



Rule Changes Effective Immediately 2024

Changes To Event Rules

28.7 In obvious cases of exhaustion, illness or injury during an Event, the Ground Jury will decide whether the horse may continue in the Competition. This decision can be overruled by a vet. If a horse is deemed fit to compete by a vet approved by the Ground Jury, it may continue in further classes, provided a copy of the examination is provided to the Ground Jury.

Rationale Horse welfare

68.1 Any horse considered unsound by a Judge/Ground Jury will not be allowed to continue in anymore classes of the competition unless the decision is overruled by a vet. If a horse is deemed fit to compete by a vet approved by the Ground Jury, it may continue in further classes, provided a copy of the examination is provided to the Ground Jury.

Rationale Horse welfare

Add new rule

68.1.2 In obvious cases of exhaustion, illness or injury during an Event, the Ground Jury will decide whether the horse may continue in the Competition. Any horse considered unsound by a judge/ground jury/vet will not be permitted to continue in any other classes/phases of the Competition. The decision will stand in both cases unless overruled by a vet on the day of the event.

Rationale Horse welfare

Changes To Dressage Rules

26.1 Deleted - Refer to Event Rule 68

Rationale Horse welfare

PROPOSED NEW RULES FEEDBACK INVITED

Feedback on the proposed rule changes to be forwarded to info@hrcav.com.au before 24th October 2024

Combined Training & Horse Trials Rules

Delete Table of Number of Fences/Jumping Efforts on Cross Country (Page 7-9)

Rationale : now included in modified table below

DESCRIPTION OF FENCE	LEVELS				
	1	2	3	4	5
Vertical fence	1050mm	950mm	800mm	650mm	500mm
Minimum width of face (maximum of two obstacles) \$	1200mm	1350mm	1500mm	1500mm	1500mm
Drop Fence	1400mm	1200mm	1000mm	700mm	500mm
Brush Fence**	1250mm	1150mm	1000mm	850mm	700mm
Spread without height	2400mm	2000mm	1400mm	950mm	650mm
Spread with height:					
at highest point	1200mm	1000mm	800mm	650mm	500mm
at base	1800mm	1500mm	1200mm	800mm	650mm
Height of obstacle or bank into water					
With a drop	800mm	650mm	300 5mm#	150mm#	n/a
Without a drop	800mm	650mm	300 5mm#	150mm#	n/a
Maximum drop (incl obstacle)	1400mm	1200mm	1000mm	500mm	0
Height of jump out of water	900mm	750mm	500mm	400mm	n/a
Depth of water	300mm	300mm	300mm	300mm	300mm
Width of crossing	Min 9000mm	Min 9000mm	Min 6000mm	Min 6000mm	Min 6000mm
Number of Efforts	20-25	15-25	15-25	15-25	15-20
Cross country distance mtrs ##	2000-3000	2000-3000	1500-2500 1600-2400	1500-2500 1200-2000	1200-2000 1200-1600
Cross country speeds in meters per minute	500	450	400	350	300
Distance to finish (min – max mtrs all levels) (Note that there should be a broad relationship maintained between distance and efforts)	25- <u>50</u>				
<u>Distance start box to first fence (m)</u>	<u>50-75</u>				
Notes					
# must have ramp option					
\$ Fences less than the described minimum face may be offered but must have an option fence given.					
## The course distance must be measured using the option which measures within the table of height, speeds and distances.					

****Brush fences must be regularly maintained and allow horses to pass readily through the brush and not present a 'solid' element to the fence. Back of brush box MUST NOT be higher than front. The material used must be such that the risk of injury to horses is as small as possible. Thick stems and sharp ends after trimming/cutting must be avoided. Back rail must be 100mm lower than front rail.**

Table of Heights, Speeds, Distances (Page 7-10)

Show Jumping specifications					
Show Jumping heights (maximum)	1050mm	950mm	800mm	650mm	500mm
Show Jumping widths (maximum)	1200mm	1000mm	800mm	650mm	500mm
Show Jumping speeds in mpm (large arena)	325	300	300	275	250
Show Jumping speeds in mpm (small arena <2400m ²)	300	275	275	275	250
Distance from start to first fence & last fence to finish m	6-15 m (all levels)				

Rationale

- *To align with PCAV and EA dimensions, allowing clubs to use shared courses or courses owned by PCAV or EA clubs without requiring changes to dimensions. By aligning HRC AV dimensions with PCAV and EA, clubs will be able to run an event in conjunction with a PCAV or EA event without issues of the dimensions not being the same. This may make it possible for clubs to run with another event from another organisation.*
- *Changes to brush jump dimensions also to simplify the requirements.*
- *Changes to water jump dimensions and mandatory ramp options are due to feedback received from competitors and former competitors about why HRC AV horse trials are not well attended these days in preference to EA and open pony club events. EA and open pony club events are being very well supported while numbers are declining at HRC AV events. Feedback has been provided that water jumps are too challenging in HRC AV therefore not in alignment with other organisations. If competitors have not set their training level on HRC AV requirements, they generally prefer not to enter and stick to EA and pony club competitions.*

PROPOSED CHANGE TO TOE DIPPING RULE CT/HT 12.7

Current

12.7. 'Toe dipping' or 'padding' is not permitted under penalty of elimination.

