

To be read in conjunction with the 3PE Rules in particular clauses 14 & 20

1. COURSE DESIGNER

- 1.1. The Course Designer is the responsibility of the club, and required to plan the course map, lay out the course, ensure the obstacles are compliant and the course suits the space available.
- 1.2. Being the Course Designer does not preclude them from competing.
- 1.3. For a 3PE event to be accorded Official status, the course map must be approved by the 3PE Subcommittee.

Note; The Judge has the right to remove or alter the course on the day prior to the first rider, or where a safety issue arises with an obstacle after commencement of riders.

2. MAIN OBJECTIVES - COURSE DESIGN

- 2.1. Create interesting and rhythmical tracks (lines) with attractive obstacles that encourage free forward movement.
- 2.2. Look for a maximum of variation and diversity.
- 2.3. Try to avoid any risk of accidents.
- 2.4. Support the development of inexperienced Horse/Rider Combinations in the lower Levels to develop the feeling for rhythm and free forward movement and confidence with the obstacles.
- 2.5. Look to balancing the different kinds of skill in the horse and Rider.
- 2.6. Assist inexperienced Riders and young horses to obtain positive experiences and confidence.
- 2.7. Consider and verify the type of Competition (Style vs Speed and Accuracy phase).
- 2.8. Create an exciting sport to attract spectators and sponsors.

3. COURSE CRITERIA

- 3.1. Obstacles must be selected from those listed under rule 20.
- 3.2. The course/s will comprise of between 8 and 16 numbered obstacles with a minimum of 10 metres between each obstacle. Also, there should be a min of 10m from the start and finish lines.
- 3.3. Ensure that there is enough room between the obstacle and the arena edge for riders to be able to perform the required pattern without obstruction. (This distance will vary depending on the obstacle in place)
- 3.4. It is recommended that the minimum size of an arena should be 2500 sq metres with a minimum short side of 35m (ie: 72 x 35m).
- 3.5. First obstacle should be a flowing, non-technical obstacle, such as a slalom, or barrels.
- 3.6. Course must include at least one change of rein.
- 3.7. Course designer to take into consideration the size of the arena and the space needed for the obstacle. Eg a 5 pole single slalom will not fit along the side of a 40m arena, a min of 8m is required

between each pole plus, room for entry and exit, therefore a total of 55-60m is required. (Arena size must be noted on the course map)

- 3.8. Level 5 course is required to be a simplified course to encourage a positive experience which builds confidence of the horse and rider.
- 3.9. Ensure the course flows and riders are able to meet the judging criteria
- 3.10. Map must show position of mounting block and judge.
- 3.11. Obstacles must be listed on the Course Map and include instructions for obstacle such as the 2 or 3 Barrels, Side Pass Pole and Stock Pen

*Note; Instructions include Stock Pen – Anticlockwise then clockwise.
Competitors are to be directed to the Obstacle Guidelines for directives.*

4. SAFETY FACTORS

- 4.1. Ground conditions should be checked and distances between obstacles adjusted if required.
- 4.2. Check equipment for nails, screws and any sharp objects.
- 4.3. Check that Bridges, Banks and Varied footings do not have hoof traps before adding to a course.
- 4.4. Check that spare equipment is not left on the course.
- 4.5. Star pickets, if used, must be capped and kept clear of obstacles.
- 4.6. The arena rope must be clearly visible, eg. bunting or similar materials.
- 4.7. The use of blue plastic sheeting, or mattresses, must not be used in Competition.
- 4.8. If side rails are used for the Bridge, Bank or Varied footing, the rails must be construction in such a way that they can be quickly and easily removed without the use of tools.
- 4.9. Bridge and Bank must be non-slip and checked during the day for any changes to its safety.
- 4.10. When using the varied footing, the footing must be non-slip material. No mattresses, plastic tarps or other plastic to be used. Note - the Varied footing frame and surface must be approved by the 3PE Subcommittee.
- 4.11. In the construction of the Stock Pen, clubs must not use;
 - Electric fencing tape, rope, plasticized cable or other similar, continuous unbreakable product.
 - Driven in stakes or steel droppers.
- 4.12. Any broken obstacles must be removed and if possible replaced.
- 4.13. Any decorations should be secure, not at risk of falling over, and not hinder the horses approach or departure or obscurer the view of obstacles.

