

MEMO

PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS TO FEI ENDURANCE RULES FOR 2020

Dear National Federations,
Dear Stakeholders,

Introduction

The proposed Endurance Rules modifications for 2020 is presented to the National Federations (NFs) in a completely new rule book, with a new structure, revised wording and in a more user friendly form.

The existing "Endurance Notes for Guidance" have been incorporated within the text of the new rule book and in the Annexes to ensure the correct application of the Rules.

The Endurance Temporary Committee (ETC) was created by the FEI Board in October 2018 in order to safeguard the welfare of Horses, restoring the central role of good horsemanship, strategic riding and fair competition to the discipline. It was made very clear from the outset that the existing state of the sport is unacceptable and that rule changes are essential if Endurance is to survive as an FEI discipline.

The ETC had 12 meetings between 2018 and the presentation of this memo (five in-person meetings and seven teleconferences), and in addition they met with the stakeholders for consultation at FEI Headquarters in February 2019.

Modifications to the Rules are proposed to move Endurance forward as a competitive discipline whilst protecting the welfare of the Horse. These modifications are listed in this memo with reference to the Chapter and Title within the new rule book. We will focus on the 16 recommendations that the ETC presented at the FEI Sports Forum last April 2019 (<https://inside.fei.org/news/8091533>).

The FEI, via the ETC, has consulted widely with the Endurance community throughout this process (see below). Some of the recommendations presented at the Sports Forum have been amended in accordance with the feedback from the Sports Forum participants. Furthermore, suggestions from the stakeholders' meetings in February 2019 and recommendations from the FEI Board during their June 2019 in-person meeting have been incorporated in the current proposals. In addition the ETC received and reviewed the results of surveys conducted by True Endurance International Riders Association (TEIRA).

These Rules modifications are presented following the rule book order, by Chapters and Articles, providing information about the proposal, the reasoning, and the wording of each relevant Article. For complete clarity, the corresponding number of each of the ETC recommendations, as they were presented at the FEI Sports Forum, is provided next to each Chapter.

In addition, University of Glasgow Professor Tim Parkin, a member of the ETC has written an Annex outlining the scientific evidence, where available, which underpins these Rules proposals. This is based on the statistical analysis of data from the Global Endurance Injuries Study (GEIS), and it has been published in peer reviewed scientific journals.

Numerous stakeholders have told us that the current Endurance rule book needed to be reviewed, due to its confusing wording and apparent contradictions within the discipline Rules themselves, and between the Endurance Rules and the General and Veterinary Regulations.

In conjunction with external legal advice, the Endurance Rules have been extensively re-ordered and re-written to make the wording clearer. There has been re-structuring of some of the Articles, amending of the wording and removing of duplication. It is anticipated that this will make the Endurance Rules easier to follow and facilitate their rigorous implementation by Athletes and Trainers, as well as enforcement by Officials.

All stakeholders have a responsibility to understand the Rules and to apply them correctly; also to ensure that those responsible for the daily care of Endurance Horses have sufficient knowledge of horsemanship and the Rules of the discipline, particularly clean sport and the correct use of medication, to be able to safeguard the welfare of the Horses under their care.

It is hoped that these rules modifications will find acceptance within the Endurance community in order for our sport to move forward in the true spirit of the discipline with the welfare of the Horse at its heart.

Lausanne, 8 July 2019

Endurance Temporary Committee

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- Members:
 - o Tarek Taher, Endurance Athletes Representative
 - o Timothy Parkin, BVSc PhD DipECVPH FHEA FRCVS
 - o P. M. (Pieter) Wersinga
 - o Valerie Kanavy
- FEI Board liaison: Mark Samuel, FEI Vice President

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1. Meetings and Forums

1.1. Stakeholders' meetings

On 21 February 2019, the ETC met in Lausanne with a total of 26 stakeholders representing each of the FEI Regional Groups, World Horse Welfare and the Alliance of Endurance Organisers.

One of the major points concerned the FEI Officials and the consistent and fair application of the Rules to all competitors. Specifically, the Officials' level of education, their qualifications, their appointment for competition by the FEI and their role in enforcing the existing Rules was highlighted. More stringent feedback to the FEI about Officials was suggested.

The use of mandatory rest periods was brought up many times to be re-thought by the ETC and, in particular, the impact that these have on those National Federations (NFs) that have fewer FEI rides.

Track design and its effect on ride speed was discussed along with varying the length and number of loops. Also, promoting more technical courses over natural terrain, particularly flatter courses that have undergone extensive modification of surfaces. The limitation of entries in order that a ride can be effectively managed was discussed many times, as well as the current manipulation of the Elimination Codes used in the results, continuous crewing and the numbers of crew in crew areas.

From a legal perspective, increasing sanctions for breaches of the FEI Equine Anti-Doping and Controlled Medication Regulations (EADCMR) was one of the major points. Most of the stakeholders believe that the Person Responsible should be the Trainer where there is one, as well as the Athlete. Likewise much tougher sanctions need to be imposed for anti-doping cases. More targeted testing in those regions with a high level of positive anti-doping results was also suggested.

1.2. Sports Forum

The FEI Sports Forum in April 2019, dedicated the second day fully to Endurance (Sessions 5 to 8; for reference see <https://inside.fei.org/news/8091533>).

During the day, there were four sessions, including a Q&A and wrap-up (Session 8).

