

HORSE RIDING CLUBS ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA INC.

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COMBINED TRAINING AND HORSE TRIALS RULES

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HRC AV

HORSE RIDING CLUBS ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA INC.

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Section 7 Combined Training and Horse Trials Events

General Information

PREAMBLE

The following Rules have been adopted by the Horse Riding Clubs Association of Victoria (HRC AV) and must be followed by all bodies running Official Combined Training Events or Horse Trials Events.

Every eventuality cannot be provided for in these Rules. In any unforeseen or exceptional circumstances, it is the duty of the Technical Delegate, Ground Jury or the Organising Committee to make a decision in a sporting spirit whilst adhering as closely as possible to the intention of these Rules, so providing fair conditions for all Competitors.

These Rules have been drawn up in the broadest possible spirit to allow Organising Committees the fullest freedom in the management of their Events and in the preparation of their Programs. The Rules are established so the Competitors may compete against each other under fair and equal conditions.

These Rules are only complete when read in conjunction with all Rules and Regulations of the HRC AV.

1. GENERAL

1.1. Combined Training is a Competition comprising of a Dressage Test and a Showjumping round where the penalties incurred in each phase are added together. Combined Training is always scored in penalty points therefore the Competitor with the LOWEST score has the highest placing.

1.2. Horse Trials is an Event consisting of three phases as follows:-

- One Dressage Test
- One Showjumping round
- One Cross-Country phase

1.3. Horse Trials are scored in penalty points and the penalties incurred in each phase are added together. The Competitor with the LOWEST score has the highest placing.

1.4. In principle, the cross country test should be by far the most influential of the three tests that comprise the Competition. The Dressage Test, while much less influential than the Cross-Country Test, should be slightly more influential than the Showjumping Test. The course, obstacles and conditions for the Cross-Country and Showjumping tests should be arranged in so far as possible to ensure that the relative influence of the three tests is as above.

2. SADDLERY AND EQUIPMENT

2.1. Only saddlery and equipment, as specified in the Dressage and Showjumping Rules, is permitted. In the Dressage phase, saddlery and equipment rules applicable to the level of competition will apply regardless of the level of the rider with the exception of the use of double bridles (refer to rule 2.2).

2.2. Double bridles may not be used in the Dressage phase of Horse Trials. In Combined Training, double bridles may be used in the Dressage phase of the Level 1 class/es by combinations assessed at level 1 or above for Dressage.

1.1. Body protectors are compulsory for the cross country phase of Horse Trials events. From 1st July 2021 body protectors manufactured after 2009 and complying with the following standards are mandatory:

- EN13158:2009 Level 3
- BETA 2009 Level 3
- EN13158:2018 Level 3
- BETA 2018 Level 3

2.3. Any form of protective skin covering on the horse such as plaster/tape/belly band covering or towel, whether the skin is broken or not, is strictly forbidden at an event when the horse is under saddle during training, warm-up and competition and will entail elimination.

3. ORDER OF PHASES

3.1.1. Combined Training Events

3.1.2. The Dressage Test must always be ridden first. The draw must provide for Competitors to have an interval of 30 minutes between completion of Dressage and the start of the Showjumping.

3.2. Horse Trials Events

3.2.1. The Dressage Test must always be ridden first. The order of the Cross-Country and Showjumping phases is optional but consideration should be given, where possible, to running cross country first with the order clearly stated in the Program. All competitors in a class are required to complete phases in the same order. The draw must provide for Competitors to have a minimum interval of 30 minutes between completion of one phase and the start of the next (45 minutes is recommended). When Showjumping takes place after the Cross-Country, Competitors must be allowed an interval of 40 minutes between these phases (one hour is recommended in hot weather). In exceptional circumstances the Technical Delegate, Ground Jury may authorise a reasonable reduction in these minimum intervals.

4. SCORING

4.1. The same Horse/Rider Combination must complete all phases mounted. Elimination from one phase involves elimination from the whole Competition. Eliminated combinations may continue only with the permission of the Technical Delegate.

4.2. To calculate Dressage Penalty Points, the total of good marks is subtracted from the maximum marks obtainable in order to convert good marks into penalties.

4.3. In Combined Training and Horse Trials Events, the Dressage penalty points, including any penalty points for errors of course or test, will be multiplied by 0.60 for all competitors.

4.3.1. A modifying mark, calculated from the table below shall be applied after all other calculations have been applied to/from the Dressage penalty points. The modifying mark is based on the competitor's straight Dressage level as shown on their dressage performance card, to enable the dressage scores to exert the appropriate influence on the result of the whole Competition. The resulting total is the score in penalty points for the test. Results should be calculated to two decimal places.

4.3.2	1. Dressage Level	2. Horse Trials or CT Level	3. Modifying Mark
	1 or Advanced	1	0
	1 or Advanced	2	+5
	1 or Advanced	3	+10
	1 or Advanced	4	+15
	1 or Advanced	5	+20
	2	2	0
	2	3	+5
	2	4	+10
	2	5	+15
	3	3	0
	3	4	+5
	3	5	+10
	4	4	0
	4	5	+5
	5	5	0

4.4. The final score for each Competitor is reached by adding together all the penalty points incurred from the phases.

4.4.1. An additional 10 penalties shall be added to the score of competitors riding at a lower level in accordance with Event rule 5.5.

- 4.5. The winner is the Competitor with the lowest total of penalty points.
- 4.6. In the event of equality of penalty points in Combined Training the winner shall be the Competitor with the least Showjumping penalties (total of Showjumping and time penalties, if any). If there is still a tie, the winner shall be the Competitor whose Showjumping time is closest to the time allowed. If there is equality of time, the Competitors are placed equal.
- 4.7. In the event of equality of penalty points in Horse Trials, the winner and placegetters will be the Competitors with the least Cross-Country penalties (total of jumping and time penalties). If there is still a tie, the winner will be the Competitor whose cross-country time was the closest to the time allowed. If there is equality of time, then the Competitor with the least Show Jumping Penalties shall be the winner. If there is still a tie, then the Competitor with the time closest to Time Allowed in Show Jumping shall be the winner. If there is still a tie after Show Jumping, they shall be considered equal.
- 4.8. Rules 4.5 and 4.6 apply to tied placegetters also.

5. RIDING IN ARENAS OR OVER CROSS COUNTRY COURSE

- 5.1. Competitors may not, under penalty of elimination, ride on, over or near any part of a Cross-Country course, nor enter the Dressage or Showjumping arenas, except when actually competing.
- 5.2. An outline of the cross country obstacles will not be published in advance. If Competitors ride over any of the obstacles on the Cross-Country course at any level within 29 days of the Event being held, (not including the day of the event), they must compete hors concours.
- 5.3. No Competitor may compete other than hors concours on a horse which has had the opportunity to practise over any of the obstacles at any level within 14 days of the Event (not including the day of the event).

