

2009

RULES

of EQUINE CANADA

Section J
ENDURANCE



Prepublication draft #3

Draft #3

Endurance Competition Chart				
Sanctioning Level	Discovery	Bronze	Gold	Platinum
Competition Operations				
Permitted Divisions	≤25 Novice	≤25 Novice 25-35 Novice 50-100 Open	50-100 Open	75-100 miles
FEI level (current)			1* 25-49 miles 2* 50-74 miles	3* 75-100 miles 4* 100 miles
FEI level (proposed)			1* 56-74 miles (hopefully 50-74) 2* 75-87 miles	3* 88-100 miles 4* 100 miles
EC General Reg	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Rules enforced	Provincial En	EnCan	EnCan and/or FEI	FEI
Max # of days of competition	No limit	No limit	No limit	No limit
Max Prize money	None	\$2,500	No limit	No limit
EC Sanctioning Fees	Provincial En	Based on EC rates, for 2007 \$50-\$2,500 depending on prize money		
FEI Fee	n/a	n/a	Calendar fee & Organising dues	Calendar fee & Organising dues
Approved by	Provincial En	EC/EnCan/ PEn	EC/EnCan/FEI/ PEn	EC/EnCan/FEI/ PEn
Medication Control	None	PSO	PSO and EC	EC
Medication Control fees	None	\$7	\$7 \$45 FEI	\$45 FEI
Insurance	PSO	PSO	PSO	Yes
Emergency Plan	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Championship	None	Provincial	National	As per FEI
Results Reporting	PEncan	PEncan EnCan	PEncan/EnCan FEI	PEncan/EnCan FEI
Officials (In Progress)				
Control Veterinarians	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Technical Delegate				
Ground Jury				
Stewards				
Competitor & Horse Owner Licenses & Memberships				
PSO	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
EC Sport License (minimum of)	No	Bronze Level	Gold Level	Platinum Level
EnCan Affiliation	Optional	Optional	Yes	Yes
Horses				
Horse Identification (Passport)required	No	No	EC or FEI	FEI
EC Horse License	No	No	Yes	Yes
Awards				
Org Committee	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Provincial	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
EnCan	No	No	Yes	Yes

Endurance Canada event may be dual sanctioned meaning that Bronze, Silver and Gold events may be held in conjunction with each other over multi days.

RULES OF EQUINE CANADA

Equine Canada (EC) is the national governing body for all equine and equestrian sporting and recreational activities and interests (except racing) in Canada. It is recognized as the national equestrian federation of Canada by the Fédération Equestre Internationale and the Canadian Olympic Association of which organizations it is a member.

PATRON Her Excellency the Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean, C.C., C.M.M.,
C.D. Governor General of Canada

SECTION J: ENDURANCE

The Rules published herein are effective on January 1, 2009 and remain in effect except as superseded by rule changes or clarifications published in the Equine Canada newsletter or by subsequent editions of this section.

The Rule Book comprises eight sections:

- A General Regulations
- B Breeds
- C Driving: General, Pleasure, Driven Dressage, Draft Horse; Recreation
- D Rules for Eventing
- E Dressage
- F General Performance, Western
- G Hunter, Jumper, Equitation and Hack
- H Combined Driving
- J Endurance
- K Reining
- L Vaulting

Section J: Endurance is part of the Rule Book of Equine Canada and is published by:

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© 2007 Equine Canada ISBN 0-921732-70-8

EQUINE CANADA RULE BOOK

EQUINE CANADA MISSION:

To represent, promote and develop a unified Canadian equine community.

EQUINE CANADA VISION:

Canada is a great equine nation, where:

- Every child has the opportunity for an equestrian experience
- Every Canadian has access to the use of horses for leisure, hobby, sport and commerce
- Equine activities are an integral part of the Canadian culture
- We have success at international level of competition
- The welfare of the horse is paramount
- There is an economically viable horse industry

EQUINE CANADA VALUES:

- Respect and Appreciation for all members, athletes, volunteers and staff
- Trust, Honesty and Integrity
- Inclusive, Fair and Equitable
- Credibility and Professionalism
- Client-focused and Service-driven
- Athletes' Safety and Welfare of the Horse
- Cooperation

SECTION J

Endurance

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

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THE CODE OF 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

Application and Structure of the Code of Ethics

1. All competitors, exhibitors and officials participating in EC-sanctioned competitions are bound by the Code of Ethics.
2. The Code of Ethics consists of four parts: The Preamble, the Statement of Principle, the Code of Conduct and Further Expectations of an EC member. The Statement of Principle is to be considered an interpretive guide in applying the Code of Conduct. The Code of Conduct is mandatory in character and is enforceable.