1.2.1. Session 5: Endurance - Qualification of Horses and Athletes: reducing welfare risks

The following general suggestions/comments were received from the Sports Forum participants:

- To cap the speed on the first loop, as excessive speed on the first loop has been shown to reduce the Horse's chance of completion;
- To implement the rule which says that Endurance courses should be over natural terrain and should not be designed to promote a faster speeds;
- To make competing as a combination compulsory in the qualification process for Championships;
- Free speed goes against the goal of the sport, which should focus on horsemanship;
- Start with 16-18 kph, then 18-20kph, and 20-24kph and thereafter allow for free speed.
- To further educate the Athlete;

- To demand higher standards of equitation and horsemanship before and Athlete is permitted to ride at international level;
- Maintain the current Rules but increase the number of qualifications;
- Reconsider the maximum age limit of the Horses;

1.2.2. Session 6: Endurance - Educating Officials and correct application of the Endurance Rules

The following general suggestions/comments were received from the Sports Forum participants:

- Officials' profiles, including a logbook of Events at which they have officiated, to be made readily available so that Organisers can chose Officials for their Event from the FEI Database;
- Online anti-doping education available for everyone;
- FEI courses content must be delivered by experienced Officials;
- Direct appointment of Officials by the FEI should also be applied to lower level Events;
- To link the number of Veterinarians to the number of starters;
- FEI to provide incentives to candidates that wish to become FEI Officials.

1.2.3. Session 7: Improvements and innovations to reshape Endurance

The following general suggestions/comments were received from the Sports Forum participants:

- More technical tracks could reduce the speed;
- Create a series with only one Horse, one Athlete and one Groom to return to a high level of horsemanship;
- The Trainers can currently be replaced, effectively avoiding sanctions; this must be addressed and stopped;
- Reducing Rider weight will promote higher speed, and unfairly discriminate against heavier male Athletes;
- No weight in Young Riders' competitions;
- FEI to consider staggered starts and possibly include in the final proposal;
- The presentation time and the speed must be taken into consideration when changing the heart rates. 64 bpm is a good number, but the 20-minute presentation time is too long;
- Establish a way to assess the mental wellbeing of the Horse during veterinary inspections;
- The FEI to make overnight stabling mandatory for all the FEI Events;
- The number one priority for Endurance rule changes should be to prevent cheating, doping and corruption;
- Conduct more studies on Mandatory Out-of-Competition Periods (MOOCP) before proposing any changes to the Rules.

1.3. FEI Board in person meeting:

The ETC Endurance Rules proposed amendments were presented to the FEI Board at its in-person meeting on 21 June 2019. In general, the FEI Board was very much in support of the proposed modifications, but recommended further review of the following topics:

- Qualifications
- Criteria for test events
- Targeted Mandatory Out of Competition Periods
- Tack equipment and Horse Abuse
- Visible blood
- Officials

2. New Endurance Rules

The new Endurance Rules consist of:

- Preamble;
- The FEI Code of Conduct for the Welfare of the Horse;
- 9 Chapters; and
- 8 Annexes.

Each of the **9 Chapters** titles addresses an important element of the Rules.

- **Chapter I – General**
(Rules and Regulations in International Endurance Events and Horse Welfare)
- **Chapter II – The Competition**
(Category of Events, Schedule, Weight, Starting Method, etc.)
- **Chapter III – The Course/Field of Play**
(Loops, Recovery area, Phases, Vet Gate, Course Design, Dress Code, etc.)
- **Chapter IV – Eligibility**
(Minimum requirements for Athletes, Trainers and Horses, Horses' age, Mandatory Out of Competition Periods, etc.)
- **Chapter V – Qualifying for and competing in FEI Events**
(Completion rates, Speed caps, Novice, CEIs and Championships, etc.)
- **Chapter VI – Invitations and Entries**
(Invitations, Entries, Declaration of starters, Maximum number of starters)
- **Chapter VII – Officials for Endurance Events**
(Appointments, Duties, Per Diems, Technical Delegate and Course Designer, Ground Jury, Veterinary Commission, Chief Steward, Independent Governance Advisors)
- **Chapter VIII – Awards and Prize-Giving Ceremonies**
(Prize Money, Awards, Rankings, Ceremonies, Badge of Honour, Elite Status, Best Condition Award)
- **Chapter IX – Disciplinary**
(Procedure, Penalty Points, Warning Cards, Suspensions and Protests)

Each of the **8 Annexes** complements some of the Chapters and Articles of the Rules, presenting them in a more detailed manner:

- **Annex 1 – Definitions**
(New – definition of terms used in the Endurance Rules)
- **Annex 2 – Procedure to determine Best Condition Award**
(New - was already in the Endurance Notes for Guidance)
- **Annex 3 – Elimination Codes**
(Revised and updated)
- **Annex 4 – FEI World Endurance Ranking**
(Revised and updated)

- **Annex 5 – Horse Inspections, Examinations, Control of Medication**
(New - All Veterinary matters updated according to the existing Veterinary Regulations and now presented in a specific Annex)
- **Annex 6 – Officials Required for Events**
(New and updated - A chart detailing the number of Officials required for events per level, who appoints, level of the Officials, ratio Officials/number of Horses)
- **Annex 7 – Examination after third consecutive Failed to Qualify (FTQ)**
(New – process for Horses to return to competition after 3 consecutive FTQs)
- **Annex 8 – Diagrams of Blinkers and Cheek Pieces**
(New - was already in the Endurance Notes for Guidance)

3. Recommendations for proposed changes to the Endurance Rules

The recommendations from the ETC presented at the FEI Sports Forum in April 2019 can be found below.

These Recommendations are divided into 3 sections:

- A. Recommendation for proposed amendment to the FEI Statutes as approved by the FEI Board for NFs' and stakeholders' consultation prior to voting at the FEI General Assembly 2019
- B. Recommendations for proposed amendment to the FEI Endurance Rules as approved by the FEI Board for NFs' and stakeholders' consultation prior to voting at the FEI General Assembly 2019
- C. Recommendation for proposed amendment to the FEI Endurance Rules not approved by the FEI Board
- D. Clarifications to Chapters VI, VIII and IX

NB: The major modifications are listed here and must be read in conjunction with the full Endurance Rules (available [HERE](#)).

A. Recommendation for proposed amendment to the FEI Statutes as approved by the FEI Board for NFs' and stakeholders' consultation prior to voting at the FEI General Assembly 2019

A.1- Approval of rules on the basis of Horse Welfare (ETC Recommendation 9)

Proposal:

Where a rule change is judged to have a clear potential benefit to Horse welfare, the FEI Board should be able to require changes to be made when it is judged to be necessary.

The ETC recommends a new Art 20.4 of the FEI Statutes accordingly.

Reasoning:

The existing system for rule changes (i.e. consultation with NFs and stakeholders, and voting through the General Assembly) takes approximately 12 months to complete. To be effective in protecting Horse welfare this necessitates a shared understanding across all the NFs of what constitutes good Horse welfare and high standards of horsemanship. The ETC proposed a rule change so that emergency welfare rule proposals can be approved by the FEI Board and implemented without delay when there is judged to be a clear benefit to equine welfare.

Resolution:

The FEI Board accepted the recommendation and it will be reflected in the FEI Statutes modifications proposal. New proposed Art. 20.4 of the FEI Statutes will consequently reference the safety and welfare of the Athletes and Horses. See also Memo on the FEI Statutes (available [HERE](#)).

FEI Statutes New Art 20.4 currently states: *"In addition to the foregoing, in order to ensure the safety of the Athlete and/or the welfare of the Horse the Board may, by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of votes cast, pass Resolutions which are normally the prerogatives of the General*

Assembly. In such cases, the National Federations shall be notified promptly of these measures. If a majority of the National Federations eligible to vote, responding within thirty (30) days of the date of the notice, signifies its disapproval, the measure shall be rescinded if possible."

B. Recommendations for proposed amendments to the Endurance Rules as approved by the FEI Board for NFs' and stakeholders' consultation prior to voting at the FEI General Assembly 2019

The following recommendations are presented following the order of the Endurance Rules. The recommendations include a clear wording referring to the relevant Articles. In some recommendations, graphics are presented for easy comprehension.

B.1- Criteria for test events (ETC Recommendation 7)

Chapter II - Art. 802.5 (Test event for Championships)

Proposal:

To ensure smooth running of all Championships, test events may be requested with defined requirements regarding the distance, the course, the Officials' panel, timing provider, data handling and heart rate monitoring systems.

Reasoning:

To ensure that test events are handled in a correct way in order to test the relevant technical aspects of the Championships.

B.2- Minimum rider weight (ETC Recommendation 5)

Chapter II – Art. 805 (Minimum Weights)

Proposal:

Reduce minimum Athlete weight to 70kg for senior CEI2* and above (regardless of Athlete's age).

Reasoning:

Many discussions have taken place around this topic, including a proposal within the 2018 Rules revision. The idea is to reach a compromise and present a rule that takes into account aspects of Horse welfare and fairness to Athletes and is acceptable to the Endurance community. At present the Athlete weight is seen as a means of reducing the risk associated with excessive speed.

Event	Minimum weight
Championships (irrespective of star level/distance, and regardless of the Athlete's age)	70 kg (including all riding equipment, save for the bridle)
Senior CEI2* and CEI3* (regardless of the Athlete's age)	70 kg (including all riding equipment, save for the bridle)
CEI1*	No minimum weight
Young Rider and Junior Competitions	No minimum weight

B.3- Maximum number of starters (ETC Recommendation 6)

Chapter II - Art. 807.2 (Staggered starts may be used for single day CEI1* Events) and Chapter VI – Art. 848 (Maximum Number of Starters)

Proposal:

Maximum 200 starters per class subject to venue and appropriate ratio of competitors to Officials; maximum 400 starters per day subject to the same conditions.

Staggered starts in one-day rides are to be permitted only for CEI1* subject to conditions.

Reasoning:

To ensure that Officials can control the ride effectively and safely, it is proposed to limit the maximum number of starters. This will also facilitate emergency planning and adequate provision of veterinary treatment facilities.

Raised in the stakeholders' meetings and again at the Sports Forum, the ETC feels that staggered starts can help to ensure safety.

B.4- Increase sanctions for removing a Horse from the field of play (ETC Recommendation 14)

Chapter II – Art. 810 (Removal from Competition) and Chapter IX – Art. 865 (Athlete and Trainer Penalty Points)

Proposal:

Defined time in which to present for Veterinary Inspection any Horse removed (voluntarily or otherwise) from Competition, and relevant sanctions.

Reasoning:

Currently there are insufficient consequences for Horses being removed from the Field of Play without presentation to the Veterinary Commission or the Permitted Treating Veterinarians. This is being done in order to avoid FTQ designations for metabolic problems or gait abnormalities, and associated Mandatory Rest Periods or sanctions for Serious/Catastrophic Injury. This potentially risks seriously injured Horses not receiving veterinary treatment and the under-reporting of injuries, including subsequent fatalities.

B.5- Course Design: loop length, loop number and distance between water points (ETC Recommendation 2)

Chapter III – Arts. 814 (Loops), 814.4.8 (The OC must ensure that there is access to water for the Horses on the course at least every 10 km), 815 (Recovery Area), 816 (Phases), 817 (Vet Gates), 818 (Hold Area) and 826.4.2. (There must be at least 5km between crewing points)

Proposal:

Minimum loop length 20km;

Minimum number of loops: 6 for 160km, 4 for 120km, 3 for 80km;

5km distance between crew points and no crewing in between; maximum 10km distance between water points.

