

SECTION

Endurance

Effective January 1, 2016

2016

Rules of Equine Canada

CLEAN COPY EDITION

This document contains the final text effective January 1, 2016. Subsequent changes are noted with additions underlined in **red ink**; deletions presented by **strikethrough** text, (also in **red**) and a revised effective date.

EQUINE CANADA RULEBOOK

The rules published herein are effective on January 1, 2016 and remain in effect for one year except as superseded by rule changes or clarifications published in subsequent editions of this section. Section J as printed herein is the official version of *Endurance* for 2016.

The Rule Book comprises the following sections:

- A General Regulations
- B Breeds
- C Driving
- D Eventing
- E Dressage
- F General Performance, Western, Equitation
- G Hunter, Jumper, Equitation and Hack
- J Endurance
- K Reining
- L Vaulting
- M Para-Equestrian

Section J: ENDURANCE

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Endurance Competition Chart				
Sanctioning Level	Bronze	Silver	Gold	Platinum
Competition Operations				
Permitted Divisions	80-160 km Open			
FEI level		1* 80-115 km	2* 116-140 km	3* 141-160 km 4* 160 km Sr 4* 120 km J/YR
EC General Regs	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Rules enforced	ECC	FEI	FEI	FEI
Max # of days of competition	No limit	No Limit	No limit	No limit
Max Prize money	\$2,500		No limit	No limit
EC Sanctioning Fee	Refer to EC Schedule of Fees (based on prize money)			
FEI Fee	n/a	Calendar fee & Organising dues	Calendar fee & Organising dues	Calendar fee & Organising dues
Approved by	PEn, ECC	PEn, ECC	PEn, ECC, FEI	
Medication Cntrl	EC	EC	EC	EC
Medication Cntrl fee	*	*	*	*
Insurance	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Emergency Plan	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Championship	Provincial	Provincial	National	As per FEI
Results Reporting	PEn, ECC	Pen, ECC	PEn, ECC, FEI	
Officials				
Veterinarian Commission	National	National and/or FEI	National and/or FEI	FEI
Ground Jury	n/a	National and/or FEI	National and/or FEI	FEI
Stewards	n/a	FEI	FEI	FEI
Technical Delegate	EC	FEI	FEI	FEI
Competitor & Horse Owner Licenses & Memberships				
PTSO membership	Per Provincial/Territorial rules			
EC Sport License (minimum of)	Bronze Level	Silver Level	Gold Level	Platinum Level
ECC Affiliation	Optional	Yes	Yes	Yes
Horses				
Horse Identification (Passport)requir	No	No if in CAN, needs identity papers	No if in CAN, needs identity papers	FEI

ed				
EC Horse License	No	No	No	Yes
Awards				
Org Committee	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Provincial	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
ECC	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

* See EC *Schedule of Fees*

EC – Equine Canada, ECC – Endurance Canada Committee,
 PSO – Provincial Sport Org., PEn – Provincial Endurance Org.

- Equine Canada sanctioning is required at the highest ride level. Rides at lower levels can be held concurrently. (eg. At a Platinum permit ride, Gold and Bronze rides may also be held. The rider's minimum Sport License requirement is based on the ride entered, not the event permit.

EQUINE CANADA RULE BOOK

SECTION J ENDURANCE

These Rules are to be used in conjunction with the General Regulations of Equine Canada.

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EQUINE CANADA

Equine Canada is the national governing body for equestrian sport in Canada, with a mandate to represent, promote and advance the sport in Canada, and to represent, promote advocate for and advance all related equine and equestrian interests, including recreation, industry and equine health and welfare.

PATRON

His Excellency the Right Honourable David Lloyd Johnston, C.C., C.M.M.,
C.O.M., C.D., Governor General of Canada

Our Vision

Canadians are inspired to achieve personal excellence and embrace lifelong participation in equestrian activities.

Our Mission

From championing best practices to encouraging fun and participation, Equine Canada is the dedicated national voice working to serve, promote and protect the interests of horses and Canada's equestrian community.

In support of this Mission, Equine Canada will:

- Serve as an advocate for best practices in equine welfare
- Speak with one voice to members, participants, government and the FEI
- Provide leadership and vision in steering the future direction of equine activities in Canada
- Promote the values and contributions of equine activities to our national life
- Inspire excellence in performance at every competitive level
- Collaborate based on a foundation of trust to meet our goals
- Develop engaging and stimulating programs to encourage full appreciation of equine leisure, sporting and industry sectors,

Our Core Values

We believe in:

- **Equine Welfare** - accepting our responsibility to our equine partners as a privilege, we affirm safeguarding the welfare of the horse is paramount.
- **Respect** - for each other, for the safety of ourselves and our horses, and for the health of the environment in which we all live.
- **Diversity** - celebrating our differences, we embrace our community's increasingly dynamic membership.
- **Inclusivity** - working together, we provide a meaningful equestrian experience for all our members, from grassroots participants through to elite performers.
- **Service** - effectively and proactively satisfying our members' needs, expectations and best interests is fundamental to all we do.
- **Excellence** - leading by example, we reflect the highest aspirations of our members through outstanding performance in our sport, recreation, business and staff-managed initiatives.
- **Volunteerism** - as a means of encouraging personal growth in a way that has direct, immeasurable benefits to the equine community, we actively seek, welcome, and respect those who selflessly give of their time in aid of the welfare of the horse and the achievement of Equine Canada's Mission.

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CODE OF CONDUCT AND ETHICS OF EQUINE CANADA

"We look to sport to impart something of moral and social values and, in integrating us as individuals, to bring about a healthy, integrated society."

The Honourable Chief Justice Charles L. Dubin

1. Preamble

Equine Canada ("EC") believes that:

- Equestrian pursuits are based on a relationship between horse and human.
- It is the right and responsibility of EC to set standards in matters of ethics, conduct, sportsmanship, the welfare of the horse, and in all matters under its jurisdiction.
- It is desirable to define ethical practices, to delineate unethical practices, to encourage good sportsmanship, fair play, safety and high ethical behavior and to warn, censure or bring to public attention and discipline those who commit acts detrimental to the best interests of its stakeholders.
- All Persons should observe the spirit as well as the letter of this Code of Conduct and Ethics policy.
- Membership and participation in its activities brings with it many benefits and privileges that are balanced by the Person's responsibilities and obligations. This policy defines the parameters for these responsibilities and obligations, and thus identifies a standard of behaviour that is expected of all Persons.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this Code of Conduct and Ethics policy is to promote a safe and positive environment within EC programs, activities and events, by making all Persons aware that there is an expectation at all times of appropriate behaviour, consistent with EC values.

Conduct that violates the Code of Conduct and Ethics policy may be subject, after due process, to sanctions pursuant to EC's disciplinary and complaints policies.

3. Application and Scope

This policy applies to a Person's conduct during the course of EC business, activities and events, including but not limited to: work environment, competitions, training and education sessions, travel and meetings.

This policy also applies to conduct that occurs outside of EC's activities and events when such conduct could adversely affect relationships within EC's work and sport environment and/or could be detrimental to the image and reputation of EC.

All members of other National and Provincial/Territorial Sport Organizations must agree to be bound by the rules of EC while participating at EC-sanctioned competitions or events.

The Statement of Principles below is to be considered an interpretive guide in applying the Code of Conduct and Ethics policy.

