



**FEI**  
**FÉDÉRATION EQUESTRE**  
**INTERNATIONALE**

## **Rules for Endurance Riding**

**5th edition**  
**effective 1st January 2000**

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## **Preamble**

*The present Rules for Endurance Riding are the 5th edition, effective 1st January 2000. As from the aforementioned date, all other texts covering the same matter (other editions and all other official documents) issued previously are superseded.*

*Although this booklet sets out the detailed Rules of the FEI governing International Endurance Rides, it must be read in conjunction with the Statutes, the General Regulations and the Veterinary Regulations.*

*Every eventuality cannot be provided for in these Rules. In any unforeseen or exceptional circumstances, it is the duty of the Ground Jury and the Veterinarians to make a decision in a sporting spirit and approaching as nearly as possible to the intention of these Rules and of the General Regulations of the FEI.*

## **Code of Conduct**

1. In all equestrian sports the horse must be considered paramount.
2. The well being of the horse shall be above the demands of breeders, trainers, riders, owners, dealers, organisers, sponsors or officials.
3. All handling and veterinary treatment must ensure the health and welfare of the horse.
4. The highest standards of nutrition, health, sanitation and safety shall be encouraged and maintained at all times.
5. Adequate provision must be made for ventilation, feeding, watering and maintaining a healthy environment during transportation.
6. Emphasis should be placed on increasing education in training and equestrian practices and on promoting scientific studies in equine health.
7. In the interests of the horse, the fitness and competence of the rider shall be regarded as essential.
8. All riding and training methods must take account of the horse as a living entity and must not include any technique considered by the FEI to be abusive.
9. National Federations should establish adequate controls in order that all persons and bodies under their jurisdiction respect the welfare of the horse.
10. The national and international Rules and Regulations in equestrian sport regarding the health and welfare of the horse must be adhered to not only during national and international events, but also in training. Competition Rules and Regulations shall be continually reviewed to ensure such welfare.

## Chapter I The Competition

### Article 800 General

1. An Endurance Ride is a competition to test the speed and the endurance ability of a horse.

To be successful, the competitor will have to have knowledge of pace and the proper use of his horse across country. In an Endurance Ride any member of the Genus Equus counts as a "horse".

2. The competition consists of a number of phases, that are sections of the competition, which may be separately timed. At the end of each phase, in principle at least every 40 km, there will be a compulsory halt for veterinary inspection, (except Marathon Rides, see Art. 824.2). The Veterinary Commission should approve the distance from the start to the first inspection during the ride. In a 160 km ride there must be at least five Vet Gates plus the final inspection or four Vet Gates and a compulsory trot by. The phases may be spread over two or more days.

3. Whatever the order and rules for starting, each competitor carries out the whole competition as if he were alone and competing against the clock.

4. It is a competition against the clock. The horse that finishes the course in the shortest time will, in general, be classified as the winner of the competition. Competitions shall be organised to allow competitors to establish their pace to compete against the clock. However, because of the conditions of the course or other considerations which might adversely affect the ride, the Organising Committee in consultation with the Technical Delegate may establish a minimum time for a section of a phase of competition. The length of the course under controlled speed

shall not exceed 5 km per section and there cannot be more than one section under controlled speed per phase of the course.

#### **Article 801 The Course**

The type of terrain and altitude differentials must be clearly indicated in the schedule of the competition. In principle, the course should not contain more than 10% of hard surface roads intended for vehicular use. In general, the more demanding part of the course should not be near the end. The finish must be long and wide enough to enable several horses to finish at speed without interfering with each other.

#### **Article 802 Marking of the Course**

##### *1. Definition*

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, dolomite, paint etc. The competitor must complete the entire course in the direction as marked on the map referred to in Art. 802.4. Any error of course must be corrected from the place where the error has started under penalty of elimination.

##### *2. Red and white Boundary Flags*

Entirely red or white (on both sides) boundary flags or indicators must be used to mark defined sections of the entire course, to define the hazards, and to mark the start and finish lines. They are placed in such a way that a competitor must pass a red flag on his right and a white flag on his left (except Marathon Rides, see Art. 824.2). Such red or white flags or indicators, etc. must be respected wherever they may occur in the course under

penalty of elimination (unless the competitor corrects himself). Whenever on the course a short cut is possible the Organising Committee must place a steward to control that the obligatory passage is respected.

3. *Marks, Signs, etc.*

Direction flags or signs are intended to show the general direction to be taken and to help the competitor to find his way.

They must be placed so that competitors can recognise them without loss of time. A distance marker must be placed every 10 km.

4. *Plan of the Course*

Each competitor will be given in advance a map or plan showing the track of the course and the location of any compulsory halts or obligatory hazards.

5. *Start and Finish*

The start and finish of each phase must be clearly and distinctly marked by red and white flags as well as the appropriate signs.

**Article 803 Hazards**

1. *Definition*

A hazard is a naturally occurring obstacle such as ditch, steep, climb, descent or water crossing and not constructed just for the ride. A hazard is considered only as such if it is marked by a red and a white boundary flag.

## 2. *Nature of Hazards*

As far as possible the hazards must be left in their natural state. If necessary, they should be reinforced so that they remain in the same state throughout the competition.

## 3. *Alternative Route*

Refusal at the hazards shall not entail elimination of the competitor. At each hazard an alternative route must be provided for competitors who prefer to avoid the hazard. The alternative route must be clearly marked and communicated at the pre-ride briefing. The alternative route shall not add more than 500 meters to the course (whenever possible).

### **Article 804 Access to the Course and Outline of Hazards**

1. A map in a scale of at least 1:50'000 should be available to competitors when the course is established.
2. The course of an Endurance competition will be officially established at least a week before the competition begins.
3. All hazards, red and white flags and indicators which have to be observed by competitors shall be exactly in position the day before the competition. Thereafter, they may not be moved nor altered by competitors under penalty of elimination.
4. In principle, the day before the competition, a briefing for competitors and/or Chefs d'Equipe must be held.

