 cm	0.95cm	1m00	1m10	1m15	1m20	Total
2017	13	11	8	5	8	6	51
2018	6	8	10	19	5	5	53

Of the 19 horse falls at the **1m10 (1*)** level:-

- 4 were on the flat
- 5 were rotational
- 2 resulted in concussions – none of the other falls resulted in serious injury

Of overall horse falls

10 (20%) were not at a fence (Fall on Flat)

Horse Falls by Competition Type

EquiRatings' analysed the data regarding horse falls and competition type in Australia over the last 3 years and the table below shows that (in common with worldwide data) the rate of horse falls proportional to starters increases significantly as a horse moves to long format competition.

Analysis by level -Data for 3 years to Oct 2018	Data for 3 years to Oct 2018	Data for 3 years to Oct 2018	Data for 3 years to Oct 2018	2018 Data
Level	CIC/CNC	CCI	Combined	2018Cxx
1m10(1*)	0.50%	1.10%	0.59%	1.0%
1m15(2*)	0.60%	1.00%	0.66%	0.5%
1m20(3*)	1%	2.60%	1.2%	1.2%

Summary and Acknowledgement

I hope you find the information above interesting-please let me know of any questions or suggested changes. As we continue the data collection process it will undoubtedly reveal more about our progress in reducing the risk inherent in eventing and tracking our progress in program implementation. The work by Vicki Burgess and Lynne Brown was invaluable in the production of this report. The NSO function and the supporting data management work is generously supported by the Terry Snow "Making Eventing Safer" fund.

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