Reasoning:

Changes in course design to increase number of loops will reduce Horse welfare risks associated with excessive speed. It will also ensure that Horses are inspected more

frequently by the Veterinary Commission so that problems can be detected at an earlier stage.

Continuous crewing of the Horses, pouring cold water on them throughout the later stages of a ride in particular, encourages Athletes to push their Horses further and faster than they are capable of. The proposed spacing of crew points requires the Athlete to be responsible for riding the Horse according to climate and conditions and helps to mitigate against inappropriate forms of assistance.

Length of course	Minimum number of Loops
80-119 km	Three
120-139 km	Four
140-160 km	Six

B.6- Heart rate parameters and presentation times (ETC Recommendation 8)

Chapter III – Article 817.4 (Heart Rate Assessment) (see also Articles 817.4.1, 817.4.2, 817.4.3, 817.4.5, 817.4.6, 817.4.7, 817.7) and Article 817.7 (Modifications to heart rate parameters, presentation times and/or Hold Times to protect Horse/Athlete welfare)

Proposal:

Heart rate parameters will be 64 beats per minute in a presentation time of 15 minutes at all vet gates, 64 bpm in 20 minutes at the final Horse inspection.

At the first vet gate after the halfway point in a ride (based on distance covered), Horses that present with a heart rate greater than 68 bpm at the first presentation will not have the opportunity for a heart rate re-presentation and will be designated FTQ-ME.

Reasoning:

Based on scientific studies as part of the GEIS conducted by the University of Glasgow, there is a need to adapt the current rules to ensure Horse welfare. There is strong statistical evidence to demonstrate a significant increase in FTQ at subsequent Vet Gates for Horses presenting above 64bpm at the first Vet Gate.

	Max HR	Re-inspection HR	Presentation Time
Vet Gates in the 1 st half of course distance	64 bpm	1 allowed	15min
Vet Gates in the 2nd half of course distance	64 bpm	not applicable if HR above 68 bpm	15min
Final Vet Gate	64 bpm	not applicable	20min

B.7- Number of crew (ETC Recommendation 3)

Chapter III - Arts. 819.1 (Access to the Field of Play) and 826.4 (Permitted assistance during an Event or on course)

Proposal:

Limit the number of crew to 3 persons in crew areas, reinforcing the responsibility of the Athlete to ride his/her Horse according to the conditions, without excessive reliance on the crew.

Reasoning:

At the moment 5 persons are allowed in the Field of Play per Horse. This generates a large number of people, especially in the Vet Gate area, which is impossible to control during the big rides and constitutes a safety risk. Excessive crew personnel can crowd a Horse and prevent scrutiny by Officials in the cooling areas.

B.8- Tack/Equipment & Horse Abuse (ETC Recommendation 11)

Chapter III – Art. 828 (Dye, Henna and Barrier Cream), Art. 829 (Tack and Equipment) and Annex 8 (Diagrams of Blinkers and Cheek Pieces)

Proposal:

Specific recommendations regarding permitted tack and equipment to bring Endurance in line with other disciplines. All tack must be in safe condition and correctly fitted to avoid the risk of pain and/or injury. Prohibited equipment will include long bit shanks, nosebands which are fitted excessively tight and/or include metal chains, and reins with extensions.

Reasoning:

More detailed and specific guidance on the use of tack and equipment is required as many problems have arisen in the past and continue to happen, which constitutes a threat to Horse welfare. The ETC notes that there will be a working group on tack and equipment, but felt that there is an urgent need to introduce these interim minimum standards.

B.9- The role of the Trainer (ETC Recommendation 4)

Chapter IV – Art. 830.2 (To be registered with the FEI as the Trainer of a Horse) and Art. 832 (Registration)

Proposal:

The registered Trainer must be at least 18 years old. Substitution of the registered Trainer of a Horse taking part in an Event will not be allowed after the date of Definite Entries. When a Horse has a change of registered Trainer, the Horse will not be permitted to compete for 30 days.

Reasoning:

At the moment there is no minimum age for Trainers. We have had minors registered as trainers in the past which has created legal challenges.

The fact that Trainers can currently be modified after the Definite Entries also creates legal challenges.

To further protect the Horse, a non-competition period of 30 days will be imposed following a change of registered Trainer to enable a new Trainer to familiarise him/herself with that Horse before subjecting it to the demand of competition.

B.10- Targeted Mandatory Out Of Competition Periods (ETC Recommendation 10)

Chapter IV – Art. 834 (Mandatory Out Of Competition Periods –MOOCP-)

Proposal:

Longer MOOCPs to be applied: to include additional 7 days for Horses exceeding the average of 22kph over completed phases; additional 14 days for 2 consecutive FTQ-ME; 6 months following third consecutive FTQ-GA with specific examination protocol before being permitted to start a subsequent competition; MOOCPs specifically targeted to musculoskeletal or metabolic serious injury and no longer related directly to immediate invasive treatment.

Reasoning:

There is a need to adapt the current rules in accordance with the GEIS findings (available [HERE](#)), which have been presented at the Sports Forums and Endurance Forums.

The designation also needs to be adapted to take into account that the FEI cannot control whether Horses are rested but can enforce MOOCP.

NB: The ETC Recommendation 16, regarding clarification that the MOOCP that was previously triggered by Immediate Invasive Treatment should be linked to the Serious Injury (SI) designation was implemented on 1 February 2019 following FEI Board approval.

STANDARD MOOCP

Distance completed	Mandatory Out Of Competition Periods
From crossing the start line up to 46km	5 days
Over 46km to 86 km	12 days
Over 86km to 126km	19 days
Over 126km to 146km	26 days
Over 146km	33 days

ADDITIONAL MOOCP

Incident	Additional Mandatory Out Of Competition Periods and other consequences
Horses that exceed an average of 22kph over completed Loops (as determined under Art. Error! Reference source not found.)	7 days

Second consecutive FTQ-ME (Failure to Qualify – metabolic) in a rolling year	14 days
Third (or subsequent) FTQ-ME in a rolling year	60 days (subject to extension under Art.834.2.4)
Third consecutive FTQ-GA (Failure to Qualify – irregular gait) in a rolling year	a) 180-day MOOCP; and b) Horse must undergo a specific examination protocol before being eligible to compete in any FEI Events or National Events (the protocol for this examination is set out in Annex 7).
Four consecutive FTQ-GA	Horse will be banned from all future Endurance competitions at both the national and international level.
Serious Injury (musculoskeletal)	180 days (subject to extension under Art.834.2.4)
Serious Injury (metabolic)	60 days (subject to extension under Art.834.2.4)
Failure by the Person Responsible to provide a copy of the veterinary report from a designated/approved referral facility to the FEI Veterinary Department in accordance with Art. 835	180 days (and Horse will not be permitted to compete until the veterinary report is provided)

B.11- Qualification from CEI1* to Championships (ETC Recommendation 1)

Chapter V – From Novice to Championships

Proposal:

The proposed system is based on capped speeds and completion percentage for qualification up through the ranks from CEI1* to Championships. Free speed is only allowed for those that have achieved a completion rate of 66% or over. For the majority of Endurance rides, winning speeds will not be affected by these speed caps (refer to graph below).

In the qualification process, Horse and Athlete must qualify as a combination for Championships. The Elite Rider status will no longer be valid for qualifications. It will become an honorary status.

Subject to General Assembly approval, newly registered Horses and Athletes in 2020 will start their completion rates according to the new Endurance Rules. As the system is totally new a transition period for currently registered Horses and Athletes is defined in Art. 844 of the new Endurance Rules.

ENDURANCE

NB: In response to feedback received the proposal is modified from what was presented at the Sports Forum, but is based on the same principles.

Reasoning:

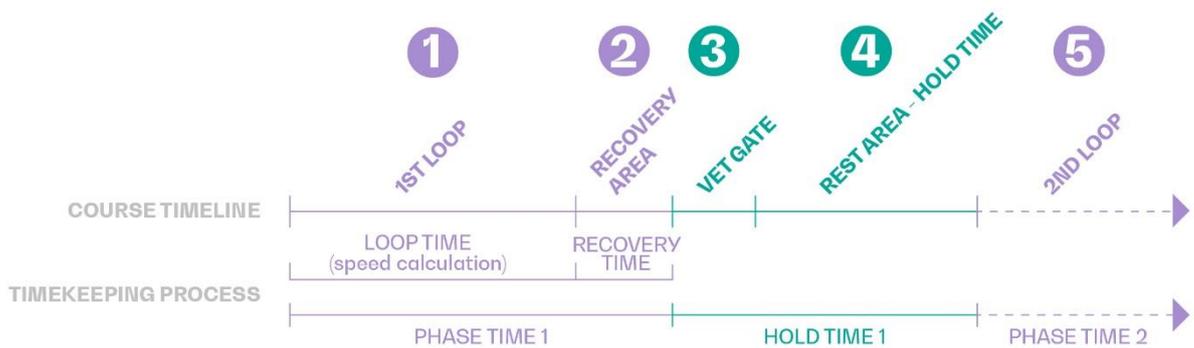
Many NFs and stakeholders have requested a more robust qualification system. The existing system is judged to be too easy to progress within, does not promote the development of horsemanship skills and is not welfare friendly. At present Horses and Athletes do not have to qualify as combinations and can move through the qualification system very quickly, without necessarily being sufficiently prepared for the demands of high-level competitions. It is hoped that the proposed system will encourage better horsemanship and a greater focus on strategic riding. As in other FEI Disciplines, competency and the ability to complete must take precedence over the desire to compete when developing a Horse and an Athlete.

The Committee aims to increase the level of the riding skills of the Athletes, improve Horses’ longevity, to protect the welfare of the Horse by requiring good completion rates before they are allowed to progress, and to reduce the risks associated with excessive speed.

Art. 837 COMPLETION RATE

A completion rate is:
$$\text{Completion rate} = \frac{\text{Number of completed competitions}}{\text{Number of starts}}$$

**SPEED CALCULATION BASED ON LOOP TIME
(NOT INCLUDING RECOVERY AREA)**



Art. 838 SPEED CAP

Completion Rate	Speed linked to Completion Rate
Less than 25%	Max 14kph
Greater than or equal to 25% and less than 50%	Max 16kph
Greater than or equal to 50% and less than 66%	Max 18kph
Greater than or equal to 66%	Open speed

Art. 840 CEI EVENTS

Competing at CEI 1* once qualified for that level:

- (a) Athletes and Horses must successfully complete three CEI 1* Competitions at a maximum speed of 18 km/hour or at the speed linked to their Completion Rate, whichever is lower.
- (b) The speed cap for any subsequent CEI 1* will be determined by the Completion Rate of the Athlete/Horse.

Competing at CEI 2* once qualified for that level:

- (a) Athletes and Horses must successfully complete one CEI 2* at a maximum speed of 18 km/hour or at the speed linked to their Completion Rate, whichever is lower.
- (b) The speed cap for any subsequent CEI 2* will be determined by the Completion Rate of the Athlete/Horse.

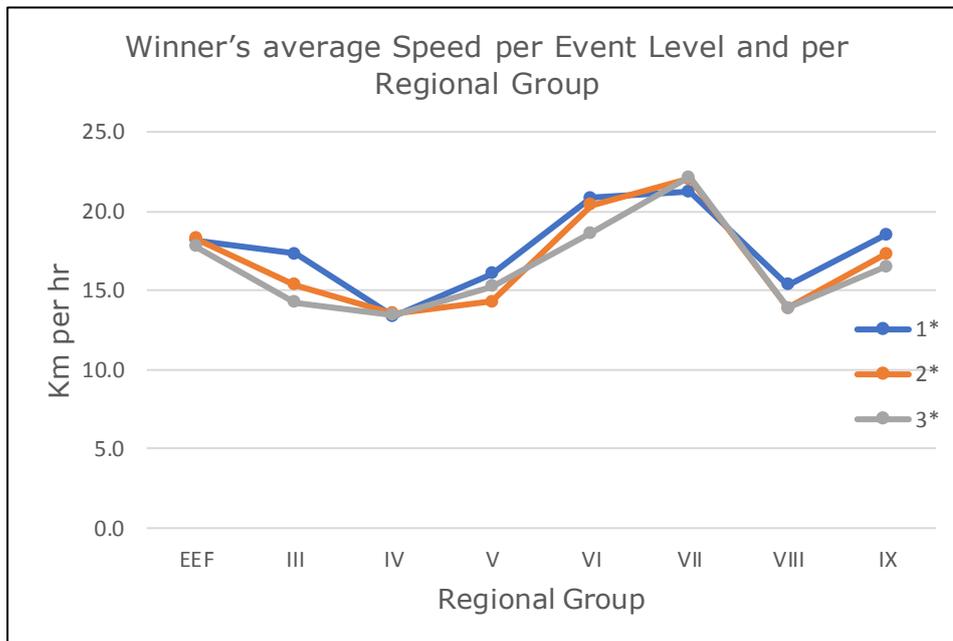
Competing at CEI 3* once qualified for that level:

- (a) If the Athlete and Horse have not successfully completed a CEI 2* together as a Combination within three years of the date of the CEI 3* Competition they wish to participate in:
 - (i) They must successfully complete one CEI 3* at a maximum speed of 18 km/hour or at the speed linked to their Completion Rate, whichever is lower; and
 - (ii) Any subsequent CEI 3* will be subject to a speed cap based on the Completion Rate of the Athlete/Horse.
- (b) If the Athlete and Horse have successfully completed a CEI 2* together as a Combination within three years of the date of the CEI 3* Competition they wish to participate in, their speed cap for CEI 3* Competitions is based on their Completion Rate.

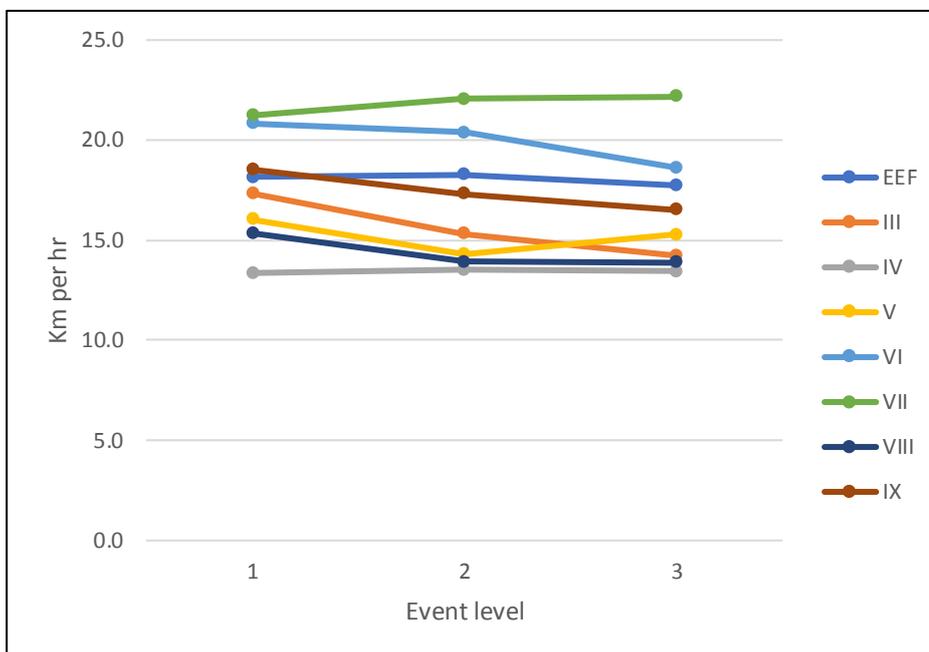
Art. 841 QUALIFICATION FOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

	Current/2019		Proposed/2020	
	Horses	Athletes	Horses	Athletes
Number of successful completions	3 x CEI2* or higher	5 x CEI2* or higher	2 x CEI3* plus 3 x CEI2* or higher	2 x CEI3* plus 3 x CEI2* or higher
Number of combination rides	1 x CEI3*	1 x CEI3*	2 x CEI2* or higher	2 x CEI2* or higher
Requirements for combination rides	Same distance as Championships From 2 years to 60 days to the Championship			

Overview of 2017/2018 winner's average speed per Event, per Regional Group



Winner's average Speed per Event Level
and
per Regional Group



B.12.- Officials (Officials' Working Group Recommendation)

Chapter VII – Art. 850 (Rotation of Officials), Art. 854 (President of the Ground Jury and the Foreign Judge Report), Art. 857 (Independent Governance Advisors), Art. 849 (Appointments) and Annex 6 (Required Officials/levels/ratio)

Proposal:

Introduce rotation of Officials, as per the recommendation of the FEI Officials' Working Group, and direct appointment of Officials by the FEI in certain circumstances.

