

FEI Endurance Rules 2014 Notes for Guidance

Art 804.2.4

Exceptional Circumstances: Such Exceptional Circumstances are those which arise on short notice and can be reasonably foreseen to produce unreasonable and unfair risks to Athlete and/or horses during the conduct of the event. Examples and advice for determining such shall be provided in the Endurance Notes for Guidance.

Notes for Guidance:

The most likely circumstance that could be met would relate to weather conditions during ride day itself.

Electrical storms and flooding are the two main reasons that might require the Officials to make a decision to either suspend the ride or to cut it short. Consideration must be given to how the final classification of those taking part will be handled.

Art 804.3.4

Catastrophic Occurrences or Circumstances: Those which arise on short notice and are determined to dangerously risk Athlete and/or horse safety, and which cannot be avoided through Course Modification, Rescheduling or Delay of the Event. Examples and advice for determining such shall be provided in the Endurance Notes for Guidance.

Notes for Guidance:

Violent storms or flash flooding is the usual cause of such circumstances. Abandonment of the event is the only course of action that might be open to the Officials making the decision.

In determining the action to be taken it is wise to seek specialised information from local authorities, Police and the nearest weather centre.

Art 801.4.2

Under the absolute control of the Course Designer or TD loops of the course must not be specially designed and constructed for speeds likely to subject the Horses to increased risk of injury during Competition.

Notes for Guidance:

Loops of courses can be designed and constructed but need to respect the definition of an Endurance Course as defined in Art 801.2 – 'technically challenging factors including footing, terrain, altitude, direction and speed.'

Art 801.8.2

The maximum number of grooms allowed within the Vet Gates will be 5 per Horse to take into account availability of space and to ensure that the Horse is allowed sufficient space to rest. Access to the Vet Gates and the Vet Gates examination area may be further restricted by the OC under advice from the TD. Such restrictions must be clearly shown in the FEI approved schedule. The right of the groom to access the Vet Gates is lost upon removal of the applicable Horse from the Competition.

Notes for Guidance:

The loss of access is in respect to the Vet gate areas and not on loops at authorised crew points.

Art 806.1

As timing plays such an important part in the competition, OCs must ensure that each Athlete's start and finish time for each timed phase is accurately noted and recorded by properly qualified persons using synchronised time-keeping methods. (See Endurance Notes for Guidance).

Notes for Guidance:

It is now common practice for Organisers to provide computerised timing systems. The FEI recommends that for 3 events computerised systems should always be used. However, should computerised systems not be available, and also even when they are, there should be a second "back up" system in place either by hard copy or by a second computer timing system.*

Art 806.2

Each Athlete will be issued a time card or acceptable and reliable alternative for each phase. (See Endurance Notes for Guidance).

Notes for Guidance:

These "time cards" may either be an actual paper/card copy or can be a "slash card" style item which is used. Such "slash card" should allow the athlete to access their timing record whilst within the vet gate.

Art 806.5

The veterinary gate system at compulsory halts must be used. (See Endurance Notes for Guidance).

Notes for Guidance:

Full detail of the vet gate system is contained within the FEI Veterinary Regulation. The lay out for the vet gate should allow for a "one way" system from start to finish and should be designed to ensure that horses are not delayed in being presented to the line Veterinarians once they have presented for vetting.

The vet gate protocol (as published and updated from time to time by the FEI) should be consulted and used when finalising the design of the vet gate itself.

Art 807.6.4

For other Permitted Assistance that is allowed please see Endurance Notes for Guidance. The Event Schedule shall be determinative for each event.

Notes for Guidance:

In recent times the requirement to protect the environment is increasing in importance for Endurance Events.

As such the OC in cooperation with the FEI should indicate in the schedule what is or is not allowed in the provision of assistance.

This will extend to include the places where assistance can be given (water) and whether any restrictions may apply in terms of the number of vehicles allowed in the provision of such assistance and the number of official crews that may be allowed access to those designated assistance points.

