



E-Newsletter

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Remuneration of Officials

For those of our members who have not yet received FEI Bulletin 02/2003, we are publishing an extract regarding the remuneration of Officials.

"The FEI Bureau just held its spring meeting on 26 and 27 April 2003 in Madrid (ESP) on the invitation of the Royal Spanish Equestrian Federation and the City Council of Madrid....

REMUNERATION OF OFFICIALS

Further to the recommendation of the Strategic Planning Committee the Bureau agreed to recommend to organisers to pay a per diem allowance of EUR 100 for the Veterinary Officials, Judges, Technical Delegates and Chief Stewards of FEI events in addition to the travel expenses."

We look forward to receiving your comments on the above.

Horse Passports

• Which language?

Some of our colleagues have put forward questions regarding the language to be used in the compilation of FEI horse passports.

While we can find nothing stipulated regarding the language to be used which compiling a new FEI

passport, Annex II.4 states the following with regard to National passports approved for FEI use when accompanied by the recognition card (FEI cover):

"At least the sex and colour of the horse must be completed in one of the official FEI languages."

In fact, Dr Frits Sluyter, Manager of the FEI Veterinary Department, underlines this concept.

During Horse Inspections, the outline diagram is principally the means of identifying the horse. However, it would be a great deal easier if the entire passport were completed either in English or in French, and this will probably be proposed to the FEI by the Veterinary Department.

• Vaccination histories

Annex II.1.11 states:

"A passport in which all available space has been used up must be returned by the owner to the NF who will issue a duplicate passport. The vaccination in the old passport must be checked and, if correct, a statement must be entered on the vaccination page of this new (duplicate) passport as follows: "The vaccination history of this horse is correct to date. Last vaccination on (enter date)." To be stamped, dated and signed by the veterinarian approved by the NF who is completing the description and diagram page."

It is quite clear that this rule is valid only for **duplicate** passports, NOT for new ones. This was confirmed in the FEI Bulletin 3/2002, on page 39.

"Health management: Equine influenza

Record of vaccination: In VR Annex II.11 and Annex VI, the rules with regard to influenza vaccination and recording of the vaccination status in a duplicate passport are shown. However, it seems that many veterinarians think that the data for horses receiving their first passport can be recorded this way. This is incorrect. The first passport should show a complete listing of the vaccinations that the horse



has received and not only a statement that the vaccination history is correct, with a record of the last date of vaccination and signed by a private veterinarian. This is not sufficient to let horses participate in FEI events and has caused substantial problems in events recently. Veterinary Officials are requested to pay attention to this issue."

If a **new** FEI passport does not comply with these rules, the Appeal Committee should place a "warning" in the passport in order to encourage the Person Responsible to bring the passport into line with current parameters.

Francis Michielsens
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Clarification of Arts 219 – Disobediences & 220 - Deviations from the Course

It has come to our notice that there is still some confusion regarding the interpretation of Arts 219.2 and 220.2 – the possibility of circling around jumps and whether or not this action incurs any penalties.

Although this will be one of the many items examined in the new Memorandum (still work in progress!) I thought it might be useful to our members to have some guidelines with graphics to help them judge the several variations on the theme which can occur during competition.

For clarification, when the word "intentionally" is used in the following explanations, it should be taken to mean that the rider has made no attempt whatsoever to negotiate the next obstacle to be jumped.