### **Article 805 Modification to the Course**

After the course has been officially established, no alteration shall be made without the approval of the Technical Delegate and the Ground Jury. In exceptional circumstances, such as heavy rain or hot weather which make one or more hazards or any part of the course unpracticable, unfair or dangerous, the

Technical Delegate or, in his absence, the Ground Jury is authorised to reduce the severity of or to bypass such hazards or such part of the course, or to reduce the distance or the speeds demanded.

If necessary, the start of the competition may be postponed or cancelled. In such a case, every competitor must be officially and personally informed of the alteration before the start of the phase concerned. The Chefs d'Equipe should also be informed.

#### **Article 806 Method of Starting**

1. The start and finish lines should be marked by red and white flags and with the appropriate signs.
2. Horses must not cross the starting line before the signal is given.
3. An official may be stationed at a convenient distance from the start. By waving a red flag, he can halt a competitor whose start is in any way false. Under penalty of elimination, the competitor must, return and re-cross the start line. But his starting time will be recorded as if he had started when originally given the signal.

#### **Article 807 Speeds and Distances**

1. The distance of the phases shall be determined by the OC and should be published in the schedule to allow competitors to establish their pace to compete against the clock (also refer to Art. 800.4).
2. The minimum distance for a one day competition is 80 km (120 km at CEIOs and Championships). For competitions of more than one day, the minimum average distance for each day is 80 km (100 km at CEIOs), except Marathon Rides (see Art. 824.2).



3. Each day of an Endurance competition must be divided into at least two phases, separated by a compulsory rest period.

**Article 808 Time Limit**

1. In all Endurance competitions, the Organising Committee, in consultation with the Technical Delegate, must fix the time limit for the arrival. The Organising Committee, in consultation with the Technical Delegate, may also fix time limits for phases of a competition or sections of a course in accordance with Art. 800.4 and 807.

**Article 809 Time-keeping**

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

2. Each competitor will be issued a time card.

3. 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.

4. Time is counted from the instant the starter gives the signal to start until the instant when the competing horse crosses the finish line. This is counted in whole seconds, parts of a second counting as the next whole second.

5. Since the veterinary gate system at compulsory halts must be used, the timing of the competitors must be performed in such a manner that will compensate any delay caused by the examination of several horses arriving simultaneously. (For veterinary gate system see Annex III.)

#### **Article 810 Timetable**

When a mass start is not effected, the interval between the start times of competitors will be at the discretion of the Organising Committee. But, to ensure that two competitors do not interfere with each other, it is recommended that the interval not be less than two minutes.

#### **Article 811 Pace**

1. Unless otherwise laid down, between the start and finish of each phase of the competition, competitors are free to choose their own pace. They may lead or follow their horses, but must be mounted to pass the starting and finishing posts of any day under penalty of elimination. In cases of application of Art. 800.4 and 807, completion of the sections or the phases in less than the minimum time will be penalised according to the schedule.

2. On the course, no other person may lead or ride the horse once the competitor has started under penalty of elimination.

#### **Article 812 Schedule of the Competition**

1. In the schedule which is published by the Organising Committee of any International Endurance Ride, there is no necessity to repeat the General Regulations or the Rules contained in this booklet. It is sufficient to give the category of the competition, the distances, the speeds, optimum time, time limit and the possible time limit for each phase, method of classification, rules for starting, method used for marking the course, procedures at compulsory halts, outline of the course and of possible hazards. It must be stated if the team competitions is for 4 or 3 competitors.

2. In addition to the conditions of the competition (closing date for entries, place and time of start, number and length of

compulsory halts, entry fees and prizes), it will be usual to include such administrative arrangements as transport facilities, accommodation for competitors and grooms, stabling, forage etc. Several copies of the schedule should be sent with the invitation to the National Federation of each country invited.

**Article 813 Competitors in Difficulty at a Hazard during the Course**

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. Wilful obstruction of an overtaking competitor is penalised by elimination.

**Article 814 Competitors Eliminated during the Ride**

A competitor eliminated for any reason must leave the course at once and has no right to continue unless there is no viable alternative.

**Article 815 Assistance during the Course**

1. Outside assistance during the course is only allowed in order to help the competitor to water and wash down the horse. The Organising Committee may indicate in the schedule that the above-mentioned assistance may only be given at specific places which will be indicated on the map to be available to competitors as per Art. 804.1. No less than one water point must be provided in all cases every 10 km.

The competitor may be assisted to adjust his equipment and to remount, or he may be handed anything he needs (water, food, equipment).

2. Before the start and after the finish and at compulsory halts or veterinary inspections, it is permitted to assist the competitor and to attend to his horse (grooms, water, etc.).

3. In any case, for example after a fall or if the competitor is separated from his horse, or in the case of loose or lost horseshoes, he may be assisted to recover his horse, to replace the shoes and to remount, or he may be handed any part of his equipment, and this while he is dismounted or remounted.

4. In cases of doubt, the Ground Jury makes the final decision and this, without appeal.

#### **Article 816 Forbidden Assistance**

1. Any outside assistance other than stated in Art. 815.1 is forbidden under penalty of elimination. Any intervention by a third party, whether solicited or not, with the object of giving advantage to the competitor or his horse, is considered illegal assistance.

2. In particular the following is forbidden:

- To be followed, preceded or accompanied on any part of the course by any vehicle, bicycle, pedestrian or horseman not in the competition.
- To have someone at a hazard to encourage the horses by any means whatsoever.
- To cut wire fences, to dismantle a part of an enclosure so as to clear a way or to cut down trees.

3. The use of communication systems between the competitors and members or Officials of a team is forbidden. However, in exceptional circumstances, the Endurance Committee may allow the use of such systems.

#### **Article 817 Dress**

1. Protective headgear, of equestrian Standard adequately secured, is compulsory in all Endurance competitions.

2. Dress must be appropriate and not detrimental to the image of Endurance Riding. It is strongly recommended at all Endurance competitions and it is compulsory at Championships and CEIOs to wear the following dress:

- breeches or riding tights\* and high boots, or
- breeches or riding tights\* with gaiters or high socks and ankle boots or running shoes, or
- jodhpurs and ankle boots or running shoes
- a shirt with collar
- for ceremonies a uniform dress with hunting cap or recognised helmet and with long-sleeved jackets or wind breakers, shirt and team tie is required
- in inclement weather, appropriate dress may be added.