4. Definitions

Throughout this policy, capitalized terms are defined as follows:

- a) "EC" means Equine Canada Hippique;
- b) "Equestrian" – any individual participating in equine and/or equestrian activities;
- c) "FEI" means the Federation Equestre Internationale, which is the international federation for equestrian sport;
- d) "Member" means a member of Equine Canada
- e) "Person" – means all classes of membership and registrants within Equine Canada, whether a body corporate, partnership, trust, unincorporated organization or an individual engaged in activities with Equine Canada, including but not limited to, all athletes, coaches, officials, persons responsible, competition organizers, volunteers, directors, officers, council and committee members, employees, consultants, and administrators of Equine Canada;

5. Statement of Principles

Equine Canada (EC), the national equestrian federation of Canada, supports adherence to the humane treatment of horses in all activities under its jurisdiction.

All Persons shall be committed to:

- upholding the welfare of all horses, regardless of value, as a primary consideration in all activities;
- requiring that horses be treated with kindness, respect and compassion, and that they never be subjected to mistreatment;
- ensuring that all Equestrians including owners, trainers and competitors, or their respective agents, use responsible care in the handling, treatment and transportation of their own horses as well as horses placed in their care for any purpose;
- providing for the continuous well-being of horses by encouraging routine inspection and consultation with health care professionals and competition officials to achieve the highest possible standards of nutrition, health, comfort and safety as a matter of standard operating procedure;
- providing current information on Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Equines and other equine health and welfare initiatives;
- continuing to support scientific studies on equine health and welfare;
- requiring owners, trainers and competitors to know and follow their sanctioning organization's rules, and to work within industry regulations in all equestrian competitions; and
- actively promoting the development of and adherence to competition rules and regulations that protect the welfare of the horse.

The standard by which conduct or treatment will be measured is that which a person who is informed and experienced in generally accepted equine training and competition procedures would determine to be neither cruel, abusive, nor inhumane.

6. Responsibilities

EC is committed to providing a safe environment in which all Persons are treated with respect. Persons involved with EC must acknowledge and

accept that at all times the welfare of the horse must be paramount and must never be subordinate to competitive or commercial influences.

Every athlete and other person participating in the sport shall reasonably cooperate with the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES) or another anti-doping organization investigating anti-doping rule violations and a failure to do so may be the basis for disciplinary action within the sport.

An individual should be completely trustworthy and exhibit honesty, loyalty and discretion in all equestrian-related activities. All Persons must:

- a) Maintain and enhance the dignity and self-esteem of all Equestrians and other individuals by:
 - i) demonstrating respect to others regardless of body type, physical characteristics, athletic ability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, ancestry, colour, ethnic or racial origin, nationality, national origin, sexual orientation, age, marital status, religion, religious belief, political belief, disability, economic status or any other reason;
 - ii) focusing comments or criticism appropriately and avoiding public criticism of others, including athletes, coaches, instructors, officials, organizers, volunteers, directors, officers, council and committee members, employees and members;
 - iii) consistently demonstrating the spirit of horsemanship, sportsmanship, and ethical conduct;
 - iv) respecting the property of others and not willfully causing damage;
 - v) acting, when appropriate, to prevent or correct practices that are unjustly discriminatory;
 - vi) consistently treating individuals in a fair and reasonable manner;
 - vii) ensuring that EC rules, and the spirit of such rules, are adhered to; and
 - viii) respecting and showing respect towards all Persons.
- b) Refrain from any behavior that constitutes harassment or bullying. Harassment is defined as behaviour including comments, conduct, or gestures, which is insulting, intimidating, humiliating, hurtful, racist, sexist, malicious, degrading, or otherwise offensive to an individual or group of individuals or which creates an uncomfortable environment, or which might reasonably be expected to cause embarrassment, insecurity, discomfort, offence or humiliation to another person or group.
- c) Refrain from any behavior that constitutes sexual harassment. Sexual harassment is defined as unwelcome sexual comments and sexual advances, requests for sexual favours, or conduct of a sexual nature.
- d) Refrain from the use of power, authority or intimidation in an attempt to coerce another person to engage in inappropriate activities.
- e) Refrain from acting to the detriment of others or of equestrian pursuits in a situation where the responsibility of their position places them in conflict of interest.
- f) Refrain from consuming alcohol when participating in EC (or EC-sanctioned) training sessions, programs, or competitive events and business activities.
- g) Take reasonable steps to manage the safe, legal and responsible consumption of alcoholic beverages in social situations associated with EC.

- h) Abstain from the use, control or possession of prohibited drugs, the use of performance-enhancing substances or methods in accordance with the Canadian Anti-Doping Policy, World Anti-Doping Agency Code, FEI and EC rules and regulations.
- i) Uphold and aspire to the highest standards of horsemanship, place equine welfare above all other considerations; abstain from the use of performance-enhancing substances or methods; and reject unethical business practices in the training, breeding, selling or leasing of horses.
- j) Comply at all times with the EC Bylaws, policies, rules and regulations, as adopted and amended from time to time; with any contracts or agreements executed with or by EC; and with any directives or sanctions imposed by EC.
- k) Support the enforcement of all EC policies, rules and regulations by agreeing to report any alleged infractions and occasions of alleged abuse.
- l) Adhere to all Federal, Provincial, Municipal or host-country laws.
- m) Adhere to EC's Social Media policy, which states that Persons should issue public statements only in an objective and truthful manner, and should communicate with others in a positive and respectful manner when using electronic means (email, social media, etc.)

7. Coaches and Instructors

For the purposes of this policy and this section, the term coach also encompasses an instructor.

In addition to complying with sections 5 and 6 above, coaches have other responsibilities. The athlete-coach relationship is a privileged one and can play a critical role in the personal as well as athletic development of athletes. Coaches must understand and respect the inherent power imbalance that exists in this relationship and must be extremely careful not to abuse it. At all times, coaches will:

- a) Ensure a safe environment by selecting activities and appropriate venues while establishing controls that are suitable for the age, experience, ability and fitness level of the equine and human athlete, including educating athletes as to their responsibilities in contributing to a safe environment.
- b) Prepare athletes systematically and progressively, using appropriate time frames and monitoring physical and psychological adjustments while refraining from using training methods or techniques that could harm human or equine participants.
- c) Avoid compromising the present and future health of athletes and equines by communicating and co-operating with sport medicine professionals, sports psychologists, and veterinarians in the diagnosis, treatment and management of athlete's medical and/or psychological health as well as equine nutrition, health and care.
- d) Under no circumstances provide, promote, knowingly ignore or condone the use of prohibited drugs or performance-enhancing substances or methods in accordance with CADP, WADA Code, FEI and EC rules and regulations.

- e) Accept and promote athletes' personal goals and refer the athletes to other coaches and sports specialists as appropriate and as opportunities arise.
- f) At no time engage in an intimate or sexual relationship with an athlete or other sport participant under the age of 18 years of age and at no time engage in an intimate or sexual relationship with an athlete 18 years of age or over if the coach is in a position of power, trust or authority over the athlete or other sport participant.
- g) When an athlete has qualified for a training camp, provincial team, national team, etc., support the program, the applicable coaching staff and EC.
- h) Act in the best interest of the athlete's development as a whole.
- i) Recognize the power inherent in the position of coach and respect and promote the principles of fair play and the rights of all participants in sport.

8. Equestrians

In addition to complying with sections 5 and 6 above, Equestrians must aspire to the highest standards of equine safety, fairness, care and welfare in all aspects of equestrian activities.

Equestrians who are competitive athletes are also responsible to:

- a) Report any medical or fitness problems (human or equine) in a timely fashion, where such problems may limit the athlete's ability to travel, train, perform or compete.
- b) Participate and appear on time for all competitions, practices, training sessions and events.
- c) Properly represent themselves and not willfully attempt to enter a competition for which they, or their equine animal, are not eligible, by reason of age, classification or other reasons.
- d) Adhere to all EC policies, rules and regulations including, but not limited to, the Conflict of Interest provisions in EC's Rule Book and honour the principles of fair play inherent in them.