Preamble

We believe:

- That equestrian sport is based on a partnership between horse and human athlete;
- That it is the right and responsibility of Equine Canada to set standards in matters of ethics, sportsmanship and the welfare of the horse and in all matters under its jurisdiction;
- That it is desirable to define ethical practices, the 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 stakeholders;
- That EC members should observe the spirit as well as the letter of this Code of Ethics;
- That membership is a privilege, not a right, and that membership may be suspended, terminated or rejected following appropriate disciplinary procedures.

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

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

EC is committed to:

- Upholding the welfare of the horses, regardless of value, as a primary consideration in all activities;
- Requiring that horses be treated with kindness, respect and the compassion that they deserve, and that they never be subjected to mistreatment;
- Ensuring that owners, trainers and exhibitors or their agents use responsible care in the handling, treatment and transportation of their 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;
- Continuing to support scientific studies on equine health and welfare;
- Requiring owners, trainers and exhibitors to know and follow their sanctioning organization's rules, and to work within industry regulations in all equestrian competition;
- Reviewing, revising and developing competition rules and regulations that protect the welfare of the horses.

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

CODE OF CONDUCT

EC rules address the following general areas:

- Welfare of the horse
- Safety of horse and human athlete
- Administration of competitions (see also Competitions Administration Policy)
- Code of conduct for officials and competitors
- Drug and medication control
- Individual breed and discipline rules

1. All EC members shall support the enforcement of the rules of the Federation by:
 - Personal knowledge and compliance
 - Agreeing to report any alleged infractions and occasions of alleged abuse at EC-sanctioned competitions
2. The organizers of EC-sanctioned competitions shall operate within the rules of the Federation
3. A member should be completely trustworthy, exhibit honesty, loyalty and discretion in all equestrian-related activities.
4. A member should issue public statements only in an objective and truthful manner.
5. The EC member should uphold issues of safety and fairness in all aspects of equestrian sport.
6. No member shall act to the detriment of others or equestrian sport in a situation where the responsibility of their position places them in a conflict of interest.
7. All members shall conduct themselves in a manner which reflects the values and ethics of EC. Any member who engages in or is party to conduct inappropriate to an EC member will be subject, after due process, to such sanctions as the Federation may impose.

Further Expectations of an EC Member

1. Members are encouraged to continuously educate themselves and to take an active role in the activities of the Federation.
2. The EC member should strive to preserve and enhance the image of the sport so that society's respect will be maintained.

THE EQUINE CANADA RULEBOOK

Knowledge of the rules of any sport is required of each participant, and the exhibitor at a sanctioned competition is in no way exempt from 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 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 Rule Book is divided into multiple sections. Each section, identified by a letter of the alphabet, relates to specific disciplines or group of disciplines or breeds. Section A covers General Regulations, which pertain to all breeds and disciplines. Within each section, the rules are numbered according to chapter and paragraph.

Amendment of the Rules

It is the right of every member of Equine Canada to propose amendments to the Rules, subject to the policies, procedures and schedules.

It is important that members realize that the amendment process will be strictly followed and that extraordinary rule amendments will be permitted for safety, monetary, ethical and equine welfare reasons only. The reason for this approach lies with the administrative and financial burden that rule amendments bring.

Excepting amendments for safety, monetary, ethical and/or equine welfare reasons, amendments to the Rules will be permitted according to the schedule for rule amendments only. All amendments must follow the process approved by Equine Canada. FEI Rules applicable to EC competitions are effective upon publication by the FEI. Clarifications of existing rules may be published at any time.

Interpretation of the Rules

Please read all cross-references carefully and retain all issues of the EC newsletter or reference the EC website for rule changes or clarifications. In the case where the English and French versions differ, the English version shall prevail. In the case of conflict between the General Regulations and the regulations of the breeds and/or disciplines, the breed and/or discipline rules will prevail. For the purposes of these rules, the singular includes the plural and the plural the singular.