Dressage Phase

6. GENERAL

- 6.1. Official HRC AV Dressage Tests must be used for Combined Training Events.
- 6.2. The following Official HRC AV Dressage Tests must be used for Horse Trials only:
 - 6.2.1. Level 1 Competitors – Tests 1.1 or 1.2
Level 2 Competitors - Tests 2.1 or 2.2
Level 3 Competitors – Level 3 Tests
Level 4 Competitors - Level 4 Tests
Level 5 Competitors - Level 5 Tests
- 6.3. The Rules for the Dressage phase are the same as those set out in "Rules for Dressage Events", except where modified in these Rules.
- 6.4. Tests may be commanded (called) at Official Combined Training Events, and Horse Trials which includes Top Team Trophy Events.
- 6.5. If there is doubt as to the soundness of the horse, the Competitor will be allowed to complete the Test, and any unevenness of pace will be severely penalised.
- 6.6. The Judge will report the matter to the Technical Delegate, Ground Jury who will decide if the horse shall be permitted to continue the Competition. If the horse is so lame, that in the opinion of the Judge it ought not to be asked to complete the Test, the Judge may, without appeal, eliminate the Competitor.

7. MARKING SHEETS

- 7.1. The Judges' marking sheets must be made available to Competitors when the Dressage penalties for all Competitors in their Section have been posted.
- 7.2. Rule 7.1 does not apply at Combined Training Events when a Competitor is to compete in a second Dressage Test under the same Judge. Refer Dressage Rule 23.3.

Showjumping Phase

8. GENERAL

- 8.1. "Rules for Showjumping Events" must be used except where modified within these Rules including the use of an Official Course Designer as specified in SJ rule 61.5.
- 8.2. The Showjumping phase consists of one round of the course (no jump off), judged under the Rules of Table A but with a modified Table of Penalties. These Rules apply for the Showjumping phase at Combined Training and Horse Trials Events.
- 8.3. Jumping Equitation may be used as the Showjumping phase of a Combined Training Event which should then be referred to as "Jumping Equitation Combined Training". The Showjumping phase is ridden and judged according to the Rules for Jumping Equitation, using Combined Training heights and widths. The total of good marks awarded by the Judge is subtracted from the maximum marks obtainable in order to convert good marks into penalties.

9. SHOWJUMPING COURSE SPECIFICATIONS

- 9.1. The course will be simple and straightforward, with easy intervals between the obstacles, and will be laid out over a distance of not more than 750 metres. The showjumping phase of a Horse Trials Event is not an ordinary Showjumping Competition, nor a test of style or endurance. Its sole objective is to prove that, after a severe test of endurance, the horses have retained the suppleness, energy and obedience necessary for them to continue.
- 9.2. Red and white boundary flags mark the start and finish but need not be used to mark the extremities of the obstacles provided these are clearly defined.
- 9.3. The plan of the course, showing the Time Allowed (Note: there is no time allowed for Jumping Equitation), must be posted not less than one hour before the Showjumping commences. The course will be available for inspection at least 30 minutes before the start of the Showjumping.
- 9.4. Before the commencement of each Level and/or Section, a break of 10 minutes minimum should be allowed for Competitors to walk the course..
- 9.5. There will be 9 to 12 numbered obstacles, including at least one combination, solid and imposing in appearance as available materials allow. Treble combinations must not be used for levels 3 – 5.
- 9.6. As Level 5 Competitors are inexperienced only one combination of TWO elements within the course is allowed. The distance between the two elements must be two strides or the equivalent adjustment due to ground conditions, slope of terrain etc.
- 9.7. In Combined Training and Horse Trials, the Show Jumping Heights, Widths and Speeds listed below must be used. Maximum dimensions for the first

three fences must be at least 5cm lower than the maximum dimensions for the level.

SHOW JUMPING SPECIFICATIONS	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Maximum Height cm	105	95	80	65	50
Maximum Width cm	110	100	80	65	50
Speed in small arena (less than 2400m2) mpm	300	275	275	275	250
Speed in large arena mpm	325	300	300	275	250
Distance from start to first fence & last fence to finish m	6-15 (all levels)				

10. PENALTIES.

10.1. The penalties for the Showjumping phase are as follows:-

First disobedience	10 penalties
Second disobedience in whole round	20 penalties
Third disobedience in whole round	Elimination
Knocking down an obstacle	5 penalties
Touching boundary mark of water or feet in the water or in the ditch	5 penalties
First fall of horse and/or Rider	Elimination
Error of course not rectified	Elimination
Omission of obstacle or boundary flag	Elimination
Retaking an obstacle already jumped	Elimination
Jumping obstacle in wrong order	Elimination
For every commenced second in excess of the Time Allowed	.25 penalty
Exceeding the Time Limit (which is twice the Time Allowed)	Elimination

Cross-Country Phase

11. GENERAL

11.1. The Cross-Country phase of Horse Trials is intended to prove the use of the horse across country and to demonstrate the Competitor's knowledge of training fitness and jumping ability as well as pace, within their Level. Cross-Country is timed and penalties are incurred for exceeding the Time Allowed. In addition, penalties are incurred for mistakes or faults at obstacles.

12. COURSE SPECIFICATIONS

12.1. In the Cross-Country phase of Horse Trials the jumping heights, widths, speeds and number of obstacles listed below must be used.

12.2. As Level 5 Competitors are inexperienced, only combinations of TWO obstacles are allowed. The distance between the two obstacles must be two strides.

12.3. Any roof or other fixed and solid barrier over an obstacle must not be less than 3.50m above ground level.

12.4. Only one drop fence to the maximum listed below may be included on a course. The total number of drops may not be excessive.

12.5. An approved **Cross Country Course Accreditor** (CCCA) must approve the cross country course/s at all Horse Trials events. The preliminary inspection/s should take place 2 to 5 weeks prior to the event. Final inspection should be completed no later than 4 pm on the day prior to the cross country phase of the event. The course must be officially opened for walking (including availability of maps) no later than 4 pm on the day prior to the cross country phase of the event. Refer to Appendix 3, 4, 5 and 6 of CT/HT rules for details of cross country course accreditation.

12.6. The Cross Country Course Accreditor will be responsible for ensuring the cross country course is safe, within HRCVA specifications for height and width, distances, number of fences and efforts, etc. The Course Accreditor can decree the alteration or removal of cross country obstacles that do not comply with the HRCVA Rules or are deemed to be unsafe. The Organising Committee must carry out the instructions of the Course Accreditor as specified. Failure to comply with the instructions of the CCCA will result in loss of the event's official status.

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

12.8. Bounce fences are not permitted

Table of Number of Fences/Jumping Efforts on Cross Country

LEVEL	NO. OF FENCES	NO. OF JUMPING EFFORTS
5	12 - 15	14 - 18
4	12 - 15	14 - 18
3	14 - 18	17 - 22
2	15 - 21	18 - 25
1	16 - 25	20 - 30

NOTE: Courses should not combine the maximum number of fences together with the maximum number of jumping efforts

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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					
brush height **	1250mm	1150mm	1000mm	800mm	650mm
Front rail height	950mm	800mm	700mm	550mm	400mm
Rear rail height	850mm	700mm	600mm	450mm	300mm
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	500mm	0	n/a
Without a drop	800mm	650mm	500mm	0	n/a
Drop not to exceed	1200mm	900mm	800mm	400mm	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
Cross country distance mtrs ##	2000-3000	2000-2800	1600-2400	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- 100 -50				
Distance start box to first fence (m)	50-75				
<u>Notes</u>					
# 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.					
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 <2400m2)	300	275	275	275	250
Distance from start to first fence & last fence to finish m	6-15m (all levels)				

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.

Table of Heights, Speeds, Distances

13. DISTANCE OF COURSES

- 13.1. The Organisers must ensure that all courses are measured accurately and the distances are within the specified limits for each Level.