Art 807.7.4

Being followed, preceded or accompanied on any part of the course or immediate adjacent access track as defined (see notes for guidance) by any vehicle (notwithstanding art. 807.6.1).

Notes for Guidance:

The FEI Endurance Rules 2013 induct the requirement at certain events of a course designer. At all other events this aspect is managed by the technical delegate. Should the track or phase provide for a vehicle track adjacent to the designated horse track then consideration must be given to the potential risk of injury to the horse or rider or the potential welfare aspect caused by dust, sand or vehicle exhaust fumes. Therefore the course designer or technical delegate may preclude vehicles using such adjacent tracks if they believe there is a danger or risk in such usage.

Art 808.2

For additional specifics related to Endurance schedules, please refer to the Endurance Notes for Guidance.

Notes for Guidance:

The FEI General Regulation lists the specific cut off dates for the submission and approval of FEI Schedules.

Further it details the final date for changes to any approved schedule, to include the date change of the event itself.

Article 815.3.3

If a Horse has Failed to Qualify for lameness reasons at any CEI or National events it must be given, in addition to the rest period defined under art. 815.3.1, an additional mandatory rest period, of 14 days before it is again eligible to participate in a CEI or National Event.

If a Horse has Failed to Qualify for metabolic reasons which require immediate invasive treatment at any CEI or National events it must be given a mandatory rest period of 60 days before it is again eligible to participate in a CEI or National event.

Notes for Guidance:

*The FEI has written to All FEI Officials and Organisers to ensure that the correct information is shown on the results from FEI competitions with specific reference to **immediate invasive and extended rest periods under Arts 815.3.2 & 815.3.3.***

For guidance under the removal from competition of horses for metabolic reasons the following should be considered when providing treatment detail in reports and results.

The section of the above rules:

Any metabolic condition diagnosed in a horse that has Failed to Qualify that left untreated would compromise or threaten the welfare of the Horse would be considered a condition requiring invasive treatment.

If a Horse has Failed to Qualify for metabolic reasons which require immediate invasive treatment at any CEI or National Events it must be given a mandatory rest period of 60 days before it is again eligible to participate in a CEI or National Event

The following words are important to provide the correct information in the results:

metabolic reasons which require immediate invasive treatment

There must be a clear, unbroken chain of events which make it clear that the treatment is immediate. Only then does the extended rest period come into force.

Here are three examples for clarity:

a)

A horse fails to qualify due to metabolic reasons (severely dehydrated) and is sent immediately to the Treatment Team for attention. The Treatment Team immediately commence fluid treatment that is, in their opinion, needed to be administrated without delay upon the grounds of welfare.

In this case the horse's results should show ME-TR

b)

A horse fails to qualify due to metabolic reasons (HR of 70) and is sent immediately to the Treatment Team for attention. The Treatment Team undertake an examination and conclude that, in their opinion, there is no need to provide any form of invasive treatment but decide to hold the horse under observation. After a hour, the horse is then released.

In this case the horse's results should show ME

c)

A horse fails to qualify due to metabolic reasons (HR of 70) and is sent immediately to the Treatment Team for attention. The Treatment Team undertake an examination and conclude that, in their opinion, there is no need to provide any form of invasive treatment but decide to hold the horse under observation. After a hour, the horse is then released but the Treatment Team are subsequently asked by the horse Owner to provide some fluids as the horse is now required to make a long journey. The Treatment Team agree and provide such fluids. Note: this fluid treatment is NOT immediate and is not considered to be treatment that the horse must receive to directly address the immediate needs of the horse.

In this case the horse's results should show ME

Article 816

QUALIFICATION PROCEDURE & CERTIFICATES OF CAPABILITY (Please refer to Endurance Notes for Guidance for Transitional Arrangements)

Notes for Guidance:

Certificates of Capability can be downloaded from the FEI web site for each Championship.

There are two types - standard qualification and elite qualification.

Full detail must be supplied within the certificate to allow the FEI to check whether an athlete or horse has fully met the required/published criteria.