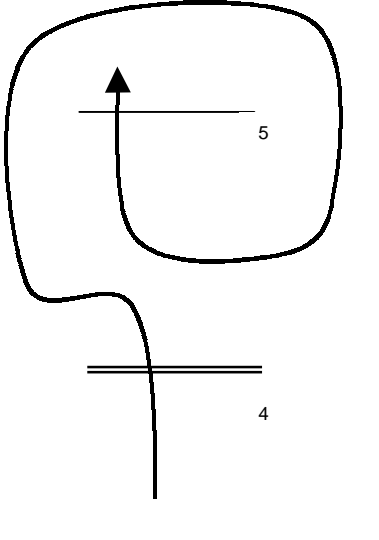
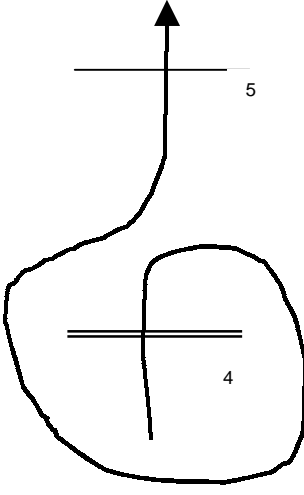
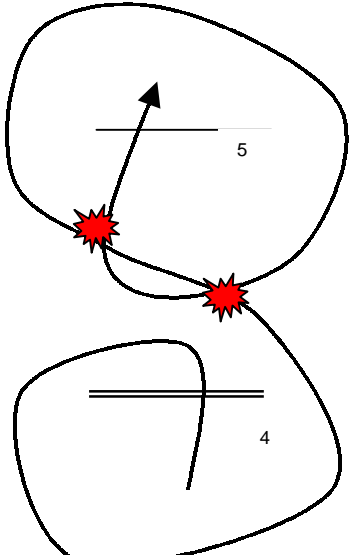
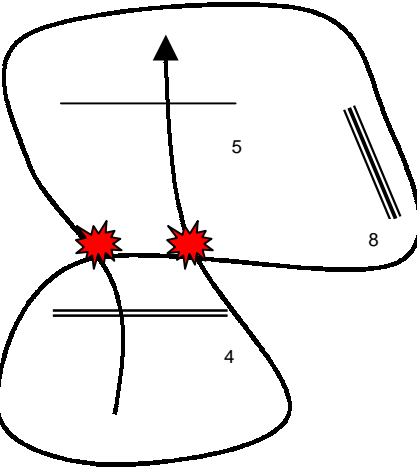
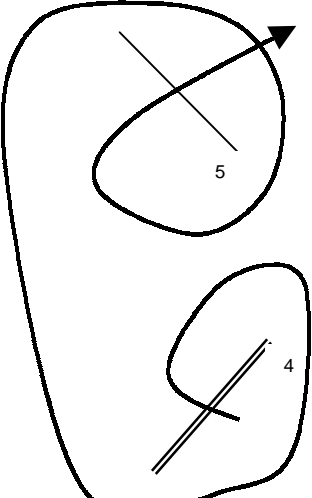
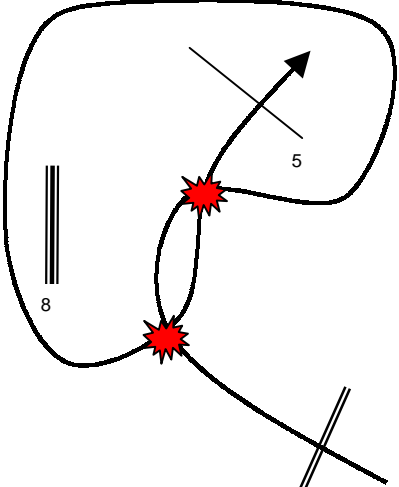
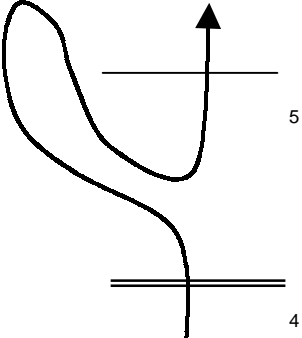
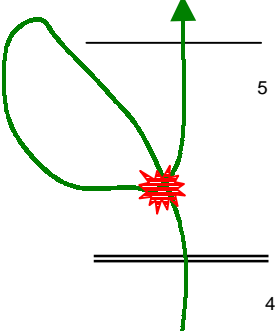
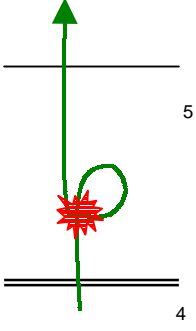
Diagram	Rider's action	Judges' action
1	Intentionally circles around the next obstacle to be jumped	None
2	Circles around last obstacle jumped before jumping next one	None
3	Circles around last obstacle jumped and intentionally circles around next obstacle to be jumped, crossing tracks one or more times between the two obstacles	None
4	Circles around last obstacle jumped and intentionally circles around next obstacle to be jumped, but also circles around another obstacle on the course, crossing tracks one or more times between the two consecutive obstacles	None
5	Circles around last obstacle jumped and intentionally circles around next obstacle to be jumped	None
6	Circles around last obstacle jumped and intentionally circles around next obstacle to be jumped, but also circles around another obstacle on the course.	None
7	Passes the next obstacle to be jumped and turns back to jump it without circling	None
8	Passes the next obstacle to be jumped and turns back to jump it but clearly crosses his tracks	4 faults for disobedience (Tab A), or elimination if it is 2 nd disobedience (both Tables)
9	Circles between two obstacles	4 faults for disobedience (Tab A), or elimination if it is 2 nd disobedience (both Tables)
NB	Scenarios 1 to 7 ALL INCUR PENALTIES (see those for scenarios 8 & 9) if the Course Designer has drawn a continuous line between the two consecutive obstacles.	

I hope this has swept any lingering doubts from your minds and look forward to hearing from you if you need any further explanations.

Rogier van Iersel
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Art 219.2 – Disobediences - Interpretation of circles and penalties

		
<p>4 OK – no faults</p>	<p>5 OK – no faults</p>	<p>6 OK – no faults</p>
		
<p>7 OK – no faults</p>	<p>8 NO! 4 faults</p>	<p>9 NO! 4 faults</p>
		



STEWARDS' CORNER

Stable Security

If you talk about implementing an efficient stable security system to many OCs, they will reply: "But show X doesn't bother with it, so why should we go to the expense?" And good stable security is an expense; that is indisputable.