For safety reasons, if any sporting shoes without heels are worn, an enclosed stirrup or other safety stirrup must be used.

\* Riding tights, if worn, must be approved by the Ground Jury.

#### **Article 818 Saddlery and Equipment**

1. In principle, there is no restriction on saddlery, but saddlery must be in safe condition and should fit the horse. Draw (running) reins are forbidden.

2. Specific safety equipment may be required in the schedule of the competition.

3. Spurs are prohibited.

**Article 819 Cruelty**

1. Any act or series of actions which, in the opinion of the Ground Jury can clearly and without doubt be defined as cruelty, shall be penalised by disqualification. Such acts include:

- the excessive pressing of a tired horse
- an excessive use of the whip.

2. Reports of such actions must be accompanied whenever possible by the signatures and addresses of witnesses of the actions. The reports must be given to the Ground Jury or the Secretary of the Organising Committee as soon as possible. The Ground Jury must ensure that there is a valid case and will then decide whether to penalise by disqualification.

**Article 820 Weights**

1. In Championships, CEIOs and CEIs, the minimum weight for riders must be 70 kg.

2. Except in the case of exclusive Young Riders and/or Juniors competitions, the schedule of the competition must specify the minimum weight required and clearly define the rules of the weighing. In the schedule of the competition, provision may be made for weight divisions and these must be clearly specified.

3. When a minimum weight is required, weight control must be carried out before the start and after the finish and at random during the course.

4. There shall be no minimum weight in Young Riders and/or Juniors competitions.

## **Article 821 Classification**

### *1. Individuals*

In an endurance competition, the winner is the one with the best time. The schedule of the competition must clearly define the method of classification.

### *2. Teams*

The winning team is that with the best time if any, after adding the final classification of the three highest placed competitors in the team. In the case of a tie, the winning team will be the one whose third competitor has the best time.

In the event that only two members of one or more teams are classified, these teams shall be placed in order after all teams with three classified members.

### *3. Dead Heat*

When two or more competitors, who started together, have the same total elapsed riding time, they are classified according to their respective passage across the finish line. In case of video-controlled dead heat for the first three places, the riders placed ex aequo for the first place will receive a Gold medal, the second placed ex aequo a Silver medal and the third placed ex aequo a Bronze medal.

### *4. Elimination*

The disqualification, the withdrawal or elimination from one of the phases of the competition entails disqualification, withdrawal or elimination from the general classification.

## Chapter II Officials for Endurance Events

### Article 822 Duties of Officials

#### 1. *Ground Jury*

1.1. The Ground Jury consists of a President and two Judges for Championships and at least a President for all other events.

1.2. The Ground Jury will supervise all arrangements made by the Organising Committee for the judging, veterinary control and timekeeping of the Endurance competition.

1.3. The Organising Committee shall enlist the assistance of other officials, stewards and veterinarians (at least one for every 15 competing horses, with a minimum of two vets) according to the number of entries, but the Ground Jury will remain in overall control of the competition.

#### 2. *Technical Delegate*

2.1. The Technical Delegate will approve the technical and administrative arrangements for the conduct of the event: for the examinations and inspections of horses; for the accommodation of horses and riders and for the stewarding of the event.

2.2. He will supervise the briefing and the conduct of all technical personnel.

2.3. He will investigate all and report to and advise the Ground Jury on any decisions they are required to make.

2.4. Until he has reported to the Ground Jury that he is satisfied with all the arrangements, the authority of the Technical Delegate shall be absolute. Thereafter he will continue to supervise the technical and administrative conduct of the event and will advise and assist the Ground Jury, the Veterinary Commission and the Organising Committee.



### 3. *Veterinary Commission*

3.1. The Veterinary Commission has total control on all matters concerning horses' health and welfare. The FEI Veterinary Regulations apply to all International Endurance rides.

3.2. The Veterinary Commission shall consist of a President chosen from the FEI list of events veterinarians and one veterinarian per 15 competing horses. One of its members must be foreign for CEI-A and upwards.

### 4. *Chief Steward*

4.1. The Chief Steward is responsible for the organisation of stewarding throughout the event.

4.2. The Chief Steward must ensure that stable security is adequate for the level of event and that sufficient stewards are available at each Vet Gate.

4.3. The Chief Steward assists the Organising Committee, Ground Jury and Technical Delegate, conducts all defined functions during a competition such as veterinary inspections and examinations, opening and closing ceremonies or any required organised function within the competition.

4.4. The Chief Steward is responsible for the overall security and welfare of participants at the event. He/she must liaise closely with the President of the Ground Jury, the Technical Delegate and the President of the Veterinary Commission.

### 5. *Appeal Committee*

The duties of the Appeal Committee are as laid down in the General Regulations (see Art. 164, 170-174) and in Veterinary Regulations (see Art. 1011 and 1019).

**Article 823 Officials required for International Endurance Events**

*1. World Championships*

1.1. The Ground Jury shall consist of a President and at least two members chosen from the FEI list of Endurance Judges appointed by the FEI Endurance Committee in consultation with the OC.

1.2. The Veterinary Commission shall consist of a President and one veterinarian per 15 horses. Half of the members must be foreign, chosen from the FEI list of Endurance veterinarians and appointed by the FEI Endurance Committee in consultation with the OC.

1.3. The Foreign Technical Delegate shall be chosen from the FEI list of Endurance Officials (Endurance Judges, Veterinarians, Chief Stewards) and appointed by the FEI Endurance Committee in consultation with the OC.

1.4. The Chief Steward shall be chosen from the FEI list of Endurance Chief Stewards and shall be appointed by the OC.

1.5. Appeal Committee: The General Regulations, Art. 164 apply.

*2. Regional Games and Continental Championships for Seniors, Young Riders and/or Juniors*

2.1. The Ground Jury shall consist of a President and two members chosen from the FEI list of Endurance Judges appointed by the FEI Endurance Committee in consultation with the OC.

2.2. The Veterinary Commission shall consist of a President and one veterinarian per 15 horses. Half of the members should be foreign, chosen from the FEI list of Endurance veterinarians and appointed by the FEI Endurance Committee in consultation with the OC.