14. TIME FOR COURSES

- 14.1. The Time Allowed for each course is designated according to the specified speed for the respective Levels.
- 14.2. If prevailing conditions such as wet weather, or the nature of the terrain make it extremely difficult or unsafe for Competitors to complete the course/s in the Time Allowed, the time/s should be extended.

15. CONSTRUCTION

- 15.1. Safety is most important in all fence construction. Steel posts must not be used, ends of the tie wire must be concealed and there should be no loose wire, string or rails etc., in or close to obstacles.
- 15.2. Post and rails must be as heavy as possible to encourage horses to jump well. Minimum size for rails 12 - 15 cm and thicker rails are preferable. Earth filling requires many months to consolidate, and it must be in position well before the date of the Event to allow this to happen.
- 15.3. Wire fencing adjacent to obstacles must be protected eg: with rails or bags, for a distance not less than 5 metres in either direction. Obstacles should be built as wide as possible. Prefer to minimum face width in Table of Obstacle Specifications.
- 15.4. Cross-Country obstacles at which a horse in falling is likely to be trapped or to injure itself, must be built in such a way that that part of the obstacle can be quickly dismantled, and can be quickly re-built exactly as before. Such a construction must not in any way detract from the solidity of the obstacle. It is strongly recommended that rope lashing be used for the construction of the obstacles.
- 15.5. On all cross-country fences, all sharp edges must be rounded and all posts tapered.

- 15.6. All obstacles on the course are to be fixed securely so as not to be able to move or tip if struck by a competitor. Jumps to be fixed using either timber posts of at least 100mm diameter, buried a minimum of 500mm in the ground at the back of the jump, alternatively, fixed with brackets and spirals of at least 300mm in length at the front of jump.
- 15.7. The obstacles at which a Horse, in falling, is likely to be trapped or to injure itself, must be built in such a way that part of the obstacle can be quickly dismantled and can be quickly rebuilt exactly as before. Such a construction must not in any way detract from the solidity of the obstacle.
- 15.8. Brush on top of fences must be made of flexible and deformable material. The fence must be constructed so that a Horse clearing the fixed and solid part is unlikely to be injured by the brush or hedge. Bullfinches, i.e. thin brushes or hedges through which a Horse can be expected to jump are permitted, provided they can be maintained in consistent condition throughout the test.
- 15.9. Frangible/deformable obstacles All open oxers, open corners, verticals or near verticals with open rails, top rail on triple bars and gates over 1.00m are to be constructed/secured using MIMS clip frangible devices. This is to enable the rail to collapse if struck by the competitor to avoid rotational type falls. It is recommended that 95cm jumps also use these devices for safety.

16. DEFINITION OF OBSTACLES

- 16.1. An obstacle is considered as such if and only if its extremities are marked with a red and white flag or flags and it is numbered.
- 16.2. All significant jumping efforts that the average horse may be expected to attempt to negotiate must be defined as an obstacle or element and flagged, numbered and/or lettered accordingly.
- 16.3. The last obstacle shall not be less than 25m nor more than 100m from the finish.

17. NATURE OF OBSTACLES

- 17.1. The obstacles must be fixed, imposing in shape and appearance, and left as far as possible, in their natural state. When natural obstacles are used they should, if necessary, be reinforced so they remain in the same state throughout the Competition. Artificial obstacles must not be designed or intended to give an unpleasant or unfair surprise to Competitors. Unnatural obstacles not normally found on a Cross-Country ride should not be used in the course. Obstacles should, at all times be inviting and designed to build confidence. If advertising signs are used they must be placed on the landing side of the obstacles.

- 17.2. The fixed and solid part of an obstacle may not exceed the specified height or spread at any of the points at which the Competitor might reasonably attempt to negotiate the obstacle. Brush fences, bull-finches, etc may exceed the maximum height, only provided that the solid part of the obstacle, below which a horse cannot pass through with impunity, does not exceed the maximum height. In the case of brush fences only, the overall height will not exceed the regulation maximum by more than 200mm (levels 1, 2 & 3) and 150mm (levels 4 & 5). Brush used in fences must be measurable and made of flexible and deformable material that will not injure horse. A Bullfinch is a thin brush or hedge through which a horse can be reasonably expected to jump. Provision must be made to maintain the bullfinch throughout the section. Refer Appendix 11 page 8.
- 17.3. The drop on the landing side of an obstacle or those which are jumped as a "Ski Jump" are measured from the highest part of the obstacle to the spot where the average horse would normally land. The drop must not exceed the dimensions set down for each Level. The number of obstacles in the course with a drop landing should not be excessive. Refer Appendix 11 page 2.
- 17.4. At obstacles where the horse is compelled to jump into water (ford, lake or wide river) the depth of water must be uniform throughout and shallow. The bottom must be firm and unyielding. Dams are potentially dangerous and must not be used. The length of a water crossing must be a least six (6) metres between entry and exit except where an exit step/s or fence is jumped directly out of water in which case the minimum must be nine (9) metres. Refer Appendix 11 page 7.

17.5. Levels 1, 2 and 3 may jump an obstacle into and/or out of water but may not jump water to water. The obstacle into water must be a sloping fence or log. Brush or spread fences should never be used. Level 4 may drop or step down into water and be able to walk out. Level 4 may step out over a step of no more than 400mm in height but must be provided with an option to walk out. Stepping up out of water is not considered a walk out. Level 5 must be able to walk in and walk out of water. Dropping into or stepping up out of water is not considered a walk in/walk out. All water jumps should be wide enough on the approach side to allow an obstacle 3.6 metres wide to be constructed with a small panel 1.2 metres high on either side to stop bold horses attempting to apex the corner. Refer Appendix 11 page 7.

17.6. Deleted.

17.7. The spread of the obstacle is measured from the outside of the rails or other material making up the obstacle. Refer Appendix 11 page 2.

17.8. Obstacles with a spread only (stream, ditch etc.) shall not exceed the spread for each Level as specified. A low rail or hedge which facilitates jumping is permitted in front, but may not exceed 50cm in height and must be included in the measurement of the spread.

18. DOUBLE, TREBLE OR MULTIPLE OBSTACLES

18.1. If two or more obstacles, although sited close together, are designed as separate problems, each will be numbered and judged independently. A Competitor may refuse twice at each obstacle without incurring elimination but he must not under penalty of elimination, retake any obstacle which he has already jumped.

18.2. If two or more jumping efforts, sited closely together, are designed as one integral test, they will be designated as “elements” of a single numbered obstacle. Each element will be marked with a different letter (A, B, C, etc) and must be negotiated in the correct order. A Competitor may refuse only twice in all without incurring elimination but if he refuses at any part, he is at liberty to retake the obstacle or any part thereof. If, in order to retake the obstacle or any part thereof, it necessitates the Competitor passing through the flags of an element the wrong way, he may do so.

18.3. Where an obstacle may be jumped in one effort but has options involving two or more efforts, each of these options must be lettered as an element. Where each element has an alternative or option*, a Competitor may jump either the element of the direct route or the option route but must not jump both. *(any option must be identified with exactly the same number/letter as the direct route element. Both the direct route element and the option shall have the red boundary flag marked with black tape.) Refer also to 31.5.

18.4. Where there is any doubt as to the correct interpretation of the Rule in judging such a combination, the Technical Delegate or Ground Jury will approve the instructions for the Jump Judge, together with a rough sketch if necessary and all Competitors must be informed.

18.5 All obstacles should be placed in such a position that gives the Competitor free access to return to his original line of approach without requiring a further jumping effort after a run-out or refusal.