To be in line with the other disciplines, the President of the Ground Jury and the Foreign Judge will have to submit official reports to the FEI as discussed during the Sports Forum.

In an update to the Independent Governance Advisors (IGA) rule, the cost of accommodation will now be covered by the FEI to ensure full independence and the number of IGAs will no longer be limited to four.

Annex 6 specifies the Officials required for events, star level, role, appointments and the ratio of Officials to starters according to the new FEI Education system for Endurance Officials.

Reasoning:

The ETC has received extensive feedback from NFs and stakeholders that the existing rules are not enforced either rigorously or consistently for all competitors.

In addition there is grave concern amongst veterinarians and non-veterinary officials that the Organising Committees recruit the same restricted group of Officials for many competitions across the world. This means that experienced and knowledgeable Officials are leaving the sport because they are not gaining sufficient opportunity to maintain their star rating, even at Championships held within their own country. The new Rules regarding appointment and rotation of Officials will create more transparency, independence and accountability.

B.13.- Visible Blood (ETC Recommendation 15)

Annex 5 (Horse Inspections, Examinations, Control of Medication) – Art. 8.7 (Veterinary inspection in case of visible blood)

Proposal:

If blood is visible on a Horse at any time anywhere on the Field of Play, the Horse must be examined by a panel of 3 Veterinarians who will report their findings verbally to the President of the Ground Jury. Depending on the veterinary findings the Horse may be deemed FTQ.

Reasoning:

Unlike other FEI Disciplines, under the current Endurance Rules there is no reference to blood. The former Endurance Committee proposed an amendment to the Rules for implementation in 2019 but that proposal was not accepted at the 2018 FEI General Assembly. As a result a proposal is again presented.

C. Recommendations for proposed amendment to the FEI Endurance Rules not approved by the FEI Board

C.1 - Extension of period for reporting rule violations (ETC Recommendation 12)

Proposal:

Extend the period for making an objection to 12 hours and then 24 hours to provide evidence. It is noted that there is no time limit for reporting Horse abuse.

Reasoning:

In Endurance the final results take time to be validated and, when signed off by the Ground Jury, there is almost no-one still on the venue. The ETC feels that the Rules should be changed to extend the period for reporting rule violations in Endurance in order that evidence can be gathered from third parties as necessary.

Resolution:

The FEI Board did not agree to put forward this proposal for the following reasons:

- There is no time limit to report any incident involving alleged Horse abuse to the FEI.
- Given the proposed changes to the Legal System in the FEI General Regulations, and in particular the new Administrative Disciplinary Process, FEI Headquarters would be entitled to sanction minor offences.
- Extending the time limit for making an objection to 12 hours, and 24 hours to provide evidence is not practically and logistically possible. The Ground Jury and/or any other relevant FEI Officials are unlikely to be either at the venue or immediately available.

NB: The 30-minute time limit to file a protest or report an incident means within 30 minutes after the announcement of the results of the relevant Competition, and not 30 minutes after the alleged incident.

C.2 - Increase sanctions for Horse Abuse (ETC Recommendation 13)

Proposal:

Increase sanctions for Horse Abuse in line with current review underway by the FEI Legal Department; suspensions to be served within the competitive season of those involved.

Increase sanctions for Banned and Controlled Medication Substance positives, including for those Horses suffering a Serious or Catastrophic Injury.

Stronger sanctions on Horses to allow for a different and more stringent system in Endurance in order to be more effective.

Reasoning:

Stronger sanctions are needed in Endurance. The Committee would like to propose increased sanctions regarding Horse Abuse, Banned and Controlled Medication Substance positives.

The incidence of Serious and Catastrophic Injury is strongly linked with the widespread abuse of drugs in some areas of Endurance sport, including the practice of desensitising Horses' legs by injection or neurectomy. This not only has a serious impact on equine welfare, but undermines fair play and is hugely injurious to the sport of Endurance and equestrian sport as a whole.

Whilst the ETC welcomes the adoption of WADA Guidelines in January 2021, particularly with respect to out of competition testing, some NFs and stakeholders have demanded that levels of drug testing and mandatory sanctions for drug violations are increased significantly as a matter of urgency in order to provide a more effective deterrent.

TABLES DEFINING CURRENT & ETC PROPOSED SANCTIONS FOR CONTROLLED MEDICATION AND BANNED SUBSTANCE VIOLATIONS (existing sanctions in red, ETC proposed sanctions in black).