2.3. The Foreign Technical Delegate shall be chosen from the FEI list of Endurance Officials (Endurance Judges, Veterinarians, Chief Stewards) and appointed by the FEI Endurance Committee in consultation with the OC.

2.4. The Chief Steward shall be chosen from the FEI list of Endurance Chief Stewards and shall be appointed by the OC.

2.5. Appeal Committee: The General Regulations, Art. 164 apply.

### 3. *CEIOs, CMEIOs, CMEIs and CEIs-A*

3.1. The Ground Jury shall consist of a President and a Foreign Judge chosen from the FEI list of Endurance Judges. Other members, if any, may be National Endurance Judges appointed by the OC.

3.2. The Veterinary Commission shall consist of a President and one member from the FEI list of Endurance veterinarians. One of them must be foreign. All other members must be experienced Endurance veterinarians and appointed by the OC.

3.3. The Technical Delegate must be chosen from the FEI list of Officials for Endurance (Endurance Judges, Veterinarians, Chief Stewards) and appointed by the OC.

3.4. The Chief Steward must be chosen from the FEI list of Endurance Chief Stewards and appointed by the OC.

3.5. An Appeal Committee is not required.

### 4. *CEIs-B*

4.1. The Ground Jury shall consist of a President chosen from the FEI list of Endurance Judges.

4.2. The Veterinary Commission shall consist of a President and one member from the FEI list of Endurance veterinarians. One of them must be foreign. All other members must be

experienced Endurance veterinarians and appointed by the OC.

4.3. The Technical Delegate must be chosen from the FEI list of Officials for Endurance (Endurance Judges, Veterinarians, Chief Stewards) and appointed by the OC.

4.4. The Chief Steward must be chosen from the FEI list of Endurance Chief Stewards and appointed by the OC.

4.5. An Appeal Committee is not required.

## Chapter III Definition of Endurance Events

### Article 824 Categories of Endurance Rides

International Endurance Rides are divided into:

CEI (Concours de Raid d'Endurance International), CEIO (Concours de Raid d'Endurance International Officiel), CMEI (Concours de Marathon Equestre International), CMEIO (Concours de Marathon Equestre International Officiel).

The International Endurance Rides specified below are governed by the General Regulations of the FEI and by the rules in this booklet. According to the degree of difficulty (hazards, distances, speeds, length of the course), they are divided into:

#### 1. CEIs

1.1. They must comply with the requirements of the General Regulations and the Rules for Endurance Riding.

1.2. In these Rides, there must only be an official individual classification.

1.3. Where there is a team competition, it may not be considered as an Official Team competition and each member of the team will automatically be considered as an individual competitor. The number of teams which can be accepted is at the discretion of the Organising Committee. Teams may consist of three or four competitors not necessarily of the same nationality.

1.4. CEIs are defined in the FEI Calendar according to the number of competition days and the length of the course.

CEIs are divided into CEIs Category A and CEIs Category B. All CMEIs are organised as CEIs Category A.

CEIs Category A, in one day, have a course of more than 140 km; in two or more days have at least 80 km per day.

CEIs Category B include all the other CEIs.

Art. 114.6, 115.1, 139.1 apply only to CEIs Category A.

## 2. *CMEIs*

2.1. The course of CMEIs can be on a distance from 40 to 50 km.

2.2. They must comply with the requirements laid down in the Rules for Endurance Riding.

2.3. The NFs can organise a CMEI only if they have organised at least one CEI of 80 km or more in the previous 24 months.

## 3. *CEIOs, CMEIOs*

3.1. They must comply with the requirements laid down in the General Regulations and the Rules for Endurance Riding.

3.2. At a CEIO, there must be an individual and a team classification. Each nation may enter only one team. A minimum of three teams is necessary for the team competition to be considered as the official team competition. Each team must be composed of a maximum of four competitors of the same nationality. The three best results will be considered for the final classification. A team of three competitors may be admitted. In this case, the marks of all three are taken into consideration for the final classification, provided that all three have completed the ride.

## 4. *Championships*

The Endurance Ride Championships must comply with the requirements laid down in the General Regulations and the Rules for Endurance Riding.

#### 5. *Regional Games*

Endurance Rides at the Regional Games must comply with the requirements laid down by the various IOC affiliated Regional Games Associations.

#### **Article 825 Qualification**

1. Any person from the year in which he/she reaches his/her 18<sup>th</sup> birthday is allowed to take part in all Endurance Rides (CEIs, CEIOs and Championships), either as an individual or as a member of a team.

2. Juniors, from the year in which they reach their 14<sup>th</sup> birthday and who are duly authorised by their National Federation, may take part in all International Endurance Rides.

3. To be qualified, horses must be at least 6 years old. However, for CEIOs and Championships, horses must be 7 years of age. Mares obviously in advanced pregnancies, or with foal at foot cannot be entered.

#### 4. *Qualification Procedure*

4.1. In order for a rider/horse to be qualified to participate in a Senior Championship, both rider and horse (not necessarily as a combination) must have completed a Cat. A Endurance Ride during one day the two years preceding the Championship.

4.2. If the rider/horse has not qualified as per 4.1 above, the rider/horse (not necessarily as a combination) must have completed at least a 120 km FEI Endurance Ride during the period January 1 of the year preceding the Championship until the date of nominated entries for the Championship.

4.3. However, in exceptional cases, the Endurance Committee may accept different qualification standards.

## **Article 826 Invitations**

### *1. CEIs and CMEIs*

The number of officials and competitors, whether competing as individuals or as members of an unofficial team, to whom hospitality will be extended is at the discretion of the Organising Committee. The number of individuals which can be accepted will be stated in the official invitation to National Federations.

### *2. CEIOs, CMEIOs and Championships*

At least four competitors and five horses, a non-riding Chef d'Equipe and a veterinary surgeon must be included in the official invitation to the National Federation concerned.

### *3. Grooms*

The Organising Committee of a CEI, CMEI, CEIO, CMEIO and Championship must accept one groom per competitor.

### *4. Individual Competitors in addition to Teams*

At Championships, the following maximum number of individuals in addition to a team are eligible to take part.