Proposed

Remove Rule 12.7

Rationale: HRC AV now has Yellow Card System which will address any safety concerns.

Showjumping Rules

Existing SJ 27.3

A fall of a horse or rider or both, after entering the arena and before crossing the finishing line, whatever, the cause, is penalised by elimination from that class. A fall of horse or rider or both, after crossing the finishing line but before leaving the arena is not penalised by elimination, however, the combination is not permitted to take part in any jump-off or second round if applicable for that class and will be placed after combination taking part in any jump-off or second round. The combination is not eligible to earn performance points for the class.

Proposed 27.3

*A fall of a horse or rider or both, after entering the arena and before crossing the finishing line, whatever, the cause, is penalised by elimination from that class. A fall of horse or rider or both, after crossing the finishing line but before leaving the arena is not penalised by elimination, however, the combination is not permitted to take part in any jump-off or second round if applicable for that class and will be placed **equal last in the jump off with combinations which have withdrawn, retired or been eliminated in the jump off.** The combination is not eligible to earn performance points for the class.*

Rationale: *Align with EA*

Propose to add SJ 27.3.2

Participation in subsequent classes by riders who have fallen is only permitted when the OC's Medical/First Aid officer advises the judge(s) that the rider has been approved to continue by the medical personnel attending the event.

Rationale: *Fill loophole in communication process*

Event Rules

Propose to add: Event Rule 19.4

At Show Jumping Events, Host Clubs must appoint Medical/First Aid Personnel to advise judges when riders who have fallen are cleared by medical personnel to take part in subsequent classes.

Rationale: *Fill loophole in communication process*

Event Rule 24.7.3 -Current

Points earning classes must have a first round which is not against the clock and a jump off against the clock where at least 50% of the fences are at maximum height for the level. The first round must have a time allowed and a time limit (eg: AM5, 2 Phase or AM7). If 2 Phase is used, the 2nd phase must comprise 6 obstacles, one of which may be a combination, and be judged according to SJ rule 55.5.2,55.5.4 or 55.5.6

Proposed - The second *Points earning class of the day must have a first round which is not against the clock and a jump off against the clock where at least 50% of the fences are at maximum height for the level. The first round must have a time allowed and a time limit (eg: AM5, 2 Phase or AM7). If 2 Phase is used, the 2nd phase must comprise 6 obstacles, one of which may be a combination, and be judged according to SJ rule 55.5.2,55.5.4 or 55.5.6*

Rationale - *Now that we have reinstated the availability of 2 points earning classes per day, allow clubs the opportunity to choose from a wider range of competitions*

Three Phase Equitation Rules

CLAUSE NUMBER	CHANGE	RATIONALE
1.3 a)	Remove the wording "Traditional" Add in; Note; This format to only be used when multiple rings and equipment are available. eg Min of one for each Style and Speed and Accuracy	To ensure competitions are run efficiently and enjoyable.
Rule 5.5.5.3	Update to read – Upon attendance at the Training Clinic, <i>Candidates will be required to sit an open written Rule Book exam</i> and <i>the</i> completion of log sheet. This exam covers all aspects of the HRC AV's General and Event Rules and Regulations including those pertaining to 3PE and a pass mark of 90% is required. Candidates who fail the open Rule Book exam at the first attempt may re-sit the exam within 3 months.	Discrepancy with the rules. Re new judges. Should read - Exam then pencil & shadow.
Rule 5.5.2 – review	5.5.2.2 to be update Title to read; All other candidates. Remove 5.5.2.3.	Due to the criteria now being the same for candidates which are not Dressage judges.
11.5	Remove; <i>Advance from the current Level 1 rows.</i>	Introduce individual Modifying marks for riders assessed as advanced dressage however riding at a lower level including Level 1 3PE

Add in the below rows

Dressage Level	3PE Level	Modifying Mark
<i>Advanced</i>	1	-5
<i>Advanced</i>	2	-10
<i>Advanced</i>	3	-15
<i>Advanced</i>	4	-20
<i>Advanced</i>	5	-25

14.1.1.	Add wording- The footing must be only one type of footing and the description of footing stated on the course map.	To inform judges and riders of what was approved and prevent the footing being changed without approval.
15 - Style Penalty Table	Error of course to have " eg " added to the examples.	So as not to limit what is an error of course
	Add to the elimination column; Missing 3 obstacles on course.	To restrict the number of obstacles a rider can miss and still potentially place.