Controlled Medication Violations

	Controlled Medication 1 st Offence (unless eligible for Fast Track)	Controlled Medication 2 nd Offence	Controlled Medication 3 rd Offence	Controlled Medication 4 th Offence	Controlled Medication plus Serious or Catastrophic Injury
Athlete suspension	12 months (6 months)	12 months (same)	48 months (same)	Lifetime (same)	Lifetime (NEW)
Trainer suspension	12 months (N/A)	12 months (same)	48 months (same)	Lifetime (same)	Lifetime (NEW)
Horse suspension	6 months (2 months or longer)	6 months (2 months or longer)	12 months (2 months or longer)	12 months (2 months or longer)	12 months if not euthanised (NEW)
Fine CHF	5,000 (same)	10,000 (same)	15,000 (same)	15,000 (same)	15,000 (NEW)
Disqualification	Disqualification (same)				

Banned Substance Violations

	Banned Substance 1 st offence	Banned Substance 2 nd offence	Banned Substance 3 rd offence	Banned Substance plus Serious or Catastrophic Injury
Athlete suspension	48 months (24 months)	48 months (same)	Lifetime (same)	Lifetime (NEW)
Trainer suspension	48 months (24 months)	48 months (same)	Lifetime (same)	Lifetime (NEW)
Horse suspension (Provisional – can be longer)	12 months (2 months provisional)	12 months (2 months provisional)	12 months (2 months provisional)	12 months if not euthanised (NEW)
Fine CHF	15,000 (same)	15,000 (same)	15,000 (same)	15,000 (NEW)
Disqualification	Disqualification (same)			

Resolution:

The FEI Board did not agree to put forward this proposal for the following reasons:

Please see below the new catalogue of sanctions being proposed as part of the review of the FEI Legal System in the FEI General Regulations for voting at the FEI General Assembly 2019:

New: Catalogue of Sanctions

OFFENCE	LOW-END	MID-RANGE	TOP-END	MAX
Incorrect Behaviour	2 months	Up to 6 months	Up to 1 year months	2 years
	Up to CHF 1,500	CHF 1,500 - 3,000	CHF 3,000 - 7,000	CHF 10,000
Abuse of Horse	3 months	3 months - 2 years	2 - 5 years	Life
	CHF 1000 - 1,500	CHF 2,000 - 3,000	CHF 5,000 - 10,000	CHF 15,000
Criminal Acts, Fraud, Violence	1 month	3 months - 2 years	2 - 5 years	Life
	CHF 1000 - 1,500	CHF 2,000 - 3,000	CHF 5,000 - 7,500	CHF 10,000
Failure to cooperate with an investigation	1 month	Up to 6 months	Up to 9 months	1 year
	Up to CHF 1,500	CHF 1,500 - 3,000	CHF 3,000 - 7,000	CHF 10,000
Bringing the FEI and/or equestrian sport into disrepute	1 month	Up to 6 months	Up to 9 months	1 year
	CHF 200 - 1,500	CHF 1,500 - 3,000	CHF 3,000 - 7,000	CHF 10,000

It is possible to impose a lifetime ban for abuse of Horse or criminal acts if the offence is considered as the "maximum" offence (to be assessed on a case by case basis). Please note also that for a top-end Horse abuse case, the proposed sanction would range between two (2) years and five (5) years.

Regarding the proposed increased sanctions for Controlled Medication and Banned Substances and in order to get a harmonised approach to sanctions across FEI disciplines, the Board has requested that there should be a dedicated session at the FEI Sports Forum 2020 on the new 2021 WADA Code (as well as on the EADCMR in particular regarding sanctions for controlled medication and doping cases, etc.).

After the Sports Forum 2020, if NFs and stakeholders still require separate/increased sanctions for Endurance, there will be the possibility to include these in the Endurance Rules or EADCMR for implementation in 2021.

Furthermore, the FEI is entitled to open disciplinary proceedings against an Athlete and/or Trainer for Horse abuse in the event that the Horse has sustained a Serious or Catastrophic Injury and tested positive for a prohibited substance. The Horse abuse case would be in addition to the EADCMR violation case and would give the possibility for the FEI Tribunal to impose higher sanctions, up to a lifetime ban.

Finally, and as part of the review of the FEI Legal System, the start date of Suspensions may be postponed to maximise the effectiveness of the Suspension. In Endurance there is an off-season and, if a suspension runs into the off-season, there is limited or no impact on the Athlete/Trainer.

The proposed new wording will be as follows: *"As a general principle, a Suspension will start as of the date of notification of the Suspension. However, the body imposing or applying the Suspension may postpone the start date of the Suspension in order to ensure the effectiveness of the Suspension."*

NB: The FEI Tribunal has recently imposed tough sanctions on Endurance Horse abuse cases and for avoiding and/or refusing to submit a Horse to sample collection, sanctioning

the Persons Responsible and Trainers. Please see the Final Decisions published on the FEI website: <https://inside.fei.org/fei/your-role/athletes/fei-tribunal/other-decisions>

D. Clarifications to Chapters VI, VIII and IX

D.1- Chapter VI: Invitations and Entries

This Chapter refers to all matters concerning invitations and entries for Endurance Events, from CEIs to Championships. No major changes have been made but there are some updates.

A new Article has been added: Art. 848. Maximum Number of Starters (as referred to above).

D.2- Chapter VIII: Awards and Prize-Giving Ceremonies

This Chapter refers to Prize Money, Awards, Rankings, Ceremonies, Badge of Honour, Elite Status, Best Condition Award. No modifications, with the exception of the Elite Rider status (as referred to above).

D.3- Chapter IX: Disciplinary

Procedures, Penalty Points, Warning Cards, Suspensions and Protests are all referred to in this Chapter.

Substantial modifications to the existing Athletes' Penalty Points, which will become "Athlete and Trainer Penalty Points".

Other modifications (already referred to above): if a Horse is not presented for Horse Inspection before leaving the Field of Play, the Athlete and Trainer will receive 100 penalty points. The additional penalties set out in Art. 810 and Art. 867.1 will also apply.

The purpose of this Memo has been to highlight and explain the main changes further to the recommendations. Additional modifications to the Endurance Rules have also been made (please refer to the full draft FEI Endurance Rules).

Annexes to this Memo:

- FEI Endurance Rules (available [HERE](#))
- Scientific studies from the University of Glasgow (available [HERE](#))