4.1. Nominated Entries received for seven or more teams: two individuals per nation, *however the home nation may enter 8 individuals.*

4.2. Nominated Entries received for five or six teams: three individuals per nation, *however the home nation may enter 11 individuals.*

4.3. Nominated Entries received for four or less teams: four individuals per nation, *however the home nation may enter 14 individuals.*



4.4. If there are less than 30 entries in total, the number of individuals from the home nation may be increased in each case (4.1, 4.2 and 4.3) to obtain 30 competitors in total.

With regard to the number of teams required for Championships, Art. 108 of the General Regulations applies.

#### 5. *Expenses & Privileges*

The Organising Committee of World and Continental Championships may accept responsibility for meeting the travelling and living expenses of all competitors, horses, grooms and team official (Chefs d'Equipe and Veterinarians) to be invited according to the rules from the day before the First Horse Inspection until the day after the end of the Championships. This must be published in the schedule.

#### **Article 827 Entries**

1. The General Regulation applies (see Annex I).
2. No competitor may actually compete with more than one horse in any Endurance Ride.
3. At Championships, as many reserve horses as allowed by the Organising Committee may travel to the event but stabling for a minimum of 2 reserve horses must be provided. However, all horses must be on the Nominated Entries list.

#### **Article 828 Declaration of Starters**

1. The Chefs d'Equipe must declare in writing to the Secretariat of the Organisers the names of the competitors and of the horses allocated to the competitors definitively starting, chosen from those regularly entered on the official entry forms.
2. Declaration of starters by the Chef d'Equipe or his/her representative will take place within one hour after the first inspection of the horses.

3. *Substitutions:*

3.1. Substitutions after Definite Entries: After the Definite Entries have been sent in, substitution of horses and/or competitors from the list of Nominated Entries (if any) may only be made with the written permission of the NF and the OC.

3.2. Substitutions in case of accident or illness: in case of an accident or illness of a competitor or a horse, which occurs between the declaration of starters and the start of the competition; substitutions can be made up to 3 hours before the start of the competition. The following conditions must be met; 1) a certificate of the condition from an officially recognised physician for the rider, and from a veterinary surgeon for the horse, and 2) permission of the President of the Ground Jury.

A competitor or horse or both may be replaced by another competitor or horse or by competitor/horse combination taken from those who have been duly entered as members of teams or as individuals and whose horses have successfully passed the First Horse Inspection.

3.3. Horses can only be substituted by the rider's NF with horses which figure on the NF's Nominated Entries list.

**Article 829 Late Starting**

The starting time of any competitor who does not present himself on time for start is recorded as if he had started on time. No competitor may start later than 15 minutes after his starting time under penalty of elimination.

## **Chapter IV    Inspections, Examinations, Control of Medication**

### **Article 830    Veterinary Control**

1. Endurance Riding is a test of the stamina and fitness of the horse. Therefore, the most important responsibility of the Ground Jury is to ensure the close veterinary supervision of the competitors. The Veterinary Commission has total control on all matters concerning horses' health and welfare. The FEI Veterinary Regulations apply to all International Endurance Rides.
2. The series of inspections and examinations required by these Rules are established in the interest of the health, safety and welfare of the horse in the competition.
3. The decision of the Ground Jury taken on recommendation of the official veterinarians are final and there can be no appeal against them. However, the Ground Jury is obliged in all cases to give the reasons for the elimination of the horses.
4. Should a horse die for any reason during the period between the first inspection and the final inspection, the Ground Jury is obliged to write a report on the circumstances to the National Federation of the country in which the Ride is taking place.
5. Only horses which have passed all the inspections and examinations are entitled to be classified in the final list of results.
6. All the relevant information required at the inspections and examinations must be recorded on an individual veterinary card for each horse and must, in principle, be available at all subsequent inspections and examinations. Competitors are entitled to see and copy the record referring to their horses immediately after the inspection or examination. Veterinary cards may be retained by the Organising Committee.
7. The compulsory halts are operated by establishing a Vet Gate that the competitors will cross when they decide that they

are ready to pass the veterinary inspection. When riders are in sight of the Vet Gate, they must proceed directly to the Gate at a reasonable pace.

The arrival time in the Vet Gate must be recorded and the horse must be presented within 30 minutes to the Veterinary Commission for inspection.

During this period, the horse may be inspected more than once if the Veterinary Commission so decides and time allows. However, before the 30 minute period has elapsed, the horse must have passed the pulse control or else be eliminated.

When a horse has passed the pulse control, it must be kept in a timed hold, starting from the moment the horse is presented to the Veterinary Commission. During the timed hold, all the other aspects of the inspection, including walking and trotting the horse, will be carried out.

8. Each day of an Endurance Competition must be divided into at least two phases separated by a veterinary inspection with at least one timed hold not shorter than 40 minutes. In principle, competitions of 160 km must provide for an overall timed hold of at least 120 minutes.

In all CMEIs and CMEIOs, a veterinary inspection, organised as a trot-by, must be held between km 10 and km 15 after the start. In addition, a Vet Gate with a timed hold not shorter than twenty minutes is to be organised close to the middle of the course, and another Veterinary Inspection conducted according to the requirements set by the Veterinary Commission with a timed hold of not less than 10 minutes not earlier than 3 km before the finish.

9. The Technical Delegate or the Ground Jury together with the Veterinary Commission can decide to modify the length of timed holds according to extreme weather conditions or other exceptional circumstances. Modifications must be announced to all competitors and Chefs d'Equipe before the start of the phase concerned.

## **Article 831 Inspections and Examinations of Horses**

### *1. First Examination*

The first examination takes place as soon as possible after the arrival of the horses at the stables of the Ride. It is performed by an official veterinarian appointed by the Ground Jury, if not available, by a Veterinary Surgeon of the host country. The aim is first to establish the horses identity (passports, registration documents, etc.) and second, to establish their sanitary condition. Doubtful cases should be reported to the Ground Jury on arrival, but in any case not later than one hour before the first inspection. At CEIs, these examinations can be coupled with the first inspection.