9. Officials

In addition to complying with sections 5 and 6 above, officials must:

- a) Be fair and objective.
- b) Avoid situations in which a conflict of interest may arise.
- c) Make independent and sound judgements.
- d) Act as ambassadors of EC by adhering to the rules of EC or the FEI (as applicable).
- e) Adhere to the Conflict of Interest provisions in EC's Rule Book.

10. Parents/Guardians

In addition to complying with sections 5 and 6 above, Parents/ Guardians at events will:

- a) Encourage athletes to play by the rules.
- b) Never ridicule a participant for making a mistake during a performance or practice.
- c) Provide positive comments that motivate and encourage participants continued efforts.
- d) Respect the decisions and judgments of officials, and encourage athletes to do the same.

- e) Respect and show respect towards all participants, coaches, officials, competition organizers/committees and volunteers.

11. Further Expectations an EC Member and Equestrians

- a) All Persons and Equestrians are encouraged to continuously educate themselves on the EC policies, regulations and rules of Equine Canada and to take an active role in the EC activities of the federation.
- b) All Persons and Equestrians must, to the best of their ability and resources, follow the Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Equines (2013).
- c) All Persons and Equestrians should strive to preserve and enhance the image of equine and equestrian sport, recreation and industry in order to earn and maintain the respect of society in general.

THE EQUINE CANADA RULEBOOK

Knowledge of the rules of any sport is required of each participant, and the competitor at an EC-sanctioned competition must accept this responsibility. Both a complete knowledge of and compliance with the rules are essential, and all participants must be fully cognizant of all rules as well as particular class specifications in the discipline/breed sport in which they compete.

It is not possible to provide for every conceivable eventuality in these rules. If there is no rule to deal specifically with a particular circumstance, or if the nearest interpretation of the pertinent rule would result in an obvious injustice, it is the duty of those responsible to make a decision based on common sense and fair play, thus reflecting as closely as possible the intention of the rules and regulations of Equine Canada.

Organization of the Rulebook

The EC Rulebook is divided into multiple sections, grouped by disciplines and breed sports. Section A covers general regulations that apply to all EC members, competitors, officials, owners, equines, organizers and persons responsible unless superseded in other sections of the Rulebook.

Evergreen Rules Process

The Equine Canada rulebooks are updated annually, effective January 1st. The official rulebook will be as published on the EC website and may be amended as follows.

Amendment of the Rules

It is the right of every member of Equine Canada to propose amendments to the rules, subject to the current policies, procedures and schedules. The deadline for Rule Change Suggestions (RCS) shall be May 31 each year in accordance with the procedures outlined on the EC Rule Change page. Suggestions will be reviewed by the appropriate discipline/breed sport rules committees who will consider all suggestions and put forward those they recommend as Rule Change Proposals (RCPs). RCPs will be posted on the EC website by August 31 to allow for a 30-day member review. Deadline for member comments is September 30. The rules committees will consider all comments and make any necessary revisions by October 15. Rule changes will be posted on the EC website by December 1, to be effective January 1 the following year.

The amendment process will be strictly followed. Extraordinary rule amendments will be permitted only for FEI rules changes, safety, monetary, clarification, ethical and equine welfare reasons at the discretion of the National Rules Committee using the following protocol. Extraordinary rule amendments will be effective when published by EC on its official website. FEI Rules, applicable to EC-sanctioned competitions, are effective upon publication by the FEI.

Amendment Process:

1. **Proposal** – composed by the discipline/breed sport rules committee (EC staff or NRC for Section A) with supporting rationale.
2. **Authorization** – the applicable discipline or breed council must authorize each ERA, note in their minutes and forward it to the National Rules Committee.

3. **Approval** – the NRC is responsible to confirm the ERA criteria (FEI rule change, safety, monetary, clarification, ethical or equine welfare) has been satisfied prior to approval. Once approved the ERA is forwarded to Sport Council with the date of the approval.
4. **Recommendation** – the Sport Council will receive and consider the report and forward a recommendation to the EC-Board to accept the ERA.
5. **Ratification** – the EC-Board will consider the SC recommendation providing that the relevant criteria have been met and the due process has been followed.
6. **Posting** – EC will translate and post the amendment and show changes to both change visible and clean copy online Rulebooks. The amendments display the date of the NRC approval for consistency.
7. **Effective** – when published on the EC website. The file reference shall retain the original approval date.

Interpretation of the Rules

Please read all cross-references carefully and refer to the EC website for rule changes and/or clarifications. Should the English and French versions differ, the English version shall prevail. In the case of conflict between General Regulations and the regulations of the disciplines/breed sports, the discipline/breed sport rules will prevail. Within these rules the terminology “member” refers to a current EC member in good standing.

CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION

ARTICLE J101 PREPARATION OF REGULATIONS

The Endurance Canada Rules Committee has prepared the following rules and regulations. Every effort has been made to write this document in a language that is clear and concise. The regulations are written to provide specific legal details using the principles of plain language.

While Endurance Canada assumes that most participants are responsible and caring, it is recognized that this highly competitive and demanding sport requires regulation. Endurance Canada's concern in establishing rules and regulations is to ensure that at all times the welfare of the horse is of paramount importance and must never be subordinated to competitive or commercial influences.

These regulations must be read and complied with in conjunction with Equine Canada General Regulations and Veterinary Regulations. It is not feasible to include every possible situation in these rules. In any unforeseen or exceptional circumstances ride management and ride veterinarians may make a decision in a sporting spirit and to the best intention of these rules and the individuals affected.

For the purpose of this document the word "horse" is used and is meant to include any member of Genus Equus.

ARTICLE J102 CODE OF CONDUCT AND WELFARE OF THE ENDURANCE HORSE

1. At all stages during the preparation and training of competition horses, welfare must take precedence over all other demands. This includes good horse management, training methods, farrier work, tack, and transportation.
2. Horses and competitors must be fit, competent and in good health before they are allowed to compete. Mares must not be pregnant and there must be no misuse of aids or medication; recent surgical procedures; or a recent occurrence of a fall or injury that may compromise the welfare or safety of the horse or rider.
3. Events must not prejudice horse welfare. This involves paying careful attention to the competition areas, ground surfaces, weather conditions, stabling, site safety, and fitness of the horse for onward travel after the event.
4. Every effort must be made to ensure that horses receive proper attention after they have competed, and that they are treated humanely when their competition careers are over. This covers proper veterinary care, competition injuries, euthanasia, and retirement.
5. Endurance Canada urges all involved with the sport to attain the highest levels of education in their areas of expertise.

ARTICLE J103 SAFETY OF INDIVIDUALS

1. Protective headgear is required at all times while mounted at the event location as stipulated in Article A905.2.
Protective headgear must be:
 - a) approved by an accredited certification organization as outline in the Glossary, Section A under *Headgear Standards*;
 - b) properly fitted; and
 - c) securely fastened by a safety harness permanently affixed to the helmet.
2. Any competitor may wear protective headgear in any division or class without penalty from the judge.
3. EC makes no representation or warranty, expressed or implied, about any protective headgear. EC cautions riders that serious injury or death may result despite wearing such headgear, as all equestrian sports involve inherent risk, and no protective headgear can protect against all foreseeable injury.
24. The use of safe riding footwear with heels of 12 mm or more, or alternatively caged/boxed stirrups/equestrian safety stirrups is strongly recommended for all persons at the event location while mounted.

ARTICLE J104 SPORT LICENSE REQUIREMENT EXEMPTION FOR NON-CANADIANS

Endurance entry exemption in addition to Article A214 – Exemptions - EC Sport Licenses: US Endurance riders, owners, lessees, agents or trainers must be a member in good standing of USEF. In the case of US riders, owners, lessees, agents or trainers who are members in good standing of USEF do not require an EC Sports License to participate events. (See A214).