19. FAULTS AT OBSTACLES

19.1. Faults (refusal, run-out, circling) will be penalised only if in the opinion of the Jump Judge concerned they are connected with the negotiation or attempted negotiation of one of the numbered obstacles. Note that re-taking part of the multiple obstacles after a refusal is not penalised for error of course.

20. PENALTIES

20.1. The following faults at an obstacle are penalised according to the following table.

First refusal, run-out, circle of horse at obstacle	20 penalties
Second refusal, run-out, circle of horse at same obstacle	40 penalties
Third refusal, run-out, circle of horse at same obstacle	Elimination
Fourth refusal on course	Elimination
Fall of horse and/or Rider	Elimination
Error of course not rectified	Elimination
Omission of obstacle or compulsory flags	Elimination
Retaking an obstacle already jumped	Elimination
Breaking a frangible obstacle/device	11 penalties
Jumping a flagged obstacle not on the course plan for the level entered except where permitted under rule 24.2	Elimination
Jumping obstacle in wrong order or from incorrect direction (whether successful or not)	Elimination
<i>These penalties are cumulative</i>	
For every commenced second in excess of the Time Allowed	.4 penalties
For every commenced second in excess of 30 seconds under time allowed (eg:40 secs under time allowed would incur 4 time penalties. $40-30=10 \times 0.4=4$) See rule 28.4	.4 penalties
Exceeding the Time Limit (The time limit is twice the Time Allowed)	Elimination
Intentional time wasting under rule 28.4	25 penalties

21. DEFINITIONS OF FAULTS

21.1. Faults (refusals, run-outs or circles) will be penalised unless in the opinion of the Jump Judge they are clearly not connected with the negotiation of a numbered obstacle or element. REFUSAL

21.1.1. At obstacles or elements with height, (exceeding 30cm), a horse is considered to have refused if it stops in front of the obstacle/element to be jumped. At all other obstacles or elements, (ie., 30cm or less in height), a stop of not more than 3 seconds, followed immediately by a standing jump is not however penalised, but if the halt is sustained or in any way prolonged, this constitutes a refusal. The horse may step sideways, but if it steps back this is a refusal.

21.1.2. After a refusal, if the Competitor redoubles or changes his efforts without success, or if the horse is re-presented at the obstacle after stepping back and stops and steps back again, this is a second refusal, and so on.

21.2. RUN-OUT

21.2.1. A horse is considered to have run-out if having been presented at the element or obstacle, it avoids that element or obstacle in such a way that it has to be re-presented at it. A Rider is permitted to change his mind as to where he jumps an obstacle or element at any time, without penalty, including as a result of a mistake at a previous obstacle or element. If, however, the horse avoids part of the obstacle at which it has been presented, the appropriate penalties are incurred.

21.2.2. A horse will be considered to have cleared the fence when head, neck and both shoulders of the horse pass between the extremities of the element or obstacle as flagged. A rider may ask the jump judge if he/she cleared the obstacle and the jump judge must advise the rider if it is clear or if they must retake the obstacle. This will not be regarded as outside assistance.

21.3. CIRCLE

21.3.1. A horse will be penalised for a circle if, having been presented at an obstacle, it crosses the track that it created before it jumped the obstacle or before it jumped the last element of a multiple obstacle.

21.3.2. After being penalised for a refusal or circles, a Competitor is permitted to cross his original track without penalty in order to make another attempt and may also circle one or more times without penalty, until he again presents his horse at the obstacle.

21.3.3. At separately numbered obstacles, a Competitor may circle between or around them without penalty provided he has not represented his horse at the second or subsequent obstacles. A circle will always be penalised when it occurs between the elements of a multiple obstacle.

21.4. FALLS

- 21.4.1. All rider falls occurring at the event must be reported to the Event Office. An Incident Report form is to be lodged with the event Secretary prior to the rider remounting or leaving the venue.
- 21.4.2. A fall of rider or horse and rider whilst in the competition arena or on the competition course, shall result in elimination. The competitor must retire from that phase but may start in subsequent phases with the permission of the Technical Delegate or organising committee.
- 21.4.3. Notwithstanding the above, a decision by a competitor to continue in subsequent phases following a fall may be over ruled by the Technical Delegate, HRC AV Representative or Ground Jury at any time during the event.
- 21.4.4. In the Dressage phase, rule 21.4.2 applies from the Judge's signal to start the test until the competitor departs the arena at A following completion of the test.
- 21.4.5. A fall of rider is considered to have occurred if any part of the rider's body makes unintentional contact with the ground or any solid surface.
- 21.4.6. A horse is considered to have fallen when the shoulder and quarters have touched the ground or the obstacle and the ground.

22. OVERTAKING

- 22.1. Any competitor who is about to be overtaken by a following Competitor must quickly clear the way under penalty of elimination. Any Competitor overtaking another Competitor may do so only at a safe and suitable place under penalty of elimination. A competitor should not overtake within 10 mtrs of an obstacle. A competitor that has had a refusal at an obstacle, must give way to an approaching Competitor. The Competitor being over taken may not follow on over an obstacle under penalty of elimination. The lead rider must be at least 20 mtrs clear of the obstacle. If a Competitor is held up at a fence through no fault of their own, the Fence Judge should note the length of delay on the score sheet.
- 22.2. Wilful obstruction of an overtaking Competitor, failure to follow the instructions of Officials or causing danger to another Competitor shall be addressed under the Yellow Warning Card system.

23. COMPETITOR IN DIFFICULTY AT AN OBSTACLE

- 23.1. If in attempting to negotiate an obstacle a horse should be trapped in such a way that it is liable to injure itself or be unable to proceed without assistance, the Fence Judge or such persons as determined by Event rule 32, shall decide if parts of the obstacle shall be dismantled or if any other assistance shall be given to extricate the horse.
- 23.2. In such a case, the Judge will first instruct the Competitor to dismount and he will be eliminated..
- 23.3. And 23.4 Deleted

24. STOPPING COMPETITORS

- 24.1. If any part of an obstacle is obstructed by a Competitor in difficulty or if an obstacle has been dismantled to release a fallen horse or has been broken and not yet rebuilt, or in any other similar circumstances, subsequent Competitors must be halted.
- 24.2. In such a case a person should be posted to wave a red flag in the path of an oncoming Competitor, who shall indicate that the Competitor must stop. Failure to stop shall be addressed under the Yellow Warning Card system.
- 24.3. The Jump Judge will stop Competitors only upon instruction from the Control Centre or during an emergency at his own obstacle or when it is apparent that a fence ahead of his own is already dealing with an emergency. The Fence Judge shall not undertake to eliminate a rider for incidents other than those that have occurred solely at their own obstacle without clear and concise direction from the Technical Delegate or Ground Jury or such persons as determined by Event Rule 33.
- 24.4. The time during which the Competitor was stopped, from the moment he passed the stopping point until he re-passed that same point after being given the order to restart, will be recorded, passed to the official time-keepers, and deducted from the total time taken by the Competitor to complete the course. It is clearly intended that the time shall be taken as the Competitor gallops past the stopping point, not after he halts nor after a start from the halt. The Technical Delegate, Ground Jury, Chief Judge or such persons as determined by Event Rule 33, have the discretion to allow a horse stopped at a difficult obstacle, eg; a combination or water, for more than 3 minutes, to either retake the previous obstacle (without penalty), or a simple fence of that Level or lower if more convenient. In any case, the time should be re-started when the Competitor rejoins their original course at the point of stopping. A Competitor must be given sufficient warning of an impending restart, to allow them to properly prepare.

24.5. The Organising Committee must, however, take the necessary steps to avoid such incident

25. UNAUTHORISED ASSISTANCE

25.1. Outside assistance is forbidden under penalty of elimination. Any intervention by a third party, whether solicited or not, with the object of facilitating the task of the Competitor or of helping his horse, is considered illegal assistance.

25.2. In particular the following are forbidden:

25.2.1. Intentionally to join another Competitor and to continue the course in company with him.

25.2.2. To be followed, preceded or accompanied, on any part of the course, by any vehicle, bicycle, pedestrian or horseman not in the Competition.

25.2.3. To post friends at certain points to call directions or make signals in passing.

25.2.4. To have someone at an obstacle to encourage the horse by any means whatsoever.

25.2.5. To receive any information, by any means whatsoever, about the course, before it is officially shown to the Competitors.

25.3. To tamper with the obstacles or any part of the course including, for instance, flags, indicators, markers, notices, ropes, trees, branches, wire or fences whether temporary or permanent. The use of receiving apparatus by the Competitors and members or officials of a team is strictly forbidden.

- 25.4. Officials or spectators who draw the attention of a Competitor to a deviation from the course are giving unauthorised assistance. In this case, the Competitor may be eliminated.
- 25.5. In cases of doubt, the Technical Delegate or Ground Jury decides finally and without appeal.

Exceptions:

- 25.6. If a Competitor voluntarily dismounts, he may be assisted to catch his horse, to adjust saddlery, to remount, or be handed any part of his saddlery or equipment, while he is dismounted or after he has remounted.
- 25.7. At the start of the Cross-Country and at any other point determined and announced by the Organising Committee it is permitted to assist the Competitor and to attend to his horse, (groom, water, etc.)
- 25.8. A Competitor may be handed his whip, hat or spectacles or any aids as pre approved by the HRCVA at any time without incurring penalties.

26. ELIMINATION AND RETIRING

- 26.1. Competitors eliminated or retiring from any part of the course for any reason whatsoever, shall do so at a walk and shall take every precaution to avoid disturbing other Competitors. They shall not jump any obstacles after being eliminated or retiring. Competitors eliminated for a fall must not remount to leave the course.

27. JUMP JUDGES

- 27.1. Jump Judges must be appointed for all obstacles on the course but one Jump Judge may take charge of more than one obstacle, provided they are all clearly visible to him and he is in a position to maintain adequate control.
- 27.2. All Jump Judges should receive a copy of Appendix 1, Instructions for Cross-Country Jump Judges.
- 27.3. A briefing of jump judges must occur prior to commencement of the cross country phase. The briefing is to take place with the Technical Delegate, medical personnel, Course Controller / central control and all (as far as practicable) jump judges. If required, the Organising Committee can run extra/additional briefings, particularly when cross country runs over more than one day. The briefing must cover management of rider falls, horse falls, loose horses and the basics of cross country jump judging, being safety of fallen riders, crowd control, traffic control at fences and the recording of riders and faults. The briefing is to be arranged by the Organising Committee and must be conducted by a person experienced in running the cross country phase. This will generally be someone carrying out the role of course control/central control.

28. TIME-KEEPING

- 28.1. Time is counted from the signal to start until the instant when the mounted horse's nose passes the finishing line.
- 28.2. Time is counted in whole seconds, parts of a second counting as the next second above. eg. 30.25 seconds is recorded at 31 seconds.
- 28.3. Periods during which a Competitor has been held up by a Jump Judge or Official will be deducted from the above time, to give his correct time for completing the course.
- 28.4. Any Competitor finishing more than 30 seconds under the Time Allowed shall incur time penalties at the same rate as being over the Time Allowed, ie: 0.4 penalties for each commenced second. The person appointed for recording finish times shall take the time of the competitor immediately any obvious time wasting behaviour starts, (eg: circling, walking, long deviations), regardless of whether the Competitor has passed through the Finish flags or not.
- 28.5. The time the Competitor finishes the course shall also be recorded. The Scorers will apply whichever recorded time incurs the greater time penalties.
- 28.6. Where a competitor is observed to be time wasting, a 25 point penalty shall be incurred.

29. COURSE PLANS

- 29.1. The outline of the obstacles will not be published in advance.
- 29.2. The course must be officially open for walking by Competitors as early as possible, but no later than 4.00 pm, on the day preceding the Cross-Country phase. The time must be stated on the Program.
- 29.3. A plan of the course must be displayed by the time the course is open for inspection by Competitors. This plan must include:-
- Position of the Start and Finish.
 - Numbered obstacles.
 - Compulsory flags
 - Measured route indicated by dotted line
 - Distance.
 - Speed.
 - Number of obstacles/efforts
 - Time Allowed and Time Limit.
- 29.4. No course plans are to be displayed/published until signed off by the TD.

30. MODIFICATION OF THE COURSE

- 30.1. After the course is open for inspection by Competitors, no alteration may be made, except that, where exceptional circumstances (such as heavy rain) make one or more obstacles unfair or dangerous, the Organising Committee is authorised, with the sanction of the Ground Jury or Technical Delegate, to reduce the severity of or to by-pass such obstacles.
- 30.2. In such a case, every Competitor must be officially and personally informed of the proposed alteration before the start of the Competition. An Official may have to be stationed at the place where an alteration has been made, in order to warn the Competitors. If it is necessary in the interests of safety or in order an obstacle to be by-passed during the Competition, all jumping faults previously incurred at that obstacle shall be cancelled with the exception of elimination. A Competitor who has been eliminated shall NOT be reinstated in the Competition. Once taken out the obstacle shall NOT be re-introduced. Exception may be made for an adjustable obstacle that serves more than one level. The Technical Delegate, Ground Jury, or such persons as described in Event Rule 33, will decide what arbitrary adjustment shall be made to Competitors' times.

31. MARKING OF THE COURSE

- 31.1. *Red and white boundary flags* are used to mark the start and finish and compulsory sections of the course, to define obstacles and to indicate compulsory changes of direction. They are placed in such a way that a Competitor must leave a red flag on his right and a white flag on his left. All red or white flags must be respected wherever they occur (except as provided in Rule 18.2) under penalty of elimination. They must be passed mounted in the same order of progression as they appear on the master map, whether numbered or not. Compulsory Flags are intended to maintain distance and/or used for safety reasons and should not be used to introduce an un-numbered obstacle or jumping effort. Red and white boundary flags must be mounted in such a way as to allow safe passage of the Competitor. Materials that are, or may become dangerous, are not to be used. Eg: bamboo, thin dowelling, metal pipe or rod. (Doubled up fencing wire may be used if the length is less than 250mm and there are no sharp ends exposed.) Timber stakes must have a nominal cross section of 40mm or greater. Where PVC pipe or conduit is to be used, it is strongly recommended that minimum 25mm electrical conduit be used. 20mm PVC pipe is not considered suitable. It is highly recommended that breakaway clips be used.

- 31.2. *Direction markers* or signs are normally yellow in colour and are intended merely to show the general direction to be taken and to help the Competitor find his way. Passing close to them is not obligatory.
- 31.3. *Numbered, coloured indicators* are used to mark the obstacles for the different Levels. Where more than one Level rides over the same course, every obstacle must be defined with an appropriate Level indicator.
- 31.4. *Position of Markers.* Boundary flags *and direction markers will be* large and placed in a conspicuous position. All obstacles, boundary flags, direction markers, and Level indicators which have to be observed by Competitors must be exactly in position by the time the course is open for inspection by Competitors and any variations in the course for the different Levels clearly marked. If impractical, the position of boundary flags, direction markers and Level indicators must be clearly indicated to the Competitors during the course inspection. Before the commencement of each Level, the boundary flags must be re-positioned, where necessary, so that they exactly define the course for the Level concerned.
- 31.5. *Black Tagged Options.* Where an option obstacle is to be given, it may be indicated by placing black tape around the red flag of the obstacle on the direct route and the option itself. The option should be numbered exactly the same as the direct route obstacle. The option shall be marked separately on the map. Where the intended option is to be shared by more than one level, whether as an option or primary fence, a separate number and flag/s for each level must be used. In this instance, black tape should be added to the appropriate level's number on the option in addition to on the flag. Eg: Level 2 riders have an option at 12c. The intended option is also Obstacle 10b for Level 3. Therefore, a separate red flag bearing a black vertical line through it and the 12c, also bearing a black line shall be affixed to the option obstacle.

32. METHOD OF STARTING

- 32.1. Competitors at the start of the cross-country phase must be under the control of a Starter. The horse does not have to stand absolutely immobile, but the Competitor must not get any advantage from a flying start. Each Competitor should be given reasonable warning before the time is due to start, but it is the Competitor's responsibility to ensure that he starts at the correct time. If, after a period of 30 seconds from being given the signal to start, the competitor has not left the start area to commence their cross country phase, they may, at the discretion of the Start Judge, be eliminated.

32.2. In order to simplify the task of the Starter for the Cross-Country, an enclosure 5 x 5 metres may be built with an open front through which horses will both enter and start. Each Competitor must start from within this enclosure and provided he does not cross the starting line before the signal is given, he is at liberty to move around the enclosure as he pleases. An attendant may lead the horse into the enclosure and may hold the horse until the signal to start is given. From that instant, the Competitor is considered to be on the course and no further assistance may be given. Arrangements should be made, to ensure that a Competitor is not eliminated through the uncontrollable action of his horse.

32.3. An Official should be stationed at a convenient distance from the start, who can halt the Competitor by waving a red flag if the start is in any way false. The Competitor must, under penalty of elimination, return and recross the start line but his starting time will be recorded as if he had started when originally given the signal. In the event of said Official not being utilised, a Competitor observed to jump the start, shall, at the discretion of the Start Judge, be penalised 10 seconds.

33. SCORING

33.1. Penalties incurred for faults at the obstacles and any time penalties are added together to give the Competitor's penalty score for Cross-Country.

34. LOSS OF HELMET

34.1. Should a rider lose their helmet whilst competing they are immediately eliminated from that class or phase

35. COMPULSORY INSPECTION OF HORSES

35.1. All horses shall be inspected at the conclusion of the Cross-Country phase by the Veterinary Surgeon or the Steward appointed for the task, and the Officials concerned shall have the power to order the withdrawal of any horse which they consider to be unfit for any further participation in the Event.

35.2. All Competitors must proceed to the Veterinary Inspection area immediately after the completion of the Cross-Country phase, regardless of whether the Cross-Country phase was completed or not. Failure to present a horse for Veterinary Inspection shall be addressed under the Yellow Warning Card system. Competitors must not dismount until they have entered the designated Veterinary Inspection area (with the exception of riders who have been eliminated).

- 35.3. A Veterinary inspection determines whether a horse is fit to continue the Event, or whether at any stage of the Competition it should be eliminated for injury, lameness, exhaustion or other health reasons. A detailed examination of the horse is not necessary and cannot be made because of the limited time available. It is adequate for each horse to have a general examination for signs of distress or fatigue, and if necessary, for recovery.
- 35.4. If a horse is seriously distressed and elimination is considered, a more detailed examination is required 30 minutes later. The Official inspecting the horses has the power to recommend to the Technical Delegate or Ground Jury that a horse which has not recovered after 30 minutes should be eliminated.
- 35.5. A Steward appointed to assist the Official making the inspection ensures that distressed horses are re-presented at the specified time.
- 35.6. There is no appeal against veterinary decisions.
- 35.7. The examination should preferably be conducted by a Veterinarian or a person very experienced with the fitness of horses.

36. OFFICIALS

36.1. Judges

- 36.1.1. The Judges for Combined Training Events and Horse Trials Events are appointed by the Organising Committee.
- 36.1.2. For the Showjumping phase, it is preferable to utilise the services of an accredited HRC AV Judge. If not, the Judge must be fully conversant with the Rules governing HRC AV Showjumping Events.
- 36.1.3. For Cross-Country there must be a Chief Cross-Country Judge, who may be the organiser, to supervise the Jump Judges, Mounted Stewards, Rapid Response Team/s, Time-keepers and Scorers. (Note: any Stewards mounted on horses must be members of the HRC AV or EA and may not be competitors. Refer also to Event Rule 32 for further personnel.) It is compulsory for all Cross-Country fence judges be equipped with a radio for communication with the course controller.

36.2. Technical Delegate

- 36.2.1. A Technical Delegate shall be appointed to represent the HRC AV at all Horse Trials events. The Technical Delegate, in conjunction with the organising committee, shall endeavour to ensure that all the arrangements for the competition are fair, safe and appropriate. The duties of the Technical Delegate include but are not limited to:
- a) Addressing breaches of the rules at the event
 - b) Overseeing the cross country phase, including addressing matters relating to the design of the cross country course
 - c) Overseeing the design and construction of Show Jumping courses when a Chief Course Designer is not in attendance.

d) Addressing matters relating to safety and welfare

36.2.2. Any breaches of the rules are to be reported to the Technical Delegate in the first instance. The Technical Delegate has the authority to address such matters under the Yellow Warning Card system or may refer the matter to the Ground Jury for resolution.

36.3. Medical & Veterinary Personnel - Refer to Event rules 21.4 & 21.5

37. CRISIS MANAGEMENT

37.1. A Crisis Management Plan shall be devised for all Horse Trials events, using Event Rules appendix 13 as a guide. A copy of the Plan shall be provided to each member of the Crisis Management Team.

38. COMMUNICATION

38.1. Hand held radios must be provided to all key personnel at Horse Trials including:

- Cross Country Course fence judges,
- Safety Officer
- Medical Response team
- Technical Delegate
- Dressage Marshall
- Show Jumping Marshall
- Cross Country Starter
- Cross Country Finisher
- Veterinarian
- Event Secretary

39. YELLOW WARNING CARDS

39.1. A Yellow Warning Card may be issued by the Technical Delegate (TD) at HRC AV Horse Trials for the offences of misconduct, dangerous riding or horse abuse. A Recorded Verbal Warning may be issued where the offence is considered to be of a less serious nature. This rule is to be read in conjunction with Event Rule 66 – Yellow Warning Card System.

40. MISCONDUCT

40.1. Definition: any breach of the code of conduct including but not limited to:

- a) Not following the instructions of the Officials;
- b) Behaviour or use of language in a manner which may be considered offensive.

41. ABUSE OF HORSE

41.1. **Definition:** Abuse of horse means an action or omission which causes or is likely to cause pain or unnecessary discomfort to a Horse included but not limited to:

- a) Rapping.
- b) Riding an exhausted horse.
- c) Excessive pressing of a tired horse.
- d) Riding an obviously lame or injured horse.
- e) Excessive use of whip, bit and/or spurs.
- f) Horses bleeding on the flank(s) or back indicating excessive use of the whip and/or spurs.

41.2. **Use of the Whip:** Excessive and/or misuse of the whip may be considered abuse of horse and will be reviewed case by case by the Technical Delegate according to the following principles:

- a) The whip is not to be used to vent a Rider's temper.
- b) The whip is not to be used after elimination.
- c) The whip is not to be used after a horse has jumped the last fence on a course.
- d) The whip is not to be used overhand, (i.e. a whip in the right hand being used on the left flank).
- e) The whip is not to be used on a horse's head.
- f) The whip is not to be used more than three times for any one incident.
- g) If a horse's skin is broken, the use of the whip is always excessive.

41.3. **Blood on Horses:** Blood on horses may be an indication of abuse of horse and must be reviewed case by case by the Official Veterinarian or Technical Delegate. In minor cases of blood in the mouth, such as where a horse appears to have bitten its tongue or lip, or minor bleeding on limbs, after investigation the Official Veterinarian or Technical Delegate may authorise the rider to continue.

42. DANGEROUS RIDING

42.1. **Definition:** Any Rider who, at any time during the competition deliberately or unintentionally by incompetence is exposing himself, his horse or any third party to a higher risk than what is strictly inherent to the nature of the Competition will be considered to have acted dangerously and will be penalised accordingly to the severity of the infringement. Such acts may include without limitation any of the following:

- a) Riding out of control (Horse clearly not responding to the Riders restraining or driving aids).
 - b) Riding fences too fast.
 - c) Series of dangerous jumps.
 - d) Continuing after the rider would reasonably have known they were eliminated.
 - e) Endangering the public in any way (e.g. jumping out of the roped track).
 - f) Jumping obstacles not part of the course.
 - g) Wilful obstruction of an overtaking Rider.
- a) Not following the instructions of the Officials (including Jump Judges).
 - b) Wilfull and dangerous overtaking of a slower rider

42.2. **Addressing instances of dangerous riding on the cross country course:** the Course Controller and the Technical Delegate have the right and the duty to monitor possible cases of dangerous riding on the cross country course and, if appropriate and practical, to stop and eliminate a Rider for dangerous riding. If not directly witnessed by the Technical Delegate, the incident must be reported as soon as possible to the Technical Delegate who will decide whether further penalties are warranted.

42.3. **Warnings and Penalties for Dangerous Riding during the cross country phase:** Different cases of dangerous riding will be dealt with one of the following provisions:

- a) Recorded Verbal Warning
- b) Yellow Warning Card.
- c) 25 penalties.
- d) 25 penalties + Yellow Warning Card.
- e) Elimination.
- f) Elimination + Yellow Warning Card.

25 penalties will count as Cross Country obstacles penalties in the results. It is the decision of the Technical Delegate which of the above sanctions are applicable.

42.4. Elimination Before Cross Country: In accordance with Event Rule 2.4.1 a Presiding Judge, HRC AV Representative, Technical Delegate or any member of the Ground Jury may eliminate a combination from a class at any stage of the competition on the grounds that their continued participation is likely to endanger themselves or others at the event. As a preventive risk management measure, the Technical Delegate has the right and the duty to eliminate a rider to prevent him from starting the Cross Country test, if there is a serious concern regarding his ability to control the horse in that test. Any such elimination must be associated with a Recorded Verbal Warning or Yellow Warning Card.

43. UNFITNESS OF HORSE AND/OR RIDER

43.1. If at any time during the Event a horse is lame or unfit to continue, it may be eliminated on the authority of the Technical Delegate, Ground Jury or Official Veterinarian.

43.2. Competitors are warned that competing with a horse in such a condition can amount to cruelty which can be actioned under the Yellow Warning Card rules and/or Disciplinary Rules of the HRC AV.

43.3. Similarly, the Technical Delegate, Ground Jury or a Doctor may at any time exclude from the Event any Competitor who in their opinion is severely injured or unfit, for instance as a result of a fall.

44. VEHICLES ON CROSS COUNTRY COURSE

44.1. Only first aid vehicles or vehicles deemed necessary by the Technical Delegate or Course Controller may be driven on the cross country course during the cross country phase.

45. CROSS COUNTRY COURSE ACCREDITOR QUALIFICATION PROCESS

The HRC AV publishes a list of Cross Country Course Accreditors, who have undertaken the specified training and passed the prescribed examination, enabling them, on behalf of the Association, to accredit cross country courses to be used for all Official Events. The current list is available from the Office and is contained in the HRC AV Manual, Section 7 - Appendix 5.

Any member wishing to become an HRC AV Cross Country Course Accreditor must first submit an 'Expression of Interest to Become an HRC AV Official' form (Appendix 14 to General Rules section of HRC AV Manual) to the HRC AV Office. Once accepted, an applicant automatically attains the status of Trainee Cross Country Course Accreditor.

45.1. Prerequisites

- a) Trainees must be financial members of the HRC AV.
- b) Trainees must have access to the current HRC AV Manual, which contains the Rules and Regulations of the Association.
- c) Trainees must have access to the following equipment.
 - 6m measuring tape
 - measuring wheel
 - measuring sticks. (One to be fitted with a spirit bubble).
- calculator.

45.2. Training Program.

- a) Trainees must attend at least 2 Cross Country Course Building Seminars conducted by the HRC AV, EFA or PCAV within the last two years

OR

Have extensive experience building and/ or designing courses for HRC AV, EFA or PCAV competitions, and be able to provide documentary evidence to that effect.

- b) Trainees must spend a minimum of 12 months assisting official course accreditors at a minimum of 6 different venues, HRC AV, EFA or PCAV. Trainees will be expected to compile an accreditation log book (see Appendix 8), with each accreditation attended signed by the officiating course accreditor

OR

Have extensive experience accrediting courses for EFA or PCAV competitions, and be able to provide documentary evidence to that effect

- c) All trainees are required to submit to the HRC AV Office on completion of their practical training phase, the following documentation.
 - i. evidence satisfying criteria 4.2 a)
 - ii. evidence satisfying criteria 4.2 b)

45.3. Assessment.

- 45.3.1. Upon receipt of all documentation and its assessment by the Jumping Sub Committee, all trainees adjudged sufficiently knowledgeable will be permitted to sit an open book examination for which a 90% pass mark must be achieved. Accreditation examinations are conducted annually by the HRC AV the date of which is advertised in the HRC AV newsletter.
- 45.3.2. Successful trainees will be awarded a Certificate of Attainment as a Cross Country Course Accreditor by the HRC AV, and permitted to take bookings for course accreditations, the first two of which may be observed by a mentor appointed by the Jumping Sub Committee.

46. TECHNICAL DELEGATE QUALIFICATION PROCESS

The HRC AV maintains a list of Technical Delegates, who have undertaken the specified training and passed the prescribed examination, enabling them, on behalf of the Association, act as Technical Delegates at all Official Horse Trials.

Any member wishing to become an HRC AV Technical Delegate must first submit an 'Expression of Interest to Become an HRC AV Official' form (Appendix 14 to General Rules section of HRC AV Manual) to the HRC AV Office. Once accepted, an applicant automatically attains the status of Trainee Technical Delegate.