### *2. First Inspection*

The first inspection should, whenever possible, take place on the day preceding the start of the competition and is performed by the Veterinary Commission, together with the Ground Jury. It will be conducted as follows:

2.1. *Heart Rates:* horses with abnormally high pulse rates will be eliminated. Any abnormal heart sounds must be reported.

2.2. *Respiratory System:* Abnormalities in rate or character of the breathing deemed by the Veterinary Commission to be of such a nature as to endanger the welfare of the horse, will be cause for elimination.

2.3. *General Condition:* temperatures may be recorded and mucous membrane will be examined. Horses in a generally poor condition or with an abnormally high temperature will be eliminated.

#### 2.4. *Irregularity of Gaits*

2.4.1 A horse with an irregularity of gait consistently observable at walk and/or at trot under all conditions and thought to cause pain or threaten the athletic future of the horse will be eliminated at the first or the final inspection or any inspection during the course.

2.4.2. The horses will be walked and trotted on a loose rein over any type of ground the Veterinary Commission deems proper. In principle it should be a flat firm surface. If, after having walked and trotted the horse, the Veterinary Commission cannot confirm the unfitness, the horse should be given the benefit of the doubt and shall be authorised to start.

2.4.3. Any unusual feature about a horse's gait must be noted on the veterinary card of the horse.

2.5. *Soreness, Laceration and Wounds:* Any evidence of soreness, lacerations and wounds in the mouth, on the limbs and on the body, such as girth and saddle galls, must be recorded. If participation in or continuation of the competition is bound to seriously aggravate any such soreness, lacerations or wounds, the horse will be eliminated.

2.6. *Shoes and feet:* Horses may be ridden without shoes, but if shod they must be correctly shod and the shoes must be in a suitable condition for the competition. Horses which are shod at the first inspection may cross the finish line without one or more shoes. Equi-boots and pads are allowed.

#### 3. *Inspections at Compulsory Halts*

Further inspections take place during the compulsory rest periods, after no longer than 30 minutes recovery following arrival or at Vet Gates. The Ground Jury is responsible for the organisation of these inspections. At CEIOs and Championships, such inspections must be under the control of an international team of veterinarians. Each horse must be inspected against its vet card, completed at the first inspection. The inspection will

determine the fitness of the horse to continue the competition, and in particular:

3.1. *Heart Rates*: Horses with a pulse rate above the maximum rate set in the schedule of the competition after no more than 30 minutes recovery or showing any abnormality of the heart or lungs which, in the opinion of the veterinarians, could endanger the health of the horse, must be eliminated.

The schedule of the competition should set limits of 64 pulse beats per minute.

The Veterinary Commission may lower the pulse rate or shorten the recovery time before or during the competition within the above-mentioned limits to adjust to particular conditions of the competition. The change can be made only before the start of the first competitor on the phase where the new rate should apply. It must also be made known to the Ground Jury, to each competitor and, if possible, to the Chefs d'Equipe.

3.2. *General Conditions*: Horses showing signs of excessive fatigue, heat stroke, colic, myopathies and severe dehydration or abnormally high temperatures (40 degrees centigrade or 104.8 degrees Fahrenheit) must be eliminated, even if heart and respiratory rates are not excessive.

3.3. *Lameness*: Horses showing irregularity of gaits as defined in Article 831.2.4 above must be eliminated.

3.4. *Soreness, Lacerations and Wounds*: Horses with any soreness, lacerations or wounds noted at the first inspection, which have been seriously aggravated, or any other new soreness, lacerations or wounds which may become seriously aggravated by further participation, must be eliminated.

#### 4. *Individual Veterinary Cards*

The individual veterinary cards (vet cards) must be issued before the first inspection and be completed after each inspection.

#### 5. *Final Inspection*

5.1. The time and method of the Final Inspection must be indicated in the schedule and communicated to all participants at first briefing.

5.2. In any case, pulse must be taken and registered on the vet card within 30 minutes.

5.3. This inspection is to determine whether the horse is still fit to be ridden after a normal rest period and it will include the same control as the inspections during the course. Each horse shall be checked against its vet card.

5.3.1 In principle, decisions for the elimination of competitors at any point in the competition should only be made after consultation of at least three veterinarians with the broadest possible nationality representation.

5.3.2 At all Endurance Competitions over 160 km in one day or of an average of 100 km in more days and at all CMEIs and CMEIOs, all competing horses must remain in the stable area of the Ride to stay under Veterinary supervision at least 24 hours after finishing time or for a shorter period if the Veterinary Commission in charge authorises an earlier departure.

5.4. The OCs of CMEIs and CMEIOs have the option to organise the Final Inspection as above or as follows:

5.4.1 A Vet Gate organised as per paragraph 5.1, 5.2 and 5.3 (see also Art. 830.8 and Annex III) must be held not earlier than 3 km before the finish.



5.4.2 The last 3 km of the course should present no natural hazards of any kind and no demanding change of altitude.

5.4.3 Three experienced Members of the Veterinary Commission or the Foreign Veterinary Delegate, if appointed, and one or two members (in total three persons) of the Veterinary Commission, must examine together, in the competition stables, within 2 hours after the finish, all horses which have completed the course and determine whether any of them, for any reason, needs to be immediately administered any invasive medication (prohibited substances, injections and parenteral fluids). If such treatment is necessary for the horse's welfare and safety within the 2 hours, these horses must be eliminated and the classification adjusted accordingly.

5.4.4 Intravenous fluid administration of permitted substances during the two hours after the finish will be considered authorized medication and will not entail elimination (see the following complementary procedure).

Guidelines for the New Alternative Final Inspection in CMEIs' and CMEIOs' Events

- a) Stewards to immediately accompany finishing horses to stable area.
- b) PR (person responsible) to hand Vet Card to the appointed veterinarians as in all other Vet Gates.
- c) Immediate veterinary health inspection.
- d) If nothing wrong, the horse will be re-inspected before the end of the two hours following arrival.
- e) If something wrong, necessary treatment will be administered and the horse will be eliminated.

- f) If something worrying, the horse will be put under veterinary control for the two hour period.
- g) Stewards to monitor the two hour period and report to veterinarians.
- h) Decision to treat (and therefore, to eliminate) must be made by three veterinarians and communicated to PR by a member of the Ground Jury.

N.B. Even in this procedure, the veterinarians shall have the complete control of the horses' health and welfare as they have it throughout the event.

6. *Other Inspections*

Other inspections may be carried out by the Ground Jury or the official veterinarians on all or any horses selected at random at any time during the course of the competition.

**Article 832 Veterinary Treatment during Competition**

The Competition ends two hours after the final inspection. No veterinary treatment may be administered to a horse during the competition without the written approval of the Veterinary Commission. Authorised treatment does not affect classification of the horse.

## **Chapter V Awards and Prize-giving Ceremonies**

### **Article 833 Awards**

1. An award must be given to all competitors who complete the course.
2. There is no minimum value for awards in Endurance Rides.
3. For distribution of prize-money, refer to Articles 128, 129 and 130 of the General Regulations.

### **Article 834 Prize-giving Ceremonies**

The Veterinary Commission can exclude any unfit horse from participation in the prize-giving ceremony.

## **Annex I**

**Article 121**    **Entries** - See FEI General Regulations

## **Annex II**

### **Promotion of Judges (GR Art. 149-150)**

#### *International candidate Judge*

1. The FEI maintains a List of qualified International Candidate Judges, who have been recommended by their NFs and accepted by the FEI Endurance Committee.
2. The qualifications for International Candidate Judges are as follows:
  - 2.1. To have acted as a member of a Ground Jury or Appeal Committee at a CEI or as President of the Ground Jury at National Events during the current or preceding year.
  - 2.2. To speak one of the two official languages.
  - 2.3. To have qualified at an FEI course for International Candidate Judges.
  - 2.4. To have acted as a member of an Organising Committee or as assistant to the Chief Steward or as Chief Steward at two Events, preferably International.
  - 2.5. To be preferably under the age of 60.

#### *International Judges*

1. The FEI maintains a List of qualified International Judges recommended by their NFs and accepted by the FEI Endurance Committee.
2. The qualifications for International Judges are as follows:
  - 2.1. To have acted at least twice in 4 years as a member of a Ground Jury or Appeal Committee or as Technical Delegate at a CEI, CEIO or a Championship.

- 2.2. To have served as a Candidate Judge for at least two years or two complete seasons.
- 2.3. To speak one of the two official languages.
- 2.4. To have qualified at an FEI course for International Judges.

## Annex III

### Vet Gate

#### 1. Vet Checks during an Endurance Ride

The Vet Gate into a timed hold has proved to be the best veterinary check and is now internationally established.

#### 2. How does a Vet Gate function ?

A rider comes to a Vet Gate. A time keeper writes down the time of the *arrival*. The rider and his crew have not more than 30 minutes from that time on to take care of the horse. The riding time is not stopped until the rider presents his horse at the gate to the vet area (*"in time"*) to have it checked by the *veterinarians*. He may do this any time he wishes *within 30 minutes following the arrival*. At this time the *pulse* of the horse must *not exceed 64*, otherwise he is sent back. Horses which are sent back have the opportunity to be rechecked later by the *veterinarians*. The *"in time"* counts as definite when the *veterinarian* has confirmed the pulse of 64 or less. Horses which do not meet the pulse criteria within 30 minutes are eliminated.

The *hold* begins when the rider asks to see the *veterinarian* (*"in time"*), providing his horse's pulse is down to 64 or less. The time of each hold is laid down in advance and will be announced in the program or at the briefing. It is recommended that, in principle, holds should not be longer than 40 minutes and not shorter than 15 minutes.

To calculate the *out time* the time of the hold is added to the *"in time"*.

#### 3. Organisation of a Vet Gate

Very good organisation, plenty of room and enough officials are most important at Vet Gates. Ideal would be to have the

following officials for the below described tasks at each Vet Gate:



### Officials' Tasks

1. *Station Head*: He is responsible for seeing that the whole Vet Gate functions well.

#### Remarks:

Important are:

- Direction signs, well roped off vet areas, marking of the officials and helpers with hats or coloured rider vests.

Vet area: wide enough for 3 to 5 horses to be checked at the same time. At least 40 meters long to trot the horses.

- Horses are only attended to by their crews after the time is taken at the "arrival". This is why there should be enough room for watering many horses and measuring the pulse between the arrival time keeper and the vet area. It is an advantage if the horses can be near the cars where the personal equipment is available and water tanks are easily accessible.

2. *Time keepers* (one each: at the arrival, at the gate into the vet area and at the departure)

a) Arrival

The time keeper writes down the time on the: 1) form

2) vet card

#### Remarks:

- The riding time goes on.

- The forms are records of the time keepers.

- The rider carries the Vet. card.

b) Gate into the vet area (*in time*)

The time keeper (in timer) writes down the time when the rider asks to have the horse checked, on the : 1) form  
2) veterinary card

He checks the time between arrival and "in time" to the actual vet area (30 minutes max.).

Remarks:

- The riding time is stopped and the hold begins.
- If several riders are asking at the same time, they all get the same "in time" even if not all can be checked by the veterinarians at the same time.

c) Departure (*out time*)

- The time keeper (out timer) checks the "out time" and writes it down on the 1) form  
2) vet card

- He checks if the horse has passed the veterinarian inspection and if it was presented to the veterinarian for a possible recheck.

- He releases the rider on to the trail at the right time.

Remarks:

- Vet Gate "in time" + time of hold = "out time"

3. *Stewards*

The Vet Gate steward directs the horses which have passed the in-timer and have entered the gate to the vet area and avoids congestion and unnecessary waiting times at the entrance.

He makes sure that not more than one person (rider or groom) per horse is allowed into the vet area. This is to avoid a big crowd near the inspection.

Remarks:

- Horses which have passed the in-timer should have their pulse taken as soon as possible.
- If there are several competitors asking at the same time to have their horses checked, the steward may, for example, take the last of the group first because they all have the same "in time" and will therefore have the same "out time".

4. *Veterinarians*

The veterinarians inspect the horses in the vet area and decide which may go on, which must be eliminated and which must return for a recheck e.g. if the pulse is too high.