CHAPTER 2 THE COMPETITION

ARTICLE J201 INTRODUCTION AND DEFINITION GENERAL

A competition to test the speed and endurance ability of a horse. To be successful, the competitor must have knowledge of pace and efficient and safe use of the horse across country.

1. Distance

- a) An endurance ride must be a minimum of 80 kilometres (nominally, 50 miles) per day up to a maximum distance of 240 kilometres (nominally, 150 miles) in three days, or 400 kilometres (nominally, 250 miles) in five days. No single day ride distance will be greater than 160 kilometres (nominally, 100 miles).
- b) Events of 60 kilometres or less will be considered provincial events, and will be run under provincial/regional rules. These Endurance rules must include, at a minimum:
 - (i) Horse must be at least 48 months of age
 - (ii) There must be a pre, mid and post ride vet check
 - (iii) Horses must pulse down to pre-set criteria within 30 minutes of arriving at the vet check and at the finish criteria.
 - (iv) Total ride time (including any holds) must be at least 6 hours
 Mileage will be tracked for these events when the competitor is an Endurance Canada member.

Regarding FEI Novice Qualification (Art 816.1 of the FEI Endurance Rules) which states "Horses and Athletes must, though not necessarily as a combination: Successfully complete 2 rides of distances between 41 – 79 km and 2 rides of distances between 80 – 90 km at speeds of 16kph or under."

The only rides of 40 km that will be accepted for FEI Novice Qualification for Canadian horses and athletes will be rides organized under Endurance Canada Endurance Rules and/or rides organized by another organization or NF that follow similar rules with minimum criteria as set out in section (b) above of the Endurance Canada Rules.

Listed kilometres	4% Grace	Listed miles	4% Grace miles
80 Open	77—83	50	48—52
100 Open	96—104	60	57—63
160 Open	154—166	100	96—104
240 – 3 days Open	230—250	150 – 3 days	144—156
400 – 5 days Open	384—416	250 – 5 days	240—260

2. Phases

The competition consists of a number of phases. At the end of each phase there will be a compulsory halt for veterinary inspection. The

head veterinarian should be consulted on the distance of each phase and the hold times in each Vet Check.

3. Age and Breed of Horse

An endurance ride is open to any breed or type of horse. The horse must a minimum age of 48 months at the time of the ride for distances below 80 km (below 50 miles) and 60 months at the time of the ride for all distances 80 km (50 miles) or greater. Age is calculated from actual date of birth. Where there are no horse papers available, a ride veterinarian's opinion and discretion must prevail.

4. Ride Sanctioning

Sanctioning requests for all events must be received by Equine Canada for approval at least 60 days before the date of the event.

- a) Endurance Canada's event season runs from December 1st through to November 30th.
- b) For additional information on sanctioning and competitions, refer to Section A – General Regulations.

5. Ride Results

Ride results must be reported to Equine Canada within 14 days of the event and be accompanied by all the applicable fees as per the Schedule of Fees.. All collected medication fees must be submitted to Equine Canada or its designate within 30 days of the event.

ARTICLE J202 COURSE AND MAPS

Ride management will create a course across country. Ride management should attempt to implement technically challenging factors including, but not limited to: changes in footing, terrain, altitude, direction, and width of the trail.

It is customary for ride management to provide each competitor a map or plan showing the track of the course and the location of any compulsory halts or obligatory hazards.

1. Marking of the Course

The marking of the course must be done in such a manner that there is no doubt on how to proceed along the course. The markings can be flags, ribbons, indicators, lime, paint, etc. Direction flags or signs are intended to show the general direction to be taken and to help competitors to find their way. They must be placed so that competitors can recognize them without loss of time.

Competitors must complete the entire course in the direction as marked. Any error of course must be corrected from the place where the error began, or the competitor risks elimination.

When riders will be required to ride in the dark, ride management must clearly mark critical areas of the trail with glow sticks and/or reflectors, ensuring all corners, intersections, and hazardous areas are marked.

2. Trail Flagging

Trail flagging, or any other acceptable indicators, must be used to mark defined sections of the entire course, to define the hazards, and to

mark the start and finish lines. The flagging and/or indicators must be respected wherever they may occur in the course under penalty of disqualification (unless the competitor corrects himself/herself). Whenever a short cut is possible on the course ride management is advised to place a volunteer to control the area that the obligatory passage is respected.

3. Start and Finish

The start and finish of each phase must be clearly and distinctly marked with the appropriate signs.

4. Hazards

A hazard is a naturally occurring obstacle such as ditch, steep climb, descent, or water crossing and is not something constructed to add an additional technical challenge to the course. A hazard is considered as such only if it is adequately identified and signed.

A competitor in difficulty during the course or before a hazard, who is about to be overtaken by a following competitor, must quickly clear the way. Willful obstruction of an overtaking competitor is penalized by disqualification.

If possible, and within the margins of safety, the hazards must be left in their natural state. If possible, a hazard should be reinforced so it remains in the same state throughout the competition.

5. Access to Course and Outline of Hazards

- a. It is customary for competitors to receive a map from ride management when the course is finalized, preferably at the ride briefing and certainly before the start of the ride.
- b. The course of an endurance competition will be officially established at least a week before the competition begins.
- c. All hazards and indicators that have to be observed by competitors must be exactly in position the day before the competition. Thereafter, they may not be moved nor altered by competitors under penalty of disqualification.
- d. Ride management must hold a ride briefing before the start of competition. Ideally, this should be held the day before the competition.

6. Modifications to the Course

After the course has been officially established, no alteration shall be made without the knowledge and approval of ride management in consultation with ride and/or head veterinarian(s). The setting of veterinary parameters, including but not limited to hold times, and heart rate and respiration, shall be determined by the ride and/or head veterinarian(s). Since the ambient conditions are of prime concern in the setting of parameters, these parameters should not be finalized more than 24 hours before the ride start. In exceptional circumstances, such as heavy rain or hot weather which can make any hazard or parts of the course impractical, unfair, or dangerous, ride management is authorized to reduce the severity of or bypass such hazards or such parts of the course, or to reduce the distance. If necessary,

either before the start or during the competition, the competition may be postponed or cancelled by a decision of ride management. In such cases, the riders should be officially and personally informed of the decision before the initial start or before the start of the phase concerned.

ARTICLE J203 START

1. The start and finish lines should be clearly marked with the appropriate signs.
2. All riders and mounts must be present and accounted for at post time and must start within 15 minutes of the stated start time of the ride.
3. A timer records the number or identity of each starter before the horse passes the start line. Starters are recorded throughout the ride, including horses eliminated at veterinary checks.
4. Horses must not cross the start line before the signal is given.

ARTICLE J204 DISTANCE

A competition must be at least 40 kilometres in length per day, up to a maximum distance of 400 kilometres (250 miles) in five days.

Points and kilometres will be awarded according to the mileage for which the ride is sanctioned (refer to Chapter 3, Article J308). The exception to this policy is the case where an emergency forces a last minute trail change, in which case points and mileage are awarded according to the actual mileage reported to Endurance Canada. A change in mileage and/or ride results certified by Endurance Canada may be mandated by the Officials Committee or the Endurance Canada Board of Directors.