So what arguments do we have at our disposal to convince the reluctant organizer to dig deep into his pockets and produce the

necessary funding for "minimum stable security"? Those following (not necessarily in order of importance) might be the principal ones: can you think of any others?

1. Accidents

If there is only a token system of controlling access to the restricted area, or indeed none at all, anybody can wander into the stables and mingle with the grooms, riders and horses. Space is often at a premium in the stables, especially in the indoor shows. "Joe Public" - who might well never have been near a horse in his life, and so has no idea of how to move or behave around them - decides it would be fun to get close to the animals. Joe might be on a Sunday outing with his kids, a toddler and a baby in a pram. At best, they are getting in the way of those who are trying to care for the horses, at worst, he or one of the kids could get kicked and die. Apart from the human tragedy and the atrocious publicity angles, how much more expensive than implementing proper stable security will legal fees, damages and (in some countries) possibly even a jail sentence be? I doubt that the insurance clause included in CSI schedules where responsibility for accidents is declined would be upheld in a court of law in the event of a serious accident once it had been established that mandatory "minimum stable security" was absent.

2. Horses going AWOL

Despite grooms' best efforts, some ingenious horses manage to open their stable doors and go "walkabout". I was told of an incident which

occurred during a recent international event where stable security had been considered optional: a horse escaped from his stable during the night, and was recovered the day after....20-odd kms from the venue!

3. Theft

Theft of tack can be a lucrative business, and shows provide ideal opportunities for intruders to gain access to a large number of items left overnight in tack boxes or lightly padlocked trunks. It is not unknown even for horses to be stolen. Proper fencing and efficient security can greatly reduce the likelihood of theft. Most OCs will have a proviso in the schedule insurance clause that they are not responsible for any thefts perpetrated, but similar incidents do not hugely enhance a show's image...What is the cost of that?

4. Positive MCP testing

How many times have we heard a Person Responsible whose horse is selected for testing say: "The stable security here is useless. I know my horse is fine, but I won't sign the papers/Anyone could have got to my horse" etc. Once we have pointed out the relevant rule governing positive testing and inadequate stable security (Art 1006.9), the PR of course has the opportunity to make any relevant comments in the space provided on the MCP form. In all probability, the Testing Vet will also report on the inadequate facilities, as will the Foreign Judge. Again, all this does no favours to the event's image...What is the cost of that?

5. Horse-friendly environment

Apart from the worst-case scenario discussed in point 1, it is essential to provide the horses with



the best possible environment in the stables. They are the real athletes, they are the ones who have no say whatsoever in their heavy travel and competition

schedule, and therefore we need to provide facilities which allow them to rest and recuperate between classes. Hoards of people swarming through the stables for most of the day are not conducive to this.



6. What the riders want

We are more likely to hear the riders and grooms complain that stable security is inadequate rather than that it is too strict. Yes, they will moan because they have to collect their passes, and because they have to show them every time they access the restricted area, but at the end of the day, they are happier with an efficient system than with no system at all.

OCs spend huge amounts of money on high-profile and visible elements of the show, but scrimping on stable security is truly a false economy.

Judges and Riders: cats & dogs or best buddies??



On the whole, the riders have a good relationship with the judges, thanks to the fact not only that they are well prepared, but also that the majority of

them always act in favour of the sport. But as in everything in life, there are (fortunately, rare) exceptions, and sometimes riders do clash with the officials. This happens when the official in question behaves in a self-important manner and either wishes to appear infallible or abuses his or her position.

Having said that, we also appreciate that are some rude or aggressive riders!

The aim of this article is, firstly, to thank all judges for their work they do for us every weekend, but secondly also to ask them to take time to reflect upon the fact that – especially at the higher levels – riders no longer compete as a hobby or for amusement. Taking part in a show is not their form of relaxation after a tough week in the office. It IS their office.

The stress level is extremely high. Apart from the sporting aspect, there is the financial responsibility towards their sponsors, and also the question of their personal image.

Things don't always run smoothly, and we know that it can be necessary for judges to intervene. However, wherever possible, we would be very grateful if, in the event of a controversy, you

could give us time to cool down after the disappointment of a bad round. Talking about things over a cup of coffee is often more productive than being hauled over the coals on leaving the arena.

Please remember that your decisions can condition the life of a rider, in both the positive but also the negative sense. Exclusion from a Grand Prix or a decision that leads to slipping down in the final rankings can compromise the future of a rider.

A judge does not gain respect by humiliating a rider or by refusing to adopt a little flexibility when this would harm no one.

Please don't think that the riders are trying to teach the judges how to do their job, but we sometimes find that some judges adopt a very rigid position on some articