



Rule Changes

Equestrian Australia Jumping Committee

The following Jumping rule changes become effective 1 January 2026

Rule	Heading	Justification	Revised Rule
Chapter 2 Article 201	Arenas and Schooling Areas		<p>At the discretion of the Organising Committee and under the direct supervision of the steward ring gate marshal and/or judge the next Horse may enter the competition arena while the preceding Horse and Athlete combination is still completing their round and the previous combination is leaving the arena.</p> <p>EA: Athletes distracting the Athlete /combination on course may be eliminated at the discretion of the judge (see JRs Art. 2415.6)</p> <p>EA: It is recommended that an obstacle is placed a few metres inside the arena in front of the entry/exit gate so that the gate may be left open.</p> <p>The obstacle is placed so that the Horse must make two turns (a serpentine) in order to enter/exit the arena</p>
Article 238 -245.3	Methods of determining the scores under Table A 2. Competitions against the clock		<p>245.3 One Round with an Immediate Jump-Off</p> <p>Refer article 245.3</p> <p>Athletes, who have completed their preliminary round without Penalties, must proceed to the jump-off immediately following their preliminary round. In this case, the bell must be rung again to signal the Athlete to start the jump-off course during which the 45-second rule set forth in JRs Art. 203.1.2. applies. Athletes, qualified for the jump-off, are not allowed to leave the arena, between their preliminary round and the jump-off.</p> <p>More detail Art. 245.3</p>
Article 238	5. Competitions against Optimum Time		<p>Optimum Time can be applied to all Table A competitions.</p> <p>Speed is calculated at 325 metres per minute.</p> <p>“Optimum Time” is 4 seconds over or under less than the calculated Time Allowed.</p> <p>Exceeding the Time Allowed is 1 penalty for every elapsed second.</p> <p>Athletes with a time 4 seconds over or under the Optimum Time will incur one time penalty for every second commenced.</p> <p>The track measured for both the first round and jump off round must be indicated on the Course Plan. In the event of equality of penalties and time either over or under closest to the Optimum Time will be</p>

			<p>placed equal. the combination who is under the time will place ahead of the combination over the time.</p>
			<p>Optimum Time Classes</p> <p>Classes are scored on Faults under Table A, however, all ties are broken on the basis of Optimum Time.</p> <p>1.—Optimum Time in First Round and Jump Off</p> <p>a.—The first round and Jump Off is decided by adding together the faults incurred over the course and any penalties for exceeding the Time Allowed. In the case of equality of faults, ties will be broken on the following basis: an “Optimum Time” (defined as 4 seconds less than the Time Allowed for the course) will be posted on the course plan; the horse with the time on course closest to this Optimum Time (over or under) will prevail in the tie, next closest next, etc.</p> <p>2.—Optimum Time in First Jump Off</p> <p>b.—The first round and first jump off are decided by adding together the faults incurred over the course and any penalties for exceeding the Time Allowed. In case of equality of faults, ties will be broken on the following basis: an “Optimum Time” (defined as 4 seconds less than the Time Allowed for the course) will be posted on the course plan; the horse with the time on course closest to this Optimum Time (over or under) will prevail in the tie, next closest next, etc. Athletes with a time plus or minus 4 seconds of the optimum time will incur time penalties.</p> <p>c.—The first round and first jump off are decided by adding together the faults incurred over the course and any penalties for exceeding the Time Allowed. If a competitor has gone clear in the first round, the competitor will, without leaving the ring, upon an audible signal, commence the designated jump off course. In case of a fall of a Rider and/or Horse after crossing the finish line of the first round, the Rider/Horse combination may not continue to the jump off, and will be placed according to their Score in the first round. A competitor who leaves the arena after a clear round (before or after the tone) will be considered to have withdrawn from the jump off. In the case of equality of faults in the jump off, ties will be broken on the following basis: an “Optimum Time” (defined as 4 seconds less than the Time Allowed for the course) will be posted on the course plan; the horse with the time on course closest to this Optimum Time (over or under) will prevail in the tie, next closest next, etc. If there are no clear rounds and a tie exists, the results will be determined by the scores and time from that round. It is recommended that no more than twelve numbered obstacles be included in the first round when the class is scored under this table.</p> <p>d.—Special Two Phase Competitions—The first phase to consist of 5 to 7 jumping efforts and the second phase of 4 to 6 jumping efforts. Placing will be according to the aggregate penalties in both phases In the case of</p>

			<p>equality of faults, ties will be broken on the following basis: an "Optimum Time" (defined as 4 seconds less than the Time Allowed for the second phase.) will be posted on the course plan; the horse with the time on course closest to this Optimum Time (over or under) in the second phase will prevail in the tie, next closest next, etc.</p> <p>Athletes who are eliminated or retire from either the first or second phase will not be placed.</p>
Article 254.4	EA Participation, Age and number of Horses		<p>1. Split Height Competitions: Only competitions with a first round height of 1.35m and above may be conducted as Split Height Competitions. The minimum heights difference is 5cm and the maximum height difference is 10cm. All athletes shall jump the same track for both height divisions and the same 2nd round or jump-off if there is one.</p> <p>Horses may only start in one height division. Athletes may ride different horses in each division. Total prize money for the combined height divisions shall be awarded on the following basis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 60 percent to the highest division • 40 percent to the lower division
Chapter 14 – Australian Jumping Championships	14.1 General	14.1	<p>General</p> <p>1.1 The following are guidelines rules formulated by the Equestrian Australia Jumping Committee (EAJC) to assist Organising Committees in the conduct of the Australian Championships. The EAJC reserves the right to amend these rules at any time.</p> <p>1.2 The Australian Jumping Championships is an Event conducted for and on behalf of the Equestrian Australia, through Equestrian Australia Jumping Committee (EAJC)</p> <p>1.3 The Organising Committee (OC) is required to conduct the event within the guidelines rules current at the time of the event. published by the EAJC</p> <p>1.4 The EAJC will appoint a Technical Delegate to assist the OC in its preparation for and conduct of the Australian Championships.</p> <p>1.5 The Organising Committee must comply with the directions of the Technical Delegate appointed by the EAJC</p> <p>1.6 The Australian Jumping Championships should be an Event in its own right, not absorbed into an existing Event.</p> <p>1.7 The Australian Championships should be conducted over a minimum of four consecutive days</p> <p>1.8 All horses in Championship Divisions, other than those in Divisions with age</p>

			<p>restricted Athletes, must have a black on white bridle number. Horses in Athlete age restricted Championship Divisions must have a red on white bridle number.</p> <p>1.9 All horses in Championship Divisions are to remain on the ground after the Horse Inspection (Trot Up) until the completion of their final event competition. be stabled on the ground at the event. A stable will be made available for each Championship Division horse, if requested by the Athlete. Non stabled horses must be in a secure yard.</p> <p>1.10 All horses in Championship Divisions are to attend trot up at the start of the event.</p> <p>1.11 Children, Junior and Young Rider horses may not be ridden by another person other than the Athlete themselves from 6.00pm on the day preceding the commencement of the first competition until the conclusion of the relevant Championship. Others may lunge under the supervision of the Stewards. Contravening this rule will result in disqualification.</p>
	14.5 Competition Format – Division One	Competition Format – Division One	14.4 Competition Format – Division One
14.5	4.7		4.7 The water jump must be used twice during the Championship Divisions. Once in the first or second qualifier in the first qualifier with rails above, and the second time without rails in the first round of the final competition of the Championship for Seniors, Young Riders and Juniors. For Seniors it must be dug in. An above ground water jump is allowed for Young Riders and Juniors.
14.5	Second Qualifying Competition	Second Qualifying Competition	The First Qualifying Competition constitutes Round 1 of the Teams Competition
14.5	Second Qualifying Competition		<p>Second Qualifying Competition Conduct,</p> <p>Table, Speed</p> <p>This Second Qualifying Competition is conducted over one round run under Table A against the clock at a speed as per Art 234 JR's of 375 m per minute for Seniors and Young Riders and 350m per minute for Juniors and Childrens, with one jump-off. (JRs Article 238 2.2)</p>

