

# RULES of EQUINE CANADA

## Section J ENDURANCE

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS  
For January 1, 2012

(RCP 2-14 added September 12, 2011)



### **NOTICE TO READER:**

*Each rule change proposal (RCP) is grouped and numbered for easy reference. The rule is quoted as it appears in the 2011 rulebook – then additions and changes are underlined; ~~deletions in strikethrough~~, both in red and barred in the margin.*

*For those printing the document, it will reproduce in black and white, and in actual size of the rulebook page with changes underlined and deletions in strikethrough text. This document has been printed as a pdf to preserve the formatting and illustrate full size fonts.*

*Summary information follows the Article indicating the reference (RCP) number, date received, source, and reason for modification.*

*Comments must be received by September 30, 2011.*

*To submit comments, quote the RCP number, your name, primary discipline affiliation and Sport License number. Send an e-mail to [mrochon@equinecanada.ca](mailto:mrochon@equinecanada.ca) or write Megan Rochon, Rules coordinator, Equine Canada, 100 -2685 Queensview Drive, Ottawa ON K2B 8K2 or to the discipline Rules Committee at [rmcarlson@xplornet.com](mailto:rmcarlson@xplornet.com)*

**ARTICLE J102 CODE OF CONDUCT AND WELFARE OF THE ENDURANCE HORSE**

2. Horses and competitors must be fit, competent and in good health before they are allowed to compete. In addition to pregnancy in mares and the misuse of aids, this encompasses medication use, surgical procedures, and the occurrence of a fall or injury that may compromise that threaten welfare or safety or either horse or rider, pregnancy in mares, and the misuse of aids.

RCP2	Date Received	September 10, 2011
	Source	Endurance Canada Rules Committee
	Comments	Clarification
	History	

**ARTICLE J103 SAFETY OF INDIVIDUALS**

1. It is strongly recommended that all persons wear a protective headgear, of a recognized equestrian/endurance standard and adequately secured at the event location whilst mounted.
2. 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 whilst mounted.
3. Individuals under 18 years of age must wear properly fitted, approved protective headgear, with the safety harness correctly secured at all times while mounted at event locations. Approved headgear must be certified by SEI or the American Society for Testing Materials (ASTM) standard or the British Standards Institution (BSI) standard

RCP3	Date Received	September 10, 2011
	Source	Endurance Canada Rules Committee
	Comments	New rule
	History	

**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 AERC (American Endurance Riding Conference) and/or USEF. In the case of US riders, owners, lessees, agents or trainers who are members in good standing of USEF and/or AERC do not require an EC Sports License to participate events. (See A214).

RCP4	Date Received	September 10, 2011
	Source	Endurance Canada Rules Committee
	Comments	Sport License exemption for American USEF or AERC members
	History	

**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**

An endurance ride must be a minimum of ~~40~~ **80** kilometres (nominally, ~~25~~ **50** miles) per day up to a maximum distance of 240 kilometre (nominally, 150 miles) in three days, or 400 kilometre (nominally, 250 miles) in five days. No single day ride distance will be greater than 160 kilometre (nominally, 100 miles). Formerly **Ranked** Novice Division was the Limited Distance Division.

- a) Ranked Novice events are events of 40-60 kilometers in length that are considered competitive – and therefore bronze – events, and which award placing in order of pulsing down to preset criteria and that award National Points.
- b) All other events of less than 56 kilometer 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) The time allowed must be at least 6 hours

Listed kilometre	4% Grace	Listed miles	4% Grace miles
40 <b>Ranked</b> Novice	38-42	25	24-26
60 <b>Ranked</b> Novice	57-62	35	34-36
80 Open	77—83	50	48—52
100 Open	96—104	60	57—63
160 Open	154—166	100	96—104
240 Open	230—250	150	144—156
400 Open	384—416	250	240—260

**4. Ride Sanctioning**

~~Sanctioning requests for all rides events must be received by the Sanctioning Committee Equine Canada for approval at least 10 weeks 60 days before the actual ride date of the event. In the event of a cancelled ride, Endurance Canada's Board of Directors may approve the sanctioning of a replacement ride waiving the 10 weeks notice. Rescheduling rides in an emergency is up to the discretion of Endurance Canada's Board of Directors. Endurance Canada does not sanction rides offering prize money.~~

- a) ~~A deposit is required with each ride sanction or re-sanctions application as per the Schedule of Fees. If the ride is cancelled by ride management, the Sanctioning Committee will retain the full fee. If sanctioning is not approved or is withdrawn, a percentage will be returned to the applicant as per the Schedule of Fees. If the ride proceeds, a percentage will be applied to the "per rider" sanction fee~~

as per the Schedule of Fees.

- ba) Endurance Canada's ~~ride event~~ season runs from ~~Nov~~ December 1st through to ~~October 31<sup>st</sup>~~ November 30<sup>th</sup>.
- e) ~~The starting time of the ride must be included on the sanctioning application.~~
- d) ~~Ride managers wishing to put on more than four events in one season must first demonstrate the quality of four events (including sufficient number of competitors) to the satisfaction of the Sanctioning Committee.~~
- e) ~~The Sanctioning Committee may withhold or remove sanctioning before or during the competition if a ride does not meet Endurance Canada standards including, but not limited to its rules and regulations and measures dealing with horse and rider safety.~~
- b) For additional information on sanctioning and competitions, refer to Section A – General Regulations.

**5. Ride Results**

Ride results must be ~~submitted to the Endurance Canada secretary within 30 days after the ride date reported to Equine Canada within 14 days of the event~~ and be accompanied by all the applicable fees as per the Schedule of Fees. ~~There is a minimum sanctioning fee 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.~~

RCP5	Date Received	September 10, 2011
	Source	Endurance Canada Rules Committee
	Comments	Clarification
	History	

**ARTICLE J204 DISTANCE**

- 3. A competition which are sanctioned for more than one distance (such as a 40 Ranked Novice, 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: ...

RCP6	Date Received	September 10, 2011
	Source	Endurance Canada Rules Committee
	Comments	Terminology
	History	

**ARTICLE J205 TIME ALLOWED**

There is no minimum time limit for completion ~~(except in the Novice Division the OC may establish a minimum time and will be called a Novice Mileage ride)~~. 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.

RCP7	Date Received	September 10, 2011
	Source	Endurance Canada Rules Committee
	Comments	Clarification
	History	

**ARTICLE J206 TIME-KEEPING**

- 5. In the Ranked Novice Division the time stops when the horse has reached the criteria for the event.

RCP8	Date Received	September 10, 2011
	Source	Endurance Canada Rules Committee
	Comments	Terminology
	History	

**ARTICLE J301 ROLE OF VETERINARIANS**

- 4. A veterinarian who is serving as ride manager of an Endurance 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 Endurance Equine Canada-sanctioned rides must use an Endurance Canada-approved rider card for the control veterinarian(s) to record the results of the veterinarians' examinations.

RCP9	Date Received	September 10, 2011
	Source	Endurance Canada Rules Committee
	Comments	Clarification
	History	

**ARTICLE J302 MEDICATION CONTROL**

1. ~~Endurance Equine~~ Canada-sanctioned rides are subject to drug testing by the ~~Endurance Equine~~ Canada or governmental agencies. Riders and owners of horses entered in Endurance Canada-sanctioned events grant authority for their horses to be tested by virtue of their entry into the ride. Riders will be liable for all charges for drug testing if their mounts are found containing prohibited substances prohibited during the course of the event. Each case will be judged on its own merit and ~~Endurance Equine~~ Canada’s Board of Directors will assess penalties.

RCP10	Date Received	September 10, 2011
	Source	Endurance Canada Rules Committee
	Comments	Clarification
	History	

**ARTICLE J305 COMPLETION**

**2. Veterinary Criteria**

Each ~~Endurance 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: ...

RCP11	Date Received	September 10, 2011
	Source	Endurance Canada Rules Committee
	Comments	Clarification
	History	

**ARTICLE J307 JUNIOR COMPETITORS**

A junior is a rider who was under the age of 16 as of the first day of the ride season in which the ride is held. Junior riders must ~~wear an approved safety helmet, and~~ be accompanied by a competent adult (18 years of age or older) sponsor throughout the competition. The sponsor must be entered as a competitor in the event and sponsorship must be documented on the junior entry form complete with sponsor signature at the time sponsorship begins. An infraction of the sponsorship shall result in the disqualification of the sponsor and/or junior.

RCP12	Date Received	September 10, 2011
	Source	Endurance Canada Rules Committee
	Comments	Redundant – see Article J103
	History	

**ARTICLE J308 POINTS**

**1. Senior Division**

For the Ranked Novice Divisions Bronze event the OC may award points.

RCP13	Date Received	September 10, 2011
	Source	Endurance Canada Rules Committee
	Comments	Terminology
	History	

**ARTICLE J401 PROCEDURE**

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 Endurance Canada event, decision or process, a protest may be lodged using the Protest and Appeals procedures as laid out in the Equine Canada’s rules and procedures.

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

~~If an on-site resolution is not obtained, an individual has the option of lodging a formal complaint.~~

- ~~1.—Protests may be lodged against any person or body involved in violation of the statutes, bylaws, rules, regulations, or common principles of behaviour, fairness, or accepted standards of sportsmanship, whether occurring during or in connection with an Endurance Canada event.~~
- ~~2.—Protests must be in written form, signed by the individual lodging the protest, and submitted to the Endurance Canada Officials Committee within 14 days of the alleged offence occurring. Any person making a protest should, if possible, secure witnesses to the incident, and submit all observations, duly signed, dated, and including the addresses of each witness, to the Officials Committee. The protest must also include the name, date, and location of the ride, and the rule allegedly violated.~~
- ~~3.—Protests concerning the eligibility of a competitor or horse or conditions of the trail, must be presented to ride management no later than 30 minutes before the start of the competition. If the issue is not resolved on-site, the individual may lodge an official protest by referring to (a) and (b) above.~~
- ~~4.—Endurance Canada Officials Committee will review the documentation, and respond to the protest within 60 days of receipt of materials.~~

**ARTICLE J402 APPEALS**

~~Any appeals to the decision of the Officials Committee must be lodged to Endurance Canada Board of Directors in written format, and within 14 days of receipt of the Judicial Committee’s decision. The Board of Directors will review the documentation, and respond to the appellant within 30 days of receipt of materials. There is no appeal of the Board of Director’s decision.~~

### **ARTICLE J403 – INDIVIDUAL PENALTIES**

~~Where a violation is found to have occurred, one or more of the following penalties may be imposed at the discretion of the Officials Committee. In cases involving a veterinary matter, the Officials Committee must consult the Veterinary Committee.~~

- ~~1.— A warning~~
- ~~2.— Disqualification of horse and rider from the event~~
- ~~3.— The awarding of kilometres, no placement in the event, and forfeiture of any awards or prizes~~
- ~~4.— Fines(s).~~

### **ARTICLE J404 – RIDE PENALTIES**

~~Where a sanctioned ride is found guilty of a violation of commitment to Endurance Canada (examples: failure to submit ride fees, holding a ride outside the sanctioned guidelines) the Officials Committee may determine censure.~~

- ~~1.— A censure penalty makes the reprimand public information and serves to warn the ride and its management to heavier penalties.~~
- ~~2.— Fine(s).~~
- ~~3.— Suspension from the privilege of being sanctioned.~~

RCP14	Date Received	September 10, 2011
	Source	Endurance Canada Rules Committee
	Comments	Defer to EC procedures for protests and appeals
	History	

## **CHAPTER FIVE: GLOSSARY OFFICIALS**

### **ARTICLE J501 VETERINARY CONTROL JUDGE**

1. To qualify as an Endurance Canada Veterinary Control Judge one must:
  - a) Have graduated with a Degree from an institution of recognized standing and be eligible 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 Gold Sport License.
  - i) Successfully pass the Endurance Canada Veterinary examination and provide letters of recommendation from at least two OCs.
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 per year.
    - 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 31<sup>st</sup> 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) Monitor 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 under "Dispute Resolution Policy" in Chapter 12 of the Equine Canada Rules and the Appeals Policy in Appendix 1A of the Equine Canada Rules – General Regulations.
  - 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 each year.
  - 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 31<sup>st</sup> 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 exists 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.

RCP1	Date Received	May 27, 2011
	Source	Ruth Carlson /Endurance Canada Rules Committee
	Comments	New Section for licensed officials
	RCP	May 28, 2011

Proposed