

IMPORTANT TO ALL EVENTING OFFICIALS / 24 February 2011

Warning for dangerous riding / abuse of horse

If it is considered that the offence is not strong enough to be given a yellow card, 25 penalties or disqualification, a verbal warning must be given.

If a verbal warning is given to the rider, it must be recorded and sent to the FEI. This will help to have a consistent system.

For all offenses:

- Yellow card
- Disqualification
- Verbal warning

Please state exactly the reason of the sanction.

It is very important to publish the correct information for reference on the FEI website:

<http://www.fei.org/fei/your-role/athletes/warning-cards>

In addition, please note the new rules in the General Regulations as well as in the 2011 Rules for Eventing:

**General Regulations (23rd edition, effective 1st January 2011)
Art 169.7.2 Penalties**

Should the same Person Responsible receive one (1) more yellow warning card at the same or any other International Event within one year of the delivery of the first yellow warning card, the Person Responsible shall be automatically suspended for a period of two (2) months from the day following the Event at which the Person Responsible is competing. The Secretary General shall be responsible to notify the Person Responsible of such suspension.

**2009 Rules for Eventing (23rd edition, 1st January 2011)
Art 519.7 Dangerous Riding**

25 penalties will count as Cross Country obstacles penalties in the results and together with elimination must always be associated with a yellow warning card.

If not directly witnessed by the Ground Jury, the incident must be reported to the Ground Jury as soon as possible, who will decide if and how to penalize the athlete.

Article 520.3 Warning “Yellow” Cards

(See General Regulations Art. 169.7.2)

Should the same Person Responsible receive one more Warning “Yellow” card at the same or any other International Event within one year of the delivery of the first Warning “Yellow” card for the same offense, the Person Responsible shall automatically be suspended for a period of two (2) months from the day following the event at which the Person Responsible is competing. The Secretary General shall be responsible to notify the Person Responsible of such suspension.

GENERAL REGULATIONS (23rd edition, effective 1 January 2011)

Article 169 – PENALTIES

6.2. **Abuse of Horses** in any form (rapping, abnormal sensitisation or desensitisation of limbs, banned schooling methods etc.) shall entail a fine of up to 15,000.- and/or a Suspension of a minimum of three (3) months up to life;

6.3. **Incorrect behaviour** towards Event Officials or any other party connected with the Event (other Athlete, journalist, public etc.) shall entail a fine of CHF 200.- to 10,000.- and/or a Suspension of a minimum of three (3) months up to twelve (12) months;

7. In cases of offences mentioned in paragraphs 6.2 and 6.3 above and which are of a less serious nature and/or in cases specified in the Sport Rules:

7.1. The President of the Ground Jury, the President of the Appeal Committee and the Chief Steward may deliver to the Person Responsible a yellow warning card, either by hand or by any other suitable means.

7.2. Should the same Person Responsible receive one (1) more yellow warning card at the same or any other International Event within one year of the delivery of the first yellow warning card, the Person Responsible shall be automatically suspended for a period of two (2) months from the day following the Event at which the Person Responsible is competing. The Secretary General shall be responsible to notify the Person Responsible of such suspension.

RULES FOR EVENTING (23rd edition, effective 1st January 2011)

Article 519 HORSE & ATHLETE WELFARE - DANGEROUS RIDING

6. Elimination of Athlete before Cross Country

As a preventive risk management measure, the Ground Jury, at any time throughout the competition, has the right and the duty to eliminate an athlete to prevent him from starting the Cross Country test, if there is a serious concern regarding his ability to control the horse in that test. Any such elimination must be associated with an official recorded warning.

7. Dangerous Riding

1. Any athlete who, at any time during the competition deliberately or unintentionally by incompetence is exposing himself, his horse or any third party to a higher risk than what is strictly inherent to the nature of the competition will be considered to have acted dangerously and will be penalised accordingly to the severity of the infringement with one of the following penalties:

- Recorded verbal warning
- Yellow warning card
- 25 penalties + yellow warning card
- Elimination + yellow warning card

25 penalties will count as Cross Country obstacles penalties in the results and together with elimination must always be associated with a yellow warning card.

Such acts include without limitation any of the following:

Riding out of control (horse clearly not responding to the Athletes' restraining or driving aids)

- Riding fences too fast or too slow
- Repeatedly standing off fences too far (pushing the horse to the foot of the fence – firing the horse to the fence)
- Repeatedly being ahead or behind the horse movement when jumping
- Series of dangerous jumps
- Severe lack of responsiveness from the horse or the athlete
- Continuing after 3 refusals a fall or any clear form of elimination
- Endangering the public in any way (i.e jumping out of the roped track)

2. If not directly witnessed by the Ground Jury, the incident must be reported to the Ground Jury as soon as possible, who will decide if and how to penalize the athlete.

3. The Ground Jury and the Technical Delegate have the right and the duty to monitor possible cases of dangerous riding, to stop and eliminate an athlete on the cross country course for dangerous riding, if appropriate.

Any individual member of the Ground Jury who observes such actions, has the right and the duty to eliminate the athlete forthwith on his own authority.

4. The President of the Ground Jury can in addition designate one or more assistants (i.e. experienced Eventing Officials who are not in an official function at the event, experienced riders or/and trainers not directly involved in the competition) to help to monitor possible cases of dangerous riding in the XC. The President of the Ground Jury will decide their specific role, authority and reporting procedure. It is recommended that these additional officials be grouped in pairs on the Cross Country course.

Article 520 ABUSE OF HORSES

(see also "General Regulations")

1. **Any act or series of actions** that in the opinion of the Ground Jury can be defined as abuse of a horse shall be penalised according to the General Regulations, one or more of the following penalties:

- yellow warning card
- elimination
- fine
- disqualification

Such acts include without limitation any of the following:

- Rapping
- Riding an exhausted horse
- Excessive pressing of a tired horse
- Riding an obviously lame horse
- Excessive use of whip, bit and/or spurs
- Horses bleeding on the flank(s) or back indicating excessive use of the whip and/or spurs

Horses bleeding in the mouth, nose or limbs: Such may be abuse of horse and will be reviewed case by case. In minor cases of blood in the mouth, such as where a horse appears to have bitten its tongue or lip, or minor bleeding on limbs, after investigation the Ground Jury may authorize the athlete to continue.

If not directly witnessed by the Ground Jury, the incident must be reported as soon as possible to the Ground Jury through the Secretary of the Organising Committee or Control Centre of the event as appropriate, supported where possible by a statement from one or more witnesses. The Ground Jury must decide if there is a case to be answered.

3. Warning "Yellow" Cards

(See General Regulations Art. 169.7.2)

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YELLOW WARNING CARDS PAGE
WWW.FEI.ORG



Should the same Person Responsible receive one more Warning “Yellow” card at the same or any other International Event within one year of the delivery of the first Warning “Yellow” card for the same offense, the Person Responsible shall automatically be suspended for a period of two (2) months from the day following the event at which the Person Responsible is competing. The Secretary General shall be responsible to notify the Person Responsible of such suspension.