Whilst the FEI will do what it can to ensure any clarification is sought from the National Federation who has stamped and signed the Certificate (which is required to be submitted at the time of the nominated entry) the responsibility remains with the National Federation concerned to ensure the Athlete or horse is correctly qualified to be named on the nominated entry.

816.3.12

To achieve Senior Elite Athlete status, Athletes must have successfully completed a minimum of ten CEI 3* 160km events or higher. To maintain Senior Elite Athlete status, Athletes must successfully complete at least one CEI3* 160 km within every successive 24 months.

Notes for Guidance

*On the 1st January 2002, The FEI introduced a change to the description of Endurance events as defined in the rules of 2001. The basis of *Rating linked to distances was introduced and the detail published to come into effect on the 1st January 2002. This is the first reference to a CEI3* 160km competition appears.*

*The full rule review of 2005 included the new *Rating of competitions.*

The introduction of the Athlete Elite Status is to provide those Athletes, with considerable experience and up to date competition participation, every opportunity to compete at Championships around the world without the need to qualify as a combination with the intended horse but without reducing the requirements to ensure the welfare of the horse at all times.

This is why the qualification indicates that the events must be CEI 3 160km events or higher, together with the requirement that to maintain status the athlete must successfully complete at least one CEI160km event or higher within every successive 24 months.*

It would clearly be against this reasoning if an Athlete's events from unlimited previous years could be used to achieve Elite Status and thereby potentially put at risk the competition horse due to lack of experience and up to date competition participation.

Further, 'CEI3 160km' competitions were not in existence prior to 1st January 2002.*

To avoid question and to provide clarity the start date for Elite Level qualification is 1st January 2002.

Art 821.2.3

However, this list is not intended to be exhaustive and the good judgment of the GJ and Stewards shall be sacrosanct. (See Endurance Notes for Guidance)

Notes for Guidance:

Any attempt to delay the assessment of a horse`s heart rate after vet gate presentation may be the subject of a time penalty. Such time penalty to be added to the hold time thereby delaying that combination`s start to the next phase.

The penalty time added to the hold time should represent as closely as possible the time of the delay of presentation.

The responsibility to present the horse for heart rate assessment as quickly as possible rests solely on the person accompanying the horse.

The Ground Jury should request a member of the Veterinary Panel to undertake immediate assessment of the heart rate of any horse which the Ground Jury believes to be intentionally avoiding the timely presentation of the horse to the line Veterinarian.

Art 821.2.7

Heart Rate Re-Inspection: If during the Vet Gate Inspection the horse`s heart rate is higher than the parameters defined for that Inspection the horse may be presented a second time within the time allowed as defined.

There is no restriction on the use of Electronic Heart Rate Monitoring systems provided such equipment has been independently calibrated and have been approved for use by the FEI.

Art 821.2.2 now provides clear guidance on how such systems must be programmed and what information the system must provide.

Art 822.6

The procedure laid down in the Endurance Notes for Guidance should be used to establish the Best Condition Award. All entrants in the Best Condition Award remain subjected to medication control.

Notes for Guidance:

Horses entered in the BC Award should be eliminated from the competition if it is judged by the panel to be consistently lame, unable to complete the trot out due to lack of impulsion or exhaustion or its metabolic score indicates a metabolically compromised horse.

The competition is usually assessed on the day of the competition. Details of the criteria used to judge the award should be announced prior to the start of the assessment.

The BC Evaluation (download from the FEI web site – www.fei.org) is divided into 4 sections of equal points (100 points for each section).

Section 1 awards points according to the position of the horse compared with the first horse to finish.

Section 2 allocates points to the recovery time for each phase except for the finish. The recovery time is the time between when the rider completes the phase and presents for inspection. The horse must successfully pass the inspection.