1. Rides are sanctioned for a certain number of kilometres.
2. See Article J201.1 for mileage chart and grace percentage.
3. A competition which is sanctioned for more than one distance (such as a an 80 kilometre and a 160 kilometre held over the same course at the same time) have the option of allowing riders to "elevate" from one ride into the other, subject to the following restrictions:
 - a) The rider may only elevate from a shorter distance into a longer distance.
 - b) The rider may elevate only once.
 - c) Upon elevating, the rider is no longer considered to be a starter or a finisher in the shorter ride.
 - d) The rules on reduced Bonus Points for rides with fewer than eleven starters apply.
 - e) Elevator rides must be indicated on the sanction application and advertised as such. The rider must state which mileage he/she will enter if a multiple mileage ride; e.g., 80 kilometre, 160 kilometre, or 250 kilometre. A rider who elevates is eligible for completion only.
- f) If the start times are not the same, elevating riders must have the time limits described in Chapter 2, Article J205, applied to their original ride's starting time.

ARTICLE J205 TIME ALLOWED

There is no minimum time limit for completion. In all endurance competitions, ride management must establish a maximum riding/completion time, which means the time from start to finish of the ride, including all stops, checks, and holds, and within which competitors must

complete the ride to qualify for placing or completion, based on the following prescription. Whatever the order and rules for starting, each competitor carries out the whole competition as if he/she was alone and competing against the clock.

Unless stipulated otherwise, competitors are free to choose their own pace between the start and finish of each phase of the competition. They may lead or follow their horse.

If the conditions of the course or other considerations that might adversely affect the ride, ride management may establish a maximum time for a section of a phase of competition and the closing times for the vet gates.

Under normal conditions, maximum competition time will be according to the following prescription:

40 kilometre (25 miles)	= 6 hours
80 kilometre (50 miles)	= 12 hours
96 kilometre (60 miles)	= 14 hours 30 minutes
120 kilometre (75 miles)	= 18 hours
160 kilometre (100 miles)	= 24 hours

In the case of two-day 160 kilometre (100 mile), three-day 240 kilometre (150 mile), and similar events, the total completion time allowed is based on daily mileage. The time allowed for each day of a multi-day ride is that which is allowed for an equivalent one-day ride according to the above chart. Any extra time cannot be carried forward to the next day's ride.

1. Riding time is the time used by the competitors to complete the course, excluding all hold times, and is the time used for Endurance Canada ride results.
2. All riders must be notified in writing of cut-off times no later than the pre-ride meeting.
3. A competitor who does not respect any given time limits will be penalized by disqualification.

ARTICLE J206 TIME-KEEPING

As timing plays such an important part in the competition, ride management will ensure that each competitor's start and finish time for each timed phase is accurately noted and recorded by properly qualified persons using synchronized chronometers.

1. Each competitor will be issued a time card.
2. Time keeping system and/or timekeepers are required at the start and finish of each timed phase to record the times of each competitor and to insert the times on the time cards.
3. Time is counted from the instant the starter gives the signal to start
4. The Open Division stops instantly when the competing horse crosses the finish line. The time is counted in whole seconds, parts of a second counting as the next whole second.

ARTICLE J207 ELIMINATIONS/DISQUALIFICATIONS

A competitor and/or his/her horse who is eliminated or disqualified for any reason must leave the course at once and has no right to continue unless there is no viable alternative. A horse that constitutes a clear danger to other horses and/or persons may be disqualified, at any time, from competition by the ride manager or ride veterinarian. The rider must inform

ride management or a timekeeper if and when the rider leaves the course/trail for any reason.

All horses that are eliminated, excused, rider optioned, or do not complete the course and final fit-to-continue examination for any reason, **MUST** be examined by a veterinarian and released from the site for travel before they are loaded for departure.

ARTICLE J208 ASSISTANCE ON COURSE

Outside assistance during the course is only allowed in order to help the competitor to water, feed, electrolyte, and wash down the horse. Ride management may indicate that the above-mentioned assistance may only be given at specific places that will be indicated on the map to be available to competitors. Competitors may be assisted to adjust their equipment and to remount, or they may be handed anything they require (water, food, equipment). The use of mobile phones, or two-way radios is permitted, as are Global Positioning Systems (GPSs), and heart rate monitors.

1. Before the start and after the finish and at compulsory halts or veterinary inspections, it is permitted to assist competitors and to attend their horses (grooming, water, etc.).
2. In any case, for example after a fall or if the competitor is separated from his/her horse, or in the case of loose or lost horseshoes, the competitor may be assisted to recover his/her horse, to replace the shoes and to remount, or the competitor may be handed any part of his/her equipment while he/she is dismounted or remounted.
3. In cases of doubt, ride management will make the final decision and this decision is not subject to appeal.
4. On the course, no other person may lead or ride the horse once the competitor has started except to return a loose horse to the competitor.

ARTICLE J209 FORBIDDEN ASSISTANCE

Any outside assistance other than stated in Article J208 is forbidden under penalty of disqualification. Any intervention by a third party, whether solicited or not, with the object of giving advantage to the competitor or his/her horse, is considered forbidden assistance. In particular the following is forbidden:

1. To be followed, preceded, or accompanied on any part of the course by any vehicle, bicycle, pedestrian, or horseperson not in the competition. The single exception is for junior riders on the last loop, when there are no other sponsoring riders available. In this case, junior riders may, with ride management and ride veterinarian approval, be accompanied by a person(s) not entered in the competition, either on foot or bicycle (as per section J307.8)
2. To cut wire fences, to dismantle a part of an enclosure so as to clear a way or to cut down trees.

ARTICLE J210 CRUELTY

The abuse or inhumane treatment of a horse by an individual Sport License holder or other person at an EC-sanctioned competition shall not be tolerated under any circumstances see A517 in the General Regulations.

CHAPTER 3 RIDE DAY

ARTICLE J301 ROLE OF VETERINARIANS

Horses must be under the control of veterinarian(s) experienced with horses and endurance events.

1. The ride must employ at least one veterinarian whose services will be exclusive to that event, pre-ride, during the ride, and post-ride (at least one ride veterinarian must be at the ride site for at least one hour after the last horse crosses the finish line or has returned to ride camp).
2. The most current version of Endurance Canada's Ride Manager's Handbook, Endurance Canada's Veterinary Handbook, Endurance Canada's Regulations must be provided by Endurance Canada's Sanctioning Committee to the ride manager. These materials must be provided to the control veterinarians by the ride manager before the ride, and must be available for reference at the ride.
3. Control veterinarians are veterinarians employed by ride management to monitor the horses and counsel riders and ride management on equine welfare as well as to uphold Endurance Canada Regulations. A control veterinarian must be an Endurance Canada member, either as a regular member or as a veterinary member. A veterinarian who is supplying treatment only, is not required to be an Endurance Canada member.
4. A veterinarian who is serving as ride manager of an Equine Canada-sanctioned event is prohibited from serving that same event as a veterinary control official.
5. Each horse will receive a substantive physical examination of metabolic and mechanical parameters before the ride, at control points within the ride, and after the ride. All Equine Canada-sanctioned rides must use an Endurance Canada-approved rider card.
6. The veterinarians' decisions regarding disqualification must be final and ride management must stand behind the veterinarians' decisions.
7. A ride manager may not overrule a veterinarian's decision on a veterinary matter.
8. A horse that is disqualified by the veterinarians must not continue. This practice by a rider is considered grounds for barring that rider from future rides. The rider must inform ride management or a timekeeper if and when the rider leaves the course/trail for any reason.
9. The rider/owner of a horse that is disqualified by a ride veterinarian should be notified immediately by that veterinarian or the ride manager.
10. Management must be confident that there is complete understanding with the veterinarian(s) regarding heart rate and respiration criteria, any other disqualification criteria, and particularly post-ride criteria for completion.
11. The setting of veterinary parameters, including but not limited to heart rate and respiration shall be determined by the head veterinarian. Since the ambient conditions are of prime concern in the setting of parameters, these parameters should not be finalized more than 24 hours before the start of the ride. The heart rate for the Ranked Novice shall be 56 beats per minute.

12. The horse must recover to the pre-set veterinary heart rate criteria and pass the veterinary evaluation within the hold time of each vet check. Provided the horse passes these parameters successfully, a rider may choose to give his or her horse a longer recovery before continuing down the trail.
13. The horse must recover to the pre-set veterinary heart rate criteria and pass the veterinary evaluation within 30 minutes after arrival at the finish line. A horse that does not reach these parameters within 30 minutes of arrival at the finish line will be disqualified. Riders may present their horse for the final veterinary completion examination at the final heart rate check or within 30 minutes of crossing the finish line. Horses must be made available for veterinary examination at or before 30 minutes after their arrival at the finish line.
14. All veterinary control checkpoints must be staffed by a veterinarian who will provide the required control. The type of checkpoint and duration of the hold will, in all cases, be designated by the head veterinarian. It is recommended that all checkpoints be of the "gate into a hold" type.
15. Horses that are treated or die at rides shall be reported on a form with ride results to be completed by the ride veterinarian and submitted with ride results. This information will be kept permanently on file at the Endurance Canada office.

ARTICLE J302 MEDICATION CONTROL

Endurance horses must compete entirely on their natural ability. The integrity of any endurance competition requires that the horse is not influenced by any drug, medication, or veterinary treatment. The use of any substance or method that has the potential to harm the horse or to enhance its performance is forbidden.

1. Equine Canada-sanctioned rides are subject to drug testing by Equine Canada. Riders and owners of horses entered in Equine Canada-sanctioned events grant authority for their horses to be tested by virtue of their entry into the ride. The Person Responsible will be liable for all penalties and suspensions in the event of a certificate of positive analysis. Please refer to the drug classification scheme and the schedule of fines and penalties available on the Equine Medication Control webpage.
2. In the event of a certificate of positive analysis, the rider and the horse are automatically disqualified. If the disqualified horse and competitor are members of a team, the rest of the team is not automatically disqualified.

For additional information on Equine Medications Control, see Equine Canada, Section A – General Regulations, Chapter 10..

ARTICLE J303 RIDE ENTRIES

Ride management may limit the number of competitors provided that prior publicity states the limitation and that all spaces and vacancies are filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

Entry (or subsequent expulsion) to a ride may be refused for just cause. Cause is defined as a specific occurrence, substantiated by direct and corroborated evidence of, including but not limited to, one of the following:

1. Non-payment of ride fees, such as insufficient funds check not made good.
2. Abuse of a horse, such as drugging or continuing to ride after being disqualified without the specific permission of a ride veterinarian.

3. Abusive harassment of ride personnel, other riders or crews, such as arguing with the veterinarians, breaking the line at vet gates, or deliberately blocking other riders on the trail.
4. Removing or altering trail markers..
5. Cheating, such as deliberate short cuts or deliberately leaving timed holds early.
6. A horse determined to be unruly or dangerous may be denied entry.
7. Cause might also be determined by the Board or one of the National sub-committees of Endurance Canada.

ARTICLE J304 MULTIPLE ENTRY RESTRICTION

No horse and/or rider may enter any Equine Canada-sanctioned ride more than once, or enter more than one ride held concurrently at an Equine Canada-sanctioned event. (i.e. is not allowed to enter the 50 and the 75 mile ride.) This is not meant to prevent cross-entering in the same ride (50 mile Bronze and FEI Gold.)

ARTICLE J305 COMPLETION

1. General Criteria

- a) All riders and mounts must be present and accounted for at the start of the ride
- b) Properly entered in the ride
- c) Obeying all the rules
- d) Following the prescribed course, and doing multiple loops in the correct order
- e) Passing all control points
- f) Passing vet check requirements.
- g) Finishing within the prescribed maximum time
- h) Not being disqualified
- i) Meeting criteria at post-finish-line check
- j) Meeting any other criteria prescribed by ride management
- k) Not having been paced or prompted by an un-entered, withdrawn, or otherwise unauthorized equine, vehicle, or a person other than another entrant. This does not preclude the ordinary support services of attendants or pit crews. A crew may accompany their rider down a public road in a support vehicle (unless there is a ride management prohibition against it) provided they do not push or haze the horse.

2. Veterinary Criteria

A competitor must pass all veterinary criteria for completion; a competitor who fails any of the other completion criteria should be pulled from Top Ten placing but may be allowed a completion, if in the opinion of ride management, the violation was not intentional and did not result in making the course easier or shorter.

Each Equine Canada-sanctioned ride must have a post finish-line vet examination that the horse must pass for a successful completion. The criteria will be announced before the ride. Refer to Section 3.1.m., and the following:

3. Post-Finish-Line Veterinary Criteria

The post-finish-line vet examination is where the final criteria for completion must be met. A horse is not considered to have completed the ride until it has passed this final inspection. The post-finish-line vet examination also serves as a safety check to monitor for late-developing problems (so that they can be treated if necessary) as well as extending veterinary control over the last leg of the ride.

The minimum criteria for the post-finish-line vet check are as follows. Ride management may adopt more stringent criteria, but these must be provided to competitors before the ride in written form. All riders who successfully complete the ride and pass the following post-finish-line veterinary criteria below must receive a completion award.

- a) All horses must stand a mandatory post-ride evaluation within 30 minutes of its finish. Riders may present their horses for the final examination at a time of their choosing during the 30-minute period. A horse that does not meet the established criteria, including heart rate criteria, within 30 minutes of crossing the finish line will be disqualified.
- b) Once a competing horse has passed the post-ride examination, it may not be removed from completion for veterinary reasons. Respiration should be evaluated on its own merit. Ambient temperature and humidity effects need to be recognized and their effects on respiration rate are considered.
- c) The horse must be metabolically stable, sufficient to demonstrate fitness to continue.
- d) There will be no gait aberration that is consistently observable under all circumstances that results in pain or threatens immediate athletic performance. This examination will be conducted at a trot, or an equivalent gait, straight out and back, without prior flexion or palpation.
- e) Soreness, lacerations, and wounds on the limbs and body—including the mouth—must be noted on the veterinary examination card. Lesions that are aggravated to a degree that affect the horse's ability to continue may be a cause for failure to complete the ride. It must be recognized by veterinarians that lesions caused by tack and interference may be from mild to severe and need to be evaluated on their own merit.
- f) Evaluation of other monitoring parameters must indicate the horse is not in need of any medical treatment. It must be borne in mind that heart rate, respiration, and soundness are but three of the important parameters considered in the state of condition evaluation.
- g) The horse may not have received medical treatment by veterinarian or layman before the final examination. When a ride veterinarian advises that a horse should be treated for a metabolic or soundness problem, but that treatment is refused by the rider or owner, this shall be considered as a treated horse and will be disallowed a completion.

4. Placements and Ties

Endurance Canada does not accept ties.

5. Recording of Points and Membership

Endurance Canada will record points and mileage for its members. Points are calculated on the basis of actual finishing positions regardless of whether other competitors are Endurance Canada members or not. Horse

and rider must be members of Endurance Canada before the Equine Canada-sanctioned event in order for the rider to receive points and the horse to receive mileage.

Membership in Endurance Canada must be submitted by January 31 of each year.

- a) Renewing members whose dues are not paid by February 1st will receive no points or kilometres for rides held between November 1st and the date their membership is restored.
- b) Horses and riders must be registered with Endurance Canada in order to receive horse and rider points.
- c) Horse points cannot be recovered, but the kilometres (mileage) may be recovered by payment of fees established by Endurance Canada.
- d) A new member will be able to obtain mileage (miles) credit for kilometres ridden before the date of joining by payment of fees established by Endurance Canada. Career mileage credit applies only to Endurance Canada members in Equine Canada-sanctioned rides, and Endurance Canada members (and their own horses, if applicable) who have participated in FEI rides or endurance rides in a foreign country of at least 80 kilometres (50 miles) in length and sanctioned by an Endurance Canada recognized organization.
- e) The member registering the horse for Endurance Canada purposes need not be the registered owner of the horse. In the event of a dispute of ownership, proof of ownership will govern.