5. *Veterinarian writers*

Veterinarian writers write down the veterinarians' findings on the:

- 1) vet card
- 2) vet form

Remarks:

- Vet forms are records of the veterinarians.
- Please find an example of a vet card on page (name and date of ride, name and address of rider, name, age, breed of horse should be on the reverse side of the rider card).

## **Annex IV**

### **Endurance World Cup Rules**

#### **World Cup Qualifying Events**

1. Eligible to be World Cup Qualifiers are: CEIs (Concours d'Endurance International) Category A (more than 140 km in one day or at least 80 km per day in two or more days) and Category B (80 - 140 km in one day)
2. Maximum one CEI per National Federation with the exception of AUS (3 CEIs), CAN (2 CEIs) and USA (3 CEIs).
3. No qualifiers may be held less than 4 weeks before the Final. However, in exceptional circumstances the World Cup Committee may reduce this period.

#### **World Cup Final - Distance**

- 100 km to 120 km.

#### **World Cup Final - Qualification for Riders**

1. Up to 70 riders will have the possibility to compete at the World Cup Final. In order to qualify for participation in the World Cup Final, riders will accumulate points at the Qualifying Events.
2. The Endurance World Cup will use the point system below (category/placing points and additional points in relation to placed riders).
3. The riders best two qualifying events will be eligible for points.
4. There is no minimum number of events that a rider must participate in, to be eligible for points.

5. If riders tie for qualifying places in the standings, the rider with the better placing in the qualifiers will be first. If there is still a tie, the rider with the highest average speed will be first.

#### **World Cup Final - Qualification for Horses**

1. In order to qualify for participation in the World Cup Final, the horse must have completed at least a 120 km Endurance ride (National or International) during the period 1 January of the year preceding the World Cup Final until the date of the last qualifier. However, in exceptional circumstances the World Cup Committee may accept different qualification standards.

2. All horses entered for the Final must have a Certificate from their NF confirming that the horse completed at least a 120 km ride (National or International). These Certificates will be provided by the OC and must accompany the nominated entries.

#### **World Cup Final - Participation of Riders**

1. Riders who have accumulated points in the Endurance World Cup Qualifying Events will be qualified to compete in the World Cup Final as follows:

- the top ranking 30 riders from FEI Groups I, II and III
- the top ranking 15 riders from FEI Groups IV, V and VI
- the top ranking 15 riders from FEI Group VII and VIII
- 10 Wild Cards (at the disposal of the Endurance World Cup Committee)
- No more than 4 qualified riders per NF are allowed.

## World Cup Point System

**Competitions:** There are three categories of qualifying events:

Cat.	Duration of the Ride and Mileage		
	1 day	2 days	3 days and more
1	more than 155 km	more than 2x95 km	more than 80 km/day
2	120 km-155 km	2x80 km - 2x95 km	80 km/day
3	80-119 km		

**Total Points per Ride:** = category/placing points + additional points (in relation to placed riders)

**Category / Placing Points**

<b>Placing</b>	<b>Cat 1</b>	<b>Cat 2</b>	<b>Cat 3</b>	<b>Placing</b>	<b>Cat 1</b>	<b>Cat 2</b>	<b>Cat 3</b>
1 <sup>st</sup>	100	70	40	22 <sup>nd</sup>	30	14	2
2 <sup>nd</sup>	90	62	35	23 <sup>rd</sup>	28	12	1
3 <sup>rd</sup>	84	57	32	24 <sup>th</sup>	26	10	-
4 <sup>th</sup>	80	54	30	25 <sup>th</sup>	24	9	-
5 <sup>th</sup>	77	51	28	26 <sup>th</sup>	22	8	-
6 <sup>th</sup>	74	48	26	27 <sup>th</sup>	20	7	-
7 <sup>th</sup>	71	45	24	28 <sup>th</sup>	18	6	-
8 <sup>th</sup>	68	42	22	29 <sup>th</sup>	16	5	-
9 <sup>th</sup>	65	40	20	30 <sup>th</sup>	14	4	-
10 <sup>th</sup>	62	38	18	31 <sup>st</sup>	12	3	-
11 <sup>th</sup>	59	36	16	32 <sup>nd</sup>	10	2	-
12 <sup>th</sup>	56	34	14	33 <sup>rd</sup>	9	1	-
13 <sup>th</sup>	53	32	12	34 <sup>th</sup>	8	-	-
14 <sup>th</sup>	50	30	10	35 <sup>th</sup>	7	-	-
15 <sup>th</sup>	47	28	9	36 <sup>th</sup>	6	-	-
16 <sup>th</sup>	44	26	8	37 <sup>th</sup>	5	-	-
17 <sup>th</sup>	41	24	7	38 <sup>th</sup>	4	-	-
18 <sup>th</sup>	38	22	6	39 <sup>th</sup>	3	-	-
19 <sup>th</sup>	36	20	5	40 <sup>th</sup>	2	-	-
20 <sup>th</sup>	34	18	4	41 <sup>st</sup>	1	-	-
21 <sup>st</sup>	32	16	3	42 <sup>nd</sup>	-	-	-

If riders tie for places, the points are divided equally.

**Additional Points** (in relation to placed riders):

The winner is awarded a number of points equal to the number of placed riders (maximum 20 points). 2<sup>nd</sup> place is awarded 1 point less, 3<sup>rd</sup> place 1 point less than 2<sup>nd</sup> place, etc. (see table below). All placed riders receive at least 1 point.

Place	Number of Placed Riders											etc.
	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	
1st	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9
2nd	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8
3rd	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7
4th	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6
5th	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5
6th	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4
7th	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3
8th	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2
9th	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
10th	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	
11th	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1		
12th	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1			
13th	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1				
14th	7	6	5	4	3	2	1					
15th	6	5	4	3	2	1						
16th	5	4	3	2	1							
17th	4	3	2	1								
18th	3	2	1									
19th	2	1										
20th	1											
21st	etc.											



### **Classification**

1. The riders best two qualifying events will be eligible for points.
2. There is no minimum number of events that a rider must participate in to be eligible for points.
3. If riders tie for qualifying places in the standings, the rider with the better placing in the qualifiers will be first. If there is still a tie, the rider with the highest average speed will be first.