46.1. Prerequisites

- a) Trainees must be financial members of the HRC AV.
- b) Trainees must have access to the current HRC AV Manual, which contains the Rules and Regulations of the Association.
- c) Trainees must have access to the following equipment.
 - 6m measuring tape
 - measuring wheel
 - measuring sticks. (One to be fitted with a spirit bubble).
 - calculator.

46.2. Training Program.

- a) (i) Trainees must attend at least 2 Cross Country Course Building Seminars conducted by the HRC AV, EA or PCAV within the last two years

OR

(ii) Have extensive experience building and/ or designing courses for HRC AV, EA or PCAV competitions, and be able to provide documentary evidence to that effect.

OR

(iii) Provide evidence of status of being an official HRC AV cross country course accreditor.

- b) (i) Trainees must spend a minimum of 12 months assisting official technical delegates on a minimum of 6 occasions at a minimum of 3 different venues ~~at a minimum of 6 different venues~~, HRC AV, EFA or PCAV. Trainees will be expected to compile an accreditation log book (see Appendix 8), with each accreditation attended signed by the officiating technical delegate.

OR

(ii) Have extensive experience as a technical delegate for EA or PCAV competitions, and be able to provide documentary evidence to that effect

OR

(iii) Provide evidence as to extensive experience within HRC AV as an official across numerous disciplines to the approval of the Jumping Sub Committee.

In the situation of 45.2 (b) (ii) or (iii), the candidate may be required (at the discretion of the Jumping Sub Committee) to shadow an HRC AV Technical Delegate at an official HRC AV Horse Trials competition.

- c) All trainees are required to submit to the HRC AV Office on completion of their practical training phase, the following documentation.
 - i. evidence satisfying criteria 42.2 a)
 - ii. evidence satisfying criteria 42.2 b)

46.3. Assessment.

46.3.1. Upon receipt of all documentation and its assessment by the Jumping Sub Committee, all trainees adjudged sufficiently knowledgeable will be permitted to sit an open book examination for which a 90% pass mark must be achieved. Accreditation examinations are conducted as required.

- 46.3.2. Successful trainees will be awarded a Certificate of Attainment as a Technical Delegate by the HRC AV, and permitted to take bookings as a technical delegate, the first two of which may be observed by a mentor appointed by the Jumping Sub Committee.

47. HRC AV DERBY COMPETITIONS

47.1. The HRC AV Derby course involves both showjumping obstacles and fixed cross-country obstacles. Each fixed fence type shall be signed and constructed according to the dimensions and specifications as shown in the cross country course specifications in the appropriate sections of the HRC AV Combined Training and Horse Trials Rules.

47.1.1. The HRC AV Derby Competition can be run in different ways, these are described below.

47.1.2. *Option One (1)*

This competition is run as a type of mini horse trials. Competitors complete a dressage test first, then complete the combination of show jumps and fixed cross-country obstacles ridden consecutively. This format would NOT require a jump-off. This is a one round jumping competition only as it is part of a combined event.

47.1.3. *Option Two (2)*

This competition can be run as part of a showjumping competition, or as a stand-alone competition. No dressage test would be included. The format would require a jump off to determine the placing's.

The jump off

A jump off is only required in the event of clear rounds (without time or other penalties) so as to determine the winner.

If a jump-off is required it should be conducted over the showjumping obstacles only, (minimum of six obstacles).

Any height or width adjustment should not cause the obstacles to exceed the dimension specified for that level.

47.1.4. *Option Three (3)*

At a later date a Table C HRC AV Derby type competition may be developed, however at this stage the rules apply to Option 1 and 2 the Table A competitions on

47.2. THE HRC AV DERBY - TABLE OF PENALTIES

Options 1 and 2 are run under Table A Showjumping penalties. The fixed obstacles on the Cross Country course would not incur knockdown penalties, unless the horse does, however unlikely, manage to knock down the fixed obstacle, then the penalties incurred would be identical to a knockdown as stated in the Table A Table of penalties.

47.3. COMPETITORS LEVEL ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR DERBY COMPETITIONS

The combinations Horse Trials Assessed level determines their HRC AV Derby competition level. The combination must have been assessed for Horse Trials to be able to compete in HRC AV Derby competitions.

47.4. POINTS

No points are awarded for HRC AV Derby Competitions.

47.5. SADDLERY AND EQUIPMENT

A Gear Check is required prior to commencement of each Dressage or Jumping phase. Only saddlery and equipment as specified in the HRC AV rules for Dressage and/or Showjumping are permissible. ~~Medical armbands must be worn when jumping.~~ (Refer Event Rule 19.3) A back protector must be worn in the Jumping phase.

47.6. THE HRC AV DERBY COURSE

Course Requirements – It is suggested that the course commences and concludes with showjumping obstacles. The middle section of the course should be made up of fixed cross-country obstacles. Ideally, the number of showjumping obstacles should equal the number of cross-country obstacles. It is desirable to locate all the showjumping obstacles in the one area to facilitate the deployment of jump judges and start/finish/timekeeper supervision. The nature of the competition necessitates that only one competitor is on the course at any one time. Therefore each competitor must complete the course prior to the next competitor starting.

47.7. Course Specifications for all obstacles (that is, both show jumps and cross country obstacles)

LEVEL	MAX HEIGHT	MAX WIDTH	SPEED MPM	RECOMMENDED DISTANCE SHOWN IN METRES
5	50	50	250	600 to 1000
4	65	65	275	650 to 1050
3	80	80	300	700 to 1100
2	95	100	300	700 to 1200
1	105	120	325	700 to 1300

47.8. Course Maps

A printed map of the course incorporating course specifications (distance, speed, level, heights etc.) should be provided to each competitor. Scoring rules should be printed on the back of the map if possible

47.9. JUDGES AND OFFICIALS

A qualified HRCVA Official Showjumping judge should be used at HRCVA Derby Competitions. (see also SJ rule 61.5) If the official judge has a clear view of the entire course then only the one judge is necessary. Remember that spectators may impede a judge's vision if the judge is some distance from the obstacles.

Other personnel may be required to act as cross-country judges around the course to ensure all obstacles are judged correctly. Difficult obstacles, such as a water complex, would possibly require an individual judge. Walkie-Talkies can be used by the judges on the cross-country course to liaise with the official judge therefore avoiding the necessity to collect cross-country score sheets. The results would then be immediately available on the Official Judges score sheet.

47.10. MEDICAL AND VETERINARY PERSONNEL

Medical personnel / facilities as stated in Event Rule 20.1 and 20.2 apply. A vet should be available on call.

47.11. DERBY COURSE ACCREDITATION

Initial accreditation shall occur when the course has been created and for each subsequent event. The construction and layout of the Show Jumping component should be designed by an accredited Course Designer. The judge shall inspect the course prior to it being ridden. The total number of efforts must not exceed 15.

Appendices

- 1 Instructions for CC Jump Judges – latest version revised Jan 2010
- 2 CC Jump Judge Score Sheet
- 3 CC Course Accreditation Procedure
- 4 CC Course Accreditor's Report
- 5 Official CC Course Accreditors
- 6 CC Course Accreditation Confirmation of Booking
- 7 Combined Training Course Plan
- 8 CC Course Accreditor Trainee Activity Record
- 9 CC Course Accreditor Training Log Course Accreditation
- 10 CC Course Accreditor Training Log Course Building
- 11 Measuring Guidelines for CC Course obstacles

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