Section 3 records the score for the traditional veterinary examination and is scored as follows:

Skin Test		Cap. Refill		Muc. Membrane		Gut Sounds		Surface Factors	
Seconds	Points	Seconds	Points	Seconds	Points	Seconds	Points		
1	10	1 to 2	10	A	10	Normal	10	No Lesions	10
2	7.5	2 to 3	7.5	B	7.5	Mid Decrease	7.5	Mild Lesions	7.5
3	5	3 to 4	5	C	5	Moderate Decrease	5	Moderate Lesions	5
4	2.5	4 to 5	2.5	D	2.5	Marked Decrease	2.5	Severe Lesions	Eliminate
Score		Score		Score		Score		Score	

Section 4 is optional for those countries that include weight in their normal BC judging. This score is obtained from subtracting the weight of the rider under examination from the weight of the heaviest rider in the BC. The score is obtained by subtracting this difference from 100. The winner of the competition is the horse with the highest score after the addition of the 4 sections.

Art 824

The FEI reserves the right to appoint the President of Ground Jury, the Foreign Judge, the President of the Veterinary Commission and Foreign Veterinary Delegate at all 3* Events and all CEIO Competitions. For CEI 1*, 2*, in special circumstances, the FEI has the right to consult with OCs, in a timely manner, to ask for a different balance of experience and expertise within the team of Officials proposed in the Schedule of the Competition the Event.

Notes for Guidance:

The FEI will liaise with Organisers through the National Federation in the event of wishing to appoint such Officials. The FEI will await the proposals for Officials to be appointed (noted in the Schedule submitted for approval) and will then contact the national Federation to either approve or request a change.

At all CEI 1*, 2* and 3* Events, the FEI may grant a dispensation in accordance with the FEI General Regulations Art.149.10 subject to a request being received from the National Federation concerned and in compliance with the conditions as detailed in the FEI Endurance Notes for Guidance.

Notes for Guidance:

The FEI General Regulations indicate that Event Officials who are engaged in the officiating of FEI events should not involve themselves with competitions of a "National" type.

Similarly the FEI Endurance Rules clearly state that it is not permitted for combinations taking part in an FEI event to be accompanied or "paced" during the competition by another combination.

The FEI will consider the approval of a combined "National" and "International" event upon application and will then advise the Technical Delegate and the President of Jury if such approval is given.

The Technical Delegate and President of Jury will be required to ensure that the FEI event officials can still undertake their duties fully whilst also overseeing the national Event. They will also be required to ensure the timings of the events are such so as to preclude National Combinations providing any International combinations with any form of assistance either in terms of pacing or any other form of assistance that could be considered to provide the International combination any unfair advantage.

Art 824.6 Independent Governance Advisors (IGAs)

824.6.1 At all FEI Endurance Events the FEI has the right to appoint an Independent Governance Advisor to attend the Event and to report back to the FEI in relation to the organisation of the Competitions, the venue and the course, the performance of the Endurance Officials and the suggested areas for improvement.

Notes for Guidance:

IGAs are appointed by the FEI under approval of the FEI Endurance Technical Committee.

Appointment is as follows:

- *Two to Four IGAs, two Vets and two Judges/TDs will be retained*
- *They must be a minimum 4* FEI Official with a minimum of ten years active experience*
- *They cannot accept any appointments other than FEI requests during their term of office*
- *Term of appointment is two years subject to an addition term authorised by the FEI Technical Committee*
- *Per diems agreed at 300 CHF per day to include travel days*
- *Economy air ticket provided by FEI*
- *Expenses and meals paid by FEI*
- *Acting as an IGA qualifies for maintenance as required under FEI rules*

IGAs are not active officials at events they may attend. They will provide support and guidance as required. They will provide regular reports to the FEI.

Appointment and Promotion of Officials:

Notes for Guidance:

The following criteria are in respect of those persons wishing to become an FEI Endurance Official or to obtain promotion to a higher status as an existing Official. Detail is also provided to maintaining such status achieved.

The FEI will from time to time, in cooperation with the recommendations of the FEI Endurance Technical and Veterinary Committees update/amend these criteria as required.