ARTICLE J306 WEIGHT DIVISIONS

Endurance Canada has two divisions (Senior and Junior [refer to Chapter 3, Article J307]) based on the age of the rider, and independent of any ride management rules governing junior and senior riders. There are also weight divisions within the Senior Division. Competitors are recorded in weight divisions as indicated in the ride results.

For riders to stay within a weight division they must meet the minimum requirement but are not required to stay under the maximum parameter. Each rider riding for weight division points may be weighed at any ride. Any other rider has the right to challenge the weight of a competitor and request a weighing.

Ride management must exercise reasonable discretion in making allowances for normal weight loss of rider during competition and inaccuracy of ride scales. (A 4% allowance applied evenly to all competitors would be reasonable.) Ride results list all completing riders in order of finish along with their division.

Endurance Canada will disqualify any members found to have deliberately provided fraudulent information regarding weight, age, or any matter affecting national or regional awards. No points or kilometres will be awarded for an entire year.

WEIGHT DIVISIONS:

1. Heavyweight: riders whose combined body weight and tack is 96 kilograms (211 pounds) or more.
2. Middleweight: riders whose combined body weight and tack is from 84.5 to 95.5 kilograms (186 to 210 pounds).
3. Lightweight: riders whose combined body weight and tack is from 73 to 84 kilograms (161 to 185 pounds).

4. Featherweight: riders whose combined body weight and tack is 72.5 kilograms (160 pounds) or less.

ARTICLE J307 JUNIOR COMPETITORS

1. Junior competitors as defined in Section A Glossary are classified as follows:
 - a) J1 - junior competitors less than 14 years of age must be accompanied at all times by a competent adult sponsor throughout the competition.
 - b) J2 - junior competitors 14 years of age to the end of the calendar year in which they reach 16 years of age may ride unaccompanied by a competent adult sponsor provided each of the following conditions are satisfied prior to the unaccompanied ride:
 - (i) consent of J2's parent or guardian;
 - (ii) consent of the applicable organizing committee; and
 - (iii) successful completion of a minimum of three 40km and three 80km Endurance Canada/AERC sanctioned rides as a sponsored J1.
 - c) J3 - junior competitors 16 year of age as of January 1st of the current calendar year to the end of the calendar year in which they reach 18 years of age are not required to ride accompanied by an adult sponsor and are not eligible for points in the Junior Division.
2. The sponsor of a J1 must be entered as a competitor in the event and sponsorship of a J1 must be documented on the junior entry form complete with the sponsor signature at the time sponsorship begins.
3. An infraction of the sponsorship shall result in the disqualification of the sponsor and/or junior.
4. Junior riders wishing to participate in an Endurance Canada competition must have the written consent of a parent or guardian. This consent shall imply:
 - a) Acceptance of all Endurance Canada regulations, particularly the ability of a junior to substitute a sponsor during a ride as allowed by Endurance Canada regulations.
 - b) Prior consent to any emergency medical treatment or aid.
5. Junior and sponsor must ride together at all times, including entering and leaving all vet checks simultaneously; the only exception being that at the finish line a junior may finish within the same minute or within the one minute on either side of the sponsor's finishing minute.
6. Junior and/or sponsor normally may suspend their sponsorship agreement only at regular stated checks and then only with the knowledge and consent of ride management, and management's documentation of the change when it occurs.
7. Sponsorships may change between checks only in the event that either competitor or either competitor's mount is unable to continue safely to a checkpoint.
8. In the event of an emergency and in order to remain in competition, the junior who is in last place and whose preregistered sponsor is pulled, and there are no other qualified sponsors to follow, the junior may, with ride management and ride veterinarian approval, be sponsored by a qualified rider who is not entered in the competition, through the completion of the ride. The junior would receive last place junior points. This emergency sponsor will receive no credit for mileage or points. The junior may also be sponsored by an adult on foot from the last veterinary check with the approval of ride management.

9. Endurance Canada points must be submitted and recorded as per the above regulations independent of ride management's local ride regulations governing junior and senior riders.

ARTICLE J308 POINTS

Points are awarded based on .625 per kilometer and bonus points for top ten and longer distances. Refer to the *Points Handbook* for calculations.

ARTICLE J309 BEST CONDITION AWARD

1. Criteria

In each endurance ride, an award may be given to the horse judged to be in the Best Condition. All of the first ten finishing horses are eligible for Best Condition consideration, whether ridden by Junior, Featherweight, Lightweight, Middleweight, or Heavyweight riders. Use of the Endurance Canada's Best Condition system is optional with ride management. The award does not have to be given, particularly if the veterinarian(s) feel that none of the horses in contention are deserving of the award.

- a) Only horses selected as Best Condition using this system (with Best Condition forms returned along with the ride results) are recognized by Endurance Canada.
- b) If desired, rides have the option of giving other Best Condition awards other than the Endurance Canada Best Condition.
- c) Endurance Canada recognizes only one Best Condition horse at any one ride.
- d) The ride veterinarian(s) is the sole judge of the veterinary portion of the award.
- e) Ride management determines the weight and time portion of the awards.
- f) In the event of a tie (Best Condition score), the horse among those tied with the highest veterinary score will be the winner. If there is still a tie, the horse among those still tied that finished ahead of the other(s) will be the winner.

CHAPTER 4 PROTESTS AND APPEALS

ARTICLE J401 PROCEDURE

While there are procedures for lodging protests and reports against the decisions, actions or behaviour of individuals or bodies under the jurisdiction of Equine Canada, individuals are encouraged to resolve issues on site, and in good faith, with ride management and/or officials at the event.

In the event of an alleged infraction of the statutes, bylaws, regulations, or common principles of behaviour, fairness, or accepted standards of sportsmanship, whether occurring during or in connection with an Equine Canada-sanctioned event, decision or process, a protest may be lodged using the Protest and Appeals procedures as laid out Chapter 12 – General Dispute Resolution and Protests at EC-Sanctioned Competitions.

CHAPTER 5 OFFICIALS

ARTICLE J501 VETERINARY CONTROL JUDGE

1. **To qualify** as an Endurance Canada Veterinary Control Judge one must:
 - a) Have graduated with a Veterinary Degree from an institution of recognized standing and be eligible for licensure to practice Veterinary Medicine.
 - b) Be familiar with the dynamics of the sport and the rules of Endurance Canada and Equine Canada.
 - c) Have the experience and skill to effectively judge an equine's ability to safely remain in competition.
 - d) Perform duties outside the role of control judges, such as diagnostics and/or medical treatment only if licensed in the area and have experience in the practice of equine veterinary medicine.
 - e) Be efficient, tolerant, objective, firm and fair.
 - f) Be pleasant, helpful, good-humored, kind and concerned.
 - g) Be current on trends within Equine Medicine and Horse Physiology, and the sport of Endurance.
 - h) Hold an Endurance Canada membership and an Equine Canada Sport License equal to the level of the competition (Bronze for Bronze competitions, Gold for FEI).
 - i) Successfully pass the Endurance Canada Veterinary examination and provide letters of recommendation from at least two OCs.
 - j) In the interest of the welfare of the horse as well as the development of the sport of Endurance in Canada, an Endurance Canada Veterinary Control Judge may act as a Veterinary Judge at any non-Equine Canada-sanctioned event.
2. **To maintain status** as an Endurance Canada Veterinary Control Judge one must:
 - a) Act as a Veterinary Control Judge at a minimum of one Endurance Canada Endurance event every three years.
 - b) Provide proof of attendance at one Continuing Education event dedicated to Equine Sports Medicine and/or Exercise Physiology at least every 3 years.
 - c) The above activities must be reported to the Endurance Canada Officials Committee Chair no later than December 31st annually