	Reword to read;	Clarify
	Bridge, Wooden Bank or varied footing: Stepping off sideways with min of 2 hooves	Clarify
16 - Speed and Accuracy Penalty Table	Add foot note below the table; Side pass – knocked off the stands is reflected in the score.	
	Update heading of the first column to read; 5 10 seconds each occasion- Obstacle	Each occasion was subjective and not the intention of the rule. 5 sec was not having the intended impact on the results.
	Add to the 10 sec column; Level 4 not showing min of 2 backward steps	Clarify penalty in the rules.
	Add foot note below the table; Side pass pole- receives one penalty even if touch multi -times or knocked off stands.	Clarify penalty in the rules.
20 7. Gate	Add wording- max height 1.5m.	To provide clear dimensions
	Add wording - It is recommended that a solid gate be a height of 1.3m.	To provide a guidance to clubs when building equipment.
	Add wording – The gate must be opened in a safe manner and not opened with rope under the horse's neck. Eg Level 4 & 5 – opening the rope gate and passing/throwing the rope under the horse's neck to the opposite side.	Safety
20 9. Side Pass Pole	Remove; At Level 2 and above, an L or Z shape may be used.	L and Z proving to be too big a jump in Level 2 as this level is now required to do the full pole. Z proving to be too difficult for Level 1.
	Update to read; Level 2 – single pole or two parallel poles only Level 1 – L shape may be used Advanced – Z shape may be used	
	Add wording – It is recommended to have a have a 2.4 to 3m pole for level 2 and where an L or Z is used.	To provide a guidance to clubs when building courses so poles are not too long.

<p>20 10. Bell Corridor</p>	<p>Update wording to read; Level 3 and above rider performs full rein back out of the corridor</p>	<p>To clarify requirements</p>
<p>20 12. Switch cup</p>	<p>Update wording to read; Level 2 and above, may have a rectangle of poles, so would then rein back and place the cup on the opposite pole at the start of the rectangle, then continue to back out of the obstacle.</p>	<p>To clarify requirements</p>
<p>20 17. Bank</p>	<p>Immediate safety rule change – Add – Where a “Wooden” bank is used it is to be no higher than 30cm high for all levels.</p>	<p>Safety</p>
<p>20 18. Move item</p>	<p>Reword to read; This obstacle consists of an item placed on a drum or post at least 1m high, which is picked up and carried a min of 10m by the rider, then replaced either in the same place or elsewhere as instructed. If the item/object is to be replaced/dropped off in the same position as it was picked up the obstacle will have specific instructions on the map and markers or red and white flags on the obstacle course to direct the rider. The object could be a small flag, small hessian feed bag, oil skin coat, or Akubra hat for example. The object should be easy to grasp/pick up and hold while riding and stable and weighty enough to resist falling or blowing off the drum or post. Larger flapping items would be best suited only for the higher levels. Riders may carry the item while also holding onto the reins with both hands or in one hand while riding with the reins in the other hand. The rider will approach the table in a gait appropriate to the level, then halt* and retrieve the item. The rider will then walk, trot or canter to the drop off point, which is to be a min of 10m away. The rider then Halts* and places the item at the drop off point. may be close by or some distance away.</p>	<p>To clarify requirements</p>
<p>20 19. Varied Footing</p>	<p>Add wording; The footing must be only one type of footing. Examples of suitable a footing would be low pile plain carpet, wood chip, rubber mat or fake grass. The frame and footing should is not able to move during the duration of the competition or cause a safety concern.</p>	<p>To provide more guidance</p>

	Update wording to read; The Varied Footing frame must be a minimum of 3 metres in length, 1 metre wide and no more than 20cms high with a min plank size of 45mm x 75mm or equivalent.	To provide a min requirement
	Update photos to show it can be a low frame.	To be more accurate of what is expected.
20 20. Stockpen	Reword last sentence – This obstacle can be ridden in one direction only in the Speed and Accuracy Phase. To; This obstacle can may be ridden in one direction only or both directions , in the Speed and Accuracy Phase as per course plan instructions.	Rationale- to correct wording so the rule is interrupted as intended.

Updated level 3 Style phase (Judging Criteria) gait to change

STYLE PHASE (JUDGING CRITERIA)		
Level	Gait	Directives
3	Walk or Trot*	Gait, shape and evenness of circles, rhythm, bend , quality of the change of rein

To read

STYLE PHASE (JUDGING CRITERIA)		
Level	Gait	Directives
3	Walk or Trot* or Canter*	Gait, shape and evenness of circles, rhythm, bend , quality of the change of rein

Rationale – the required standard for these levels is Trot and canter

Update tables for Obstacles 20.13 – Pole Pick up, 20.14 - Ring, 20.15 Pole Drop off

From

STYLE PHASE (JUDGING CRITERIA)		
Level	Gait	Directives
2	Walk or Trot* or Canter*	Gait, Rhythm, straightness, accuracy

To

STYLE PHASE (JUDGING CRITERIA)		
Level	Gait	Directives
2	Walk or Trot* or Canter*	Gait, Rhythm, straightness, accuracy

Rationale – the required standard for these levels is Trot and canter.