14.5	Third and Final Competition		<p>Conduct, Table, Speed: The Third and Final Competition is conducted over two rounds (A) and (B) each judged under Table A against the clock with a time allowed at a speed of 375 m per minute as per Art. 234 JR's of 375m per minute for Seniors and Young Riders, and 350m per minute for Juniors and Children. (Art 273-3.3.2; Art 273-2.2). To be specified in the Schedule:</p>
14.5	Round A Obstacles		<p>Round A Obstacles,</p> <p>Round A Ten to 12 obstacles, including one double and one treble or three doubles.</p> <p>The water jump must be used in the first qualifier with rails above, and without rails in the first round of the final competition of the Championship for Seniors, Young Riders and Juniors. For Seniors it must be dug in. An above ground water jump is allowed for Young Riders and Juniors.</p> <p>Height: As per the table in 14.3.4, with the spread in proportion to the height. At least two vertical obstacles, which must be at maximum height. Water Jump must be used (see Art. 324.3): maximum 3.6 metres (including the take-off element). Length: 500 m minimum, 600 m maximum.</p> <p>Starting Order: The starting order in Round A of the Third and Final Competition is according to the reverse order of penalties (i.e. points transformed into penalties) after the Second Qualifying Competition.</p>
14.5	Competition Format – Division Two		<p>14.5 Competition Format – Division Two</p> <p>4.3.1 The following rules are to be used for Division Two Championships.</p> <p>4.3.2 Special Two-Phase Competition, Competitions to be run on 2 separate days. 50% or a minimum of the 20 best athletes will qualify for the final.</p>
14.7	Officials 7.1 Ground Jury		<p>14.7 Officials</p> <p>7.1 Ground Jury</p> <p>7.1.1 The Ground Jury shall consist of a President and a number of Judges of the appropriate categories. The Ground Jury is responsible for the technical</p>

			<p>judging of all Competitions for which it is appointed.</p> <p>7.1.2 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.</p> <p>7.1.3 The President of the Ground Jury must be from the list of FEI Level 2 or Level 3 Officials</p> <p>7.1.4 The duties of the Ground Jury are set out in Article 159 of the Equestrian Australia General Regulations 7.2</p>
14.7	Officials 7.2 Course Designer		<p>7.1 Course Designer</p> <p>7.1.1 Course Designers for National Championships must be selected from the FEI Level 3 or Level 4 List of Course Designers and appointed with the agreement of the EAJC</p> <p>7.1.2 The Course Designer is responsible to the Technical Delegate - for laying out the course, building any obstacles and for measuring the course.</p> <p>7.1.3 The Course Designer must report to the Technical Delegate - when satisfied that the course is ready in all respects.</p> <p>7.1.4 A Course Designer may not compete in any Competition at a National Championship for which he has acted as Course Designer.</p>
14.7	Officials 7.3.1 Technical Delegate		<p>7.1 Technical Delegate</p> <p>7.1.1 A Technical Delegate must be appointed by the EAJC, <u>after consultation with the Organising Committee</u>, for all EA National Championship Events, and are to be selected from qualified officials. the official EA lists.</p>
14.7	Officials 7.5.1 Stewards		<p>7.5 Stewards</p> <p>7.5.1 The OCs of Events must appoint a Chief Steward from the list of FEI Level 2 or 3 Stewards 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.</p>

14.7	Officials 7.5.7		7.5.1 Stewards are Event Officials. The Chief Steward must be from the list of FEI Officials
14.10	Horse Inspections		<p>14.10 Horse Inspections</p> <p>All Athletes competing in the Championships Divisions must present their own Horse(s) at the first Horse Inspection, which will be held on the day preceding the first qualifying Competition. 14.11</p> <p>Any Athlete who fails to present his Horse in person at either of these inspections without first obtaining the permission of the Technical Delegate or his representative, will be fined \$100.00. Horses not presented for a Horse Inspection are not eligible to start.</p>
14.11	Medication Control		<p>14.11 Medication Control</p> <p>12.1 Medication Control is mandatory Sampling of the winner and one or two random samples must be conducted in accordance with EA Rules for medication control.</p> <p>12.2 Medication control is under the direction of the Ground Jury.</p> <p>12.3 An appropriate area for medication Control sampling must be provided by the OC and approved by the Technical Delegate and Veterinary Officer.</p>
14.12	Entry Fee		<p>14.12 Entry Fee Division One Equestrian Australia National Jumping Rules 73</p> <p>14.12.1 For each of the four Competitions constituting the Australian Division One Championships only one entry fee must be charged for the first and second Qualifying Competitions. A single entry fee will be charged and Athletes qualifying for the third and Final Competition will be required to pay an acceptance fee.</p>
14.13	Draws		<p>14.13—Draws</p> <p>14.13.1 A random draw will be conducted for Competition one.</p> <p>14.13.2 For the second qualifying competition Athletes will start in the reverse order of points obtained from the first Competition.</p> <p>—14.13.3 The starting order in Round A of the Third and Final Competition is according to the reverse order of penalties (i.e. points transformed into penalties)</p>

			after the Second Qualifying Competition.