ARTICLE J502 TECHNICAL DELEGATE

1. **To qualify** as an Endurance Canada Technical Delegate one must:
 - a) Have experience working at Endurance events within the past three years, and provide a letter of recommendation from the Organizing Committee.
 - b) Have a good working knowledge of the Endurance Canada and Equine Canada rules, and keep up to date on developing trends in the sport.
 - c) Be patient, tolerant, efficient, firm, friendly and fair.
 - d) Hold an Endurance Canada Membership and an Equine Canada Sport License equal to the level of the competition (Bronze for Bronze competitions, Gold for FEI).
2. **Duties** of an Endurance Canada Technical Delegate:

- a) Ensure all aspects of the competition are safe, fair and equal for all competitors.
 - b) Monitor the competition to promote the Welfare of the Horse as the primary consideration throughout the competition.
 - c) Approve the prize list and entry forms to ensure they conform to Endurance Canada and EC rules.
 - d) Verify entry forms are correctly completed, and confirm required memberships and sport licenses.
 - e) Supervise the timing system to ensure it meets minimum standards for a fair event.
 - f) Review and approve all technical aspects of the competition, including stabling and trail, with a view to efficiency, horse and rider safety, fair and equal competition for all.
 - g) Supervise the briefing and conduct of all technical personnel.
 - h) Thoroughly investigate reports of rule infractions and conflicts with the parties involved (including the Veterinary Control Judge when appropriate) to achieve a fair and equitable resolution.
 - i) Complaints, Protests and Appeals shall be addressed in Chapter 12 - General Dispute Resolution and Protests at EC-sanctioned Competitions.
 - j) Take immediate action on cases of equine abuse, either personally observed or reported.
 - k) Responsible for the overall control of the event from one hour before the beginning of the First Inspection of horses until one-half hour following the announcement of results.
 - l) Oversee setup of Veterinary Gates and monitor Inspections of horses.
 - m) Must file a report on the competition with EC at the conclusion of the ride in a timely manner. (Report to be developed will include the deadline for filing with EC).
 - n) Works in conjunction with the Veterinary Control Judges in making decisions and resolving conflicts at Endurance Canada events.
3. **To maintain status** as an Endurance Canada Technical Delegate one must:
 - a) Act as a Technical Delegate at a minimum of one Endurance Canada event every three years.
 - b) Attend continuing education opportunities at least once every three years and provide proof of attendance to the Endurance Canada Officials Committee no later than December 31st each year.

ARTICLE J503 NATIONAL EVENT OFFICIALS REQUIREMENTS

1. **Bronze level events:**
 - Veterinary Control Judge – one from the EC-Endurance list, others may be apprentices.
 - Technical Delegate – one from the EC-Endurance list.
 - Stewards – Not required.

ARTICLE J504 FEI EVENT OFFICIALS REQUIREMENTS

1. **CEI 1*, 2*, 3*, 4* events:**
 - Required Officials are outlined in Annex 5 of the FEI Rules for Endurance.

ARTICLE J505 LICENSED OFFICIALS COMMITTEE

1. The Licensed Officials Committee (LOC) is a discipline specific committee appointed under the Canadian Endurance Committee Terms of Reference with Equine Canada approval and representation.
2. The LOC shall be responsible for the review and promotion of all Endurance Officials and the development and delivery of programs, seminars and clinics leading to licensing and maintaining currency requirements.
3. The LOC shall act upon every application for enrollment, promotion and classification of Licensed Officials, and may send out questionnaires concerning the capability and integrity of applicants. All responses, evaluations and applications shall remain confidential unless required by appeal proceedings.
4. The LOC may approve, deny, remove, reinstate, or withhold any license based upon these rules.
5. LOC decisions shall be final and subject to appeal only in cases where decisions are found not supported by these rules or handled in a timely manner.
6. The LOC shall invoke the Advisory Process when appropriate. See Article J506, Advisory Process.
7. The LOC is responsible to maintain the Licensed Officials Handbook containing expanded explanation of these rules, application forms and general guidelines and helpful information for all levels of Endurance officials seeking advancement and maintaining qualifications.
8. The LOC of each discipline is solely responsible for recommending their qualified licensed officials for promotion to FEI status.

ARTICLE J506 ADVISORY PROCESS

1. The purpose of the Advisory Process is to keep the standard of officiating at the highest level, to ensure that concerns of competitors are addressed; and to ensure fair competitions.
2. The Advisory Process may be invoked by the Licensed Officials Committee as warranted when:
 - a) Three letters of the same complaint are received by the LOC on the same subject within 5 years;
 - b) One complaint, in writing, of an extremely serious nature is received by the LOC; or
 - c) A series of complaints, in writing, are received by the LOC regarding the same official.

Note: A written complaint may be made by mail, fax or e-mail and must be dated and signed.

3. Complaints must be investigated, using a reasonable investigation process to make a good faith determination that sufficient cause, based on reasonable grounds, exists to warrant some degree of advisory or disciplinary action. The process must provide for a thorough understanding of all sides of an issue and allow for a structured, measured and fair investigation.
4. If a conflict of interest is determined to exist between an individual concerned with investigating a complaint and the individual under investigation, the former will remove him/herself from the process.
5. Complaints will be addressed after sufficient investigation by the LOC as deemed appropriate:

- a) A verbal advisory warning followed with a summary of the conversation in writing.
- b) A written advisory warning.
- c) Non-renewal of license.
- d) No action.

ARTICLE J507 REINSTATEMENT

Reinstatement following a lapse for failure to pay annual dues may only be applied for once without special permission by the Licensed Officials Committee. However, the following shall apply:

1. Only on the grounds of illness or for other acceptable reason.
2. The candidate must rewrite and pass a written examination, if written more than 2 years previously, and
3. The candidate shall attend the first available, relevant clinic.

GLOSSARY

LAMENESS CATEGORIES

Grade I: is defined as lameness difficult to observe. Not consistently apparent regardless of whether the horse is circling, going up or down a hill, trotting on a hard surface, etc.

Grade II: is defined as lameness difficult to observe at a walk or trot on a straight line.

Grade III: is defined as a consistently observable lameness at a trot.

Grade IV: is defined as an obvious lameness with marked nodding.

Grade V: is defined as minimal weight bearing on one leg, or inability to move.

Grades III to V are automatically excused from BC judging; Grades I and II usually are not. The "soundness" score should reflect the significance of the gait impairment as well as the degree of impairment at that moment. A horse that merely has a peculiar way of going may appear slightly "off" so it is very important for the vet to have made notes, whether mental or otherwise, about how each horse moved at the pre-ride exam.

METRIC CONVERSION

WHEN YOU KNOW	MULTIPLY BY	TO FIND
Hands	4	inches
Inches	2.54	Centimeters
Centimeters	0.3937	Inches
Yards	0.9	Meters
Meters	3.281	Feet
Feet	0.3048	Meters
Miles	1.609	Kilometers
Kilometers	0.6214	Miles
Pounds	0.4536	Kilograms
Kilograms	2.205	Pounds

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Our Vision

Canadians are inspired to achieve personal excellence and embrace lifelong participation in equestrian activities.

Our Mission

From championing best practices to encouraging fun and participation, Equine Canada is the dedicated national voice working to serve, promote and protect the interests of horses and Canada's equestrian community.

www.equinecanada.ca