Related Publications

For a list of related publications available from EC and from the provincial sport organizations (PSOs), visit the EC website at: www.equinecanada.ca.

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

ARTICLE J101 PREPARATION OF REGULATIONS

The Endurance Canada Rules Committee has prepared the following draft 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.

The following regulations have been compiled by building on the current American Endurance Ride Conference Regulations (AERC), the Federation Equestre Internationale (FEI) regulations, and Equine Canada (EC) General Regulations. Endurance Canada is grateful for the assistance and permissions provided by these organizations, in the development of a national set of regulations.

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. This encompasses medication use, surgical procedures that threaten welfare or safety, pregnancy in mares, and the misuse of aids.
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.

CHAPTER TWO: 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

An endurance ride must be a minimum of 40 kilometre (nominally, 25 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 Novice Division was the Limited Distance Division.

Listed kilometre	4% Grace	Listed miles	4% Grace miles
40 Novice	38-42	25	24-26
60 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

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 rides must be received by the Sanctioning Committee for approval at least 10 weeks before the actual ride date. 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.

- b) Endurance Canada's ride season runs from Nov 1st through to October 31st.
- c) 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.

5. Ride Results

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

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. Wilful 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

An competition must be at least 40 kilometre (25 miles) in length per day, up to a maximum distance of 400 kilometre (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 are sanctioned for more than one distance (such as a 40, 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 (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.

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)	= 16 hours 45 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.
5. In the Novice Division the time stops when the horse has reached the criteria for the event.

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 that junior riders may be accompanied on the last loop by an un-entered rider, bicycle, or pedestrian if there is no other sponsor available. Refer to Article J307.5.
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

Any act or series of actions, which in the opinion of ride management can clearly and without any doubt be defined as cruelty, shall result in the disqualification of the competitor by ride management.

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 ride management as soon as possible.

CHAPTER THREE: RIDE DAY

ARTICLE J301 ROLE OF VETERINARIANS

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

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 Endurance 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 Canada-sanctioned rides must use an Endurance Canada-approved rider card for the control veterinarian(s) to record the results of the veterinarians' examinations.
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.
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. Endurance Canada-sanctioned rides are subject to drug testing by the Endurance 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 Canada's Board of Directors will assess penalties.
2. Any horse found to have a prohibited substance in any of its tissues, body fluids or excreta at an event as the result of a medication test, is automatically disqualified, together with the rider of that horse. If the disqualified horse and competitor are members of a team, the rest of the team is not automatically disqualified.

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 trails 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 Endurance Canada-sanctioned ride more than once, or enter more than one ride held concurrently at an Endurance Canada-sanctioned event.

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 Endurance 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. Because a horse at the finish line is not, in actuality, going on—and not going into the wilderness far from veterinary aid—the standards for completion need not be as strict as those on the trail, but they must meet minimum standards below. Refer to the Veterinarian's Handbook for more information. 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. Thus, at the finish, a horse with a Grade II (refer to Chapter 5. Glossary, Lameness Categories) lameness (consistent at a certain gait or in a certain direction, however, not consistent all of the time) that is not pathological, could complete the ride without a placing, provided the veterinarian is satisfied that the horse is sufficiently fit to continue at a walk or at a VERY reduced speed. This examination will be conducted at a trot, or an equivalent gait, straight out and back, without prior flexion or palpation. Veterinarians must also be flexible enough to evaluate the horse injured after completing the course, etc. This is posed as a very minimum criterion not designed to disqualify legitimate stiffness and "leg weariness" but to discourage over usage between the last veterinary checkpoint and the finish line.
- 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. Placements will be determined by the order of finish of those who have met the completion requirements, except for the distances below 80 kilometre (50 miles) which will be placed in order of meeting the pulse criteria. For the Novice Division mileage rides there will be no placements only mileage.

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 Endurance 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 kilometers (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 Endurance 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 kilometre (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.

ARTICLE J306 WEIGHT DIVISION

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

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.

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. 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.

4. 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.
5. 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 be sponsored by an unentered qualified rider through the completion of the ride, with ride management and ride veterinarian approval. 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 the approval of ride management.
6. 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

1. Senior Division

Endurance Canada computes points separately for the junior (refer to Article J308.2) and senior divisions. Endurance Canada computes points in the senior division based on the following formula (.625 point per kilometre, plus bonus .625 points per kilometre for Top Ten, equals total points per kilometre). Members completing one-day rides of 100 or more sanctioned miles receive 1.5 times the number of points listed below. Points are calculated according to the following formula:

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

Place	Bonus Points/mile	Total Points/mile
1	2.0	3.0
2	1.5	2.5
3	1.2	2.2
4	1.0	2.0
5	0.8	1.8
6	0.6	1.6
7	0.4	1.4
8	0.3	1.3
9	0.2	1.2
10	0.1	1.1
11& lower	0.0	1.0

Points per Mile											
Starters →	11+	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Placing											
1	3.0	2.9	2.8	2.7	2.6	2.4	2.2	2.0	1.8	1.5	1.0
2	2.5	2.4	2.3	2.2	2.1	1.9	1.7	1.5	1.3	1.0	
3	2.2	2.1	2.0	1.9	1.8	1.6	1.4	1.2	1.0		
4	2.0	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.4	1.2	1.0			
5	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.2	1.0				
6	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.0					
7	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.0						
8	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.0							
9	1.2	1.1	1.0								
10	1.1	1.0									
11+	1.0										

Where there are fewer than eleven senior starters, (all weight divisions added together), all bonus points, (overall and weight division), are reduced by the following methods.

- Junior starters for a ride shall not be counted in the overall count for starters.
- Bonus points that would have been earned by the place equal to the total number of senior starters are subtracted from every finisher's points.

2. Junior Division

Endurance Canada computes points separately for the junior division, based on the following formula (one point per kilometre, plus bonus points per kilometre for Top Ten, equal total points per kilometre). Members completing one-day rides of 160 kilometre or more sanctioned kilometres receive 1.5 times the number of points listed below. Points are calculated in the junior division based on Top Five placing, according to the following formula:

Place	Bonus Points/mile	Total Points/mile
1	2.0	3.0
2	1.2	2.2
3	0.8	1.8
4	0.4	1.4
5	0.2	1.2
6 & lower	0.0	1.0

3. Points of a Common Ride Distance

Points will be awarded to horses on the same basis as for riders under the following system:

40 kilometers (25 miles) in one day:

Starters →	11+	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Placing											
1	75	72.5	70	67.5	65	60	55	50	45	35	25
2	62.5	60	57.5	55	52.5	47.5	42.5	37.5	32.5	22.5	
3	55	52.5	50	47.5	45	40	35	30	25	15	
4	50	47.5	45	42.5	40	35	30	25	20	10	
5	45	42.5	40	37.5	35	30	25	20	15	5	
6	40	37.5	35	32.5	30	25	20	15	10	0	
7	35	32.5	30	27.5	25	20	15	10	5	0	
8	32.5	30	27.5	25	22.5	20	15	10	5	0	
9	30	27.5	25	22.5	20	15	10	5	0	0	
10	27.5	25	22.5	20	15	10	5	0	0	0	
11+	25	22.5	20	15	10	5	0	0	0	0	

80 kilometers (50 miles) in one day

Starters →	11+	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Placing											
1	150	145	140	135	130	120	110	100	90	75	50
2	125	120	115	110	105	95	85	75	65	50	
3	110	105	100	95	90	80	70	60	50		
4	100	95	90	85	80	70	60	50			
5	90	85	80	75	70	60	50				
6	80	75	70	65	60	50					
7	70	65	60	55	50						
8	65	60	55	50							
9	60	55	50								
10	55	50									
11+	50										

160 kilometers (100 miles) in one day

Starters →	11 +	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Placing 1	450	435	420	405	390	360	330	300	270	225	150
2	375	360	345	330	315	285	255	225	195	150	
3	330	315	300	285	270	240	210	180	150		
4	300	285	270	255	240	210	180	150			
5	270	255	240	225	210	180	150				
6	240	225	210	195	180	150					
7	210	195	180	165	150						
8	195	180	165	150							
9	180	165	150								
10	165	150									
11+	150										

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 FOUR: PROTESTS AND APPEALS

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, a protest may be lodged.

While there is a procedure for lodging protests and reports against the 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.

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.

CHAPTER FIVE: GLOSSARY

ARTICLE J501 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, but consistently apparent under certain circumstances (such as circling etc.).

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

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.

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