5. THE ROLE OF THE RING STEWARD/S

- 5.1. One the day of competition, a Ring Steward or Stewards must be appointed to the ring. The duties of the Ring Stewards are;
 - 5.1.1. Communicating with, and assisting the Judge by addressing any concerns (which may involve the calling on the Organising Committee).
 - 5.1.2. Resetting the course after each rider. This includes asking the rider if they would like the long or short Pick up pole, and placing it in the barrel in the position requested by the rider.
 - 5.1.3. Maintaining the course, which includes checking for any damage to obstacles, fixing anything that may have fallen over or moved and replacing or removing damaged obstacles in consultation with the judge.

APPENDIX A – COURSE DESIGN CHECKLIST

Does your map meet the following?

- Comprise of between 8 and 16 numbered obstacles showing the position on course (icon template available via the HRCav website)
- Numbers positioned on the right of each obstacle
- Includes directional arrows at obstacles (not line of track)
- Includes a list of obstacles for each phase
 - The Correct names of the obstacles are used
 - Directions where applicable eg Side pass pole (L to R or R to L) , Two and Three barrels (right first or left first) and the Stock pen (anticlockwise/clockwise)
 - Note any obstacle that is not required in the Speed and Accuracy phase (where same course is used for both phases)
- Include the start and finish lines
- Mounting box position
- Include the Arena size
- Judge position
- Sufficient space between each obstacle and the also the edge of the arena
- Any caution markers
- Meets the Main objectives of course design
- Photo and description of Varied footing is included where applicable

Appendix B – Course Specifications - Course Builders

DISTANCE

- 10m** Minimum between each obstacle.
(Where transition markers are used, it's from the markers)
- 10m** Minimum from start line to first obstacle or last obstacle to finish line
- NOTE** Sufficient distance from arena edge to each to obstacles to enable the obstacle to be perform without restriction.

NUMBERING OBSTACLES

- Numbers on the Right
8 to 16 for all levels

MARKERS

- Red on right
White on left
Yellow Caution

OBSTACLES

1. TWO BARRELS			12. SWITCH CUP	
3m to 4m	Distance apart		1.5m	Minimum height
2. THREE BARRELS			1.2m	Width
3m to 5m	Distance apart		2 poles (optional)	Minimum for all levels
3. DOUBLE SLALOM			4 poles (rectangle)	Preferred for Level 2 and above Optional for Level 5 to 3
4 to 7	Number of poles		3m	Length of rectangle
8m to 10m	Distance apart		13. POLE PICK UP	
4. SINGLE SLALOM			1.5m	Minimum length
4 to 7	Number of poles		2.4m	Maximum length
8m to 10m	Distance apart		2	Number of poles of different lengths
5. BRIDGE			14. THE RING	
3m	Minimum length		15cm	Ring Diameter
1m	Minimum width		1m to 1.7m	Height of ring
3m	Transition marker distance		15. POLE DROP OFF	
20cm	Maximum height of step up		N/A	
6. JUMP			16. WATER	
45cm	Levels 4 and 5		2m	across
60cm	Levels 3 and above		30cm	Deep
7. GATE			17. BANK	
1m	Minimum height		2m	Length of flat top
2m	Opening width		1m	Width
8. JUG TABLE (STYLE ONLY)			20cm to 50cm	Drop height
1m	Minimum height		30cm	Maximum drop height for Level 5
9. SIDE PASS POLE			3m	Transition marker distance (if required)
5cm to 10cm	Height		18. MOVE ITEM	
L or Z shape	Level 2 and above		1m	Minimum height
Phase 3 S&A	Not permitted levels 5 to 3		19. VARIED FOOTING	
10. BELL CORRIDOR			3m	Minimum length
3m	Length		1m	Minimum width
1.5m	Width		3m	Transition marker distance
50cm	Height of sides		20cm	Maximum height of frame
1.75cm	Height of Bell		20. STOCK PEN	
11. L CORRIDOR REIN BACK			4m	Width of entrance
Restricted	Level 2 and above only		12m	Minimum of outer diameter
3m	Length			
1.5m	Width			
50cm	Height of sides			