Such changes will only be made after consultation with Federations and will be tabled at the FEI General Assembly for information in advance of any such criteria change.

*Rating - **Judges**

For appointment to 2* FEI Official an applicant will:

- Have been a member of a Ground Jury or Appeal Committee at a CEI or acted as President of the Ground Jury at National Events during the current or preceding year.
- Speak one of the two official languages.
- Have qualified at an FEI course for International Candidate Judges "FEI Level I Course for Endurance Judges".
- Have been appointed an to FEI International Candidate Judge
- Have acted as a member of an Organising Committee, or as assistant to the Chief Steward or as Chief Steward at two events, preferably International.
- Be preferably under the age of 60.

For promotion to 3* Official an FEI Endurance Judge will:

- Have been a member of a Ground Jury at a minimum of 3 events, CEIs 1* or 2* level, in any one 2 year period.
- Have acted as President of the Ground Jury at a CEI 1* event during the current or preceding year.
- Have qualified at an FEI course for International Judges Level II Course for Endurance Judges.
- Have been a 2* Judge for a minimum of two years or two complete seasons

For promotion to 4* Official an FEI Endurance Judge will:

- Have been a member of a Ground Jury at a minimum of 3 CEIs events, 3* level, in any one 2 year period.
- Have acted as President of the Ground Jury at a CEI 2* event during the current or preceding year.
- Have attended a level 2 II (3*4*) course within the previous twelve months.
- Have been a 3* Judge for a minimum of two years or two complete seasons.

All officials, after qualifying within the above criteria must attend a course equal to their status **at least every 3 years** (2* - Level I / 3* and 4* - Level II). With the many changes within our sport in recent years it is considered that this requirement should be compulsory in the interests of safety and welfare. Anyone not attending courses within the agreed timeframe will be given notice to comply within a limited time or face being downgraded / dropped from the FEI lists.

***Rating – Technical Delegates**

For appointment to Technical Delegate 2* an applicant will:

- Have acted as a Technical Delegate or equivalent position at National Events during the current or preceding year.
- Speak one of the two official languages.
- Hold FEI International Endurance Judge status.
- Have qualified at an FEI course for Technical Delegates.
- Be preferably under the age of 60.

For promotion to 3* status an FEI 2* Technical Delegate will:

- Have been an FEI 2* Technical Delegate at a minimum of 3 CEIs events, 1* level, in any one 2 year period.
- Have qualified at an FEI course for Technical Delegates.
- Have been a 2* Technical Delegate for a minimum of two years or two complete seasons

For promotion to 4* status an Endurance Judge FEI 3* Technical Delegate will:

- Have been an FEI Technical Delegate at a minimum of 3 CEIs (2* level and above), in any one 2 year period.
- Have attended a Technical Delegate refresher course within the previous twelve months.
- Have been a 3* Technical Delegate for a minimum of two years or two complete seasons.

All officials, after qualifying within the above criteria must attend a course equal to their status **at least every 4 years**. With the many changes within our sport in recent years it is considered that this requirement should be compulsory in the interests of safety and welfare. Anyone not attending courses within the agreed timeframe will be given notice to comply within a limited time or face being downgraded / dropped from the FEI lists.

*Rating – **Endurance Official Veterinarians (EOV)**

Promotion to 3* FEI Veterinary Official

For promotion to 3* Official an FEI 2* Endurance Veterinarian will:

- Have been a 2* member of an FEI Veterinary Commission at a minimum of 4 CEIs events, 1* or 2* level, in any one 2 year period.
- Have been a 2* Veterinarian for a minimum of two calendar years or two complete seasons
- Have qualified at an FEI course for International Endurance Veterinarians within the current or preceding year.

Promotion to 4* FEI Veterinary Official

For promotion to 4* Official an FEI 3* Endurance Veterinarian will:

- Have been a President or Foreign Vet Delegate of an FEI Veterinary Commission at a minimum of 2 CEIs events, 2* level, in any one 3 year period.
- Have been a 3* member of an FEI Veterinary Commission at a minimum of 3 CEIs events, 3* level, in any one 3 year period.
- Have attended at least one Continuing Education event (seminar/conference) dedicated to Equine Sports Medicine and/or Exercise Physiology, or relevant FEI course, in any one 3 year period in the past three years.
- Have been a 3* Veterinarian for a minimum of three calendar years or three complete seasons.

All FEI Veterinary Officials, after qualifying within the above criteria must officiate at a minimum of 4 FEI Endurance rides and attend a course equal to their status (i.e. the course required for promotion to the relevant star level) **every 2 years**. With the many changes within our sport in recent years it is considered that this requirement should be compulsory in the interests of safety and welfare. It is expected that all FEI Endurance Veterinarians will remain current with changes in rules, protocols and prohibited/banned substances. Anyone not event active/attending courses within the agreed timeframe will be given notice to comply within a limited time or face being downgraded / dropped from the FEI lists.

*Rating – **Endurance Veterinary Treatment officials (EVT)**

All Endurance Veterinary Treatment Officials must first reach the same requirements as for the Official Veterinarians.

Promotion to 2* FEI Endurance Veterinary Treatment officials (EVT)

For appointment to 2* FEI Endurance Veterinary Treatment Official (EVT) an applicant will:

- **Member of veterinary commission for 3CEI's or CN's**
- Exposure to Equine Practice must be no less than 25% of their total clinical practice
- Have mentored the EVT at 3 Endurance Events (FEI or National), 2 of which must be 3* (or CEN equivalent)

Promotion to 3* FEI Endurance Veterinary Treatment Official (EVT)

For promotion to 3* FEI Endurance Veterinary Treatment Official (EVT) an applicant will:

- Have been a 2* FEI Endurance Veterinary Treatment Official (EVT) at a minimum of 4 events, **1* / CEN equivalent** or 2* level ~~in any one 2 year period.~~
- ~~Have been a 2* FEI Endurance Veterinary Treatment Official (EVT) for a minimum of two calendar years or two complete seasons.~~
- Have completed an advanced course, on the diseases of Competition Horses in particular the treatment of endurance horses approved by the FEI Endurance Technical Committee.
- Present to the Endurance Technical Committee a CV with 2 references demonstrating case exposure and skills in the treatment of the disease of Endurance horses

Promotion to 4* FEI Endurance Veterinary Treatment Official (EVT)

For promotion to 4* FEI Endurance Veterinary Treatment Official (EVT) an applicant will:

- Have been **President** FEI Endurance Veterinary Treatment Official (EVT) at a minimum of 2 events, 2* level ~~in any one 3 year period.~~
- Have been a 3* FEI Endurance Veterinary Treatment Official (EVT) at a minimum of 3 events, 3* level, ~~in any one 3 year period.~~
- Have attended at least one Continuing Education event (seminar/conference) dedicated to Equine Sports Medicine and/or Exercise Physiology, or relevant FEI course, in any one 3 year period.
- ~~Have been a 3* FEI Endurance Veterinary Treatment Official (EVT) for a minimum of three calendar years.~~

All FEI Veterinary Officials, after qualifying within the above criteria must officiate at a minimum of 4 FEI Endurance rides and attend a course equal to their status every 2 years. With the many changes within our sport in recent years it is considered that this requirement should be compulsory in the interests of safety and welfare. Anyone not event active/attending courses within the agreed timeframe will be given notice to comply within a limited time or face being downgraded / dropped from the FEI lists.

ANNEXE 1 - Appointment of Stewards on CEI events:

In addition to art. 825.3.5 and 825.4.5 of the Endurance rules, the appointment of stewards in 2015 on CEI events should comply with the following designation:

Event	Chief Steward level	Assistant Steward level
CEI1*	Level 2	Level 1
CEI2*	Level 2	
CEI3*	Level 2	
CEI4*	Level 3	
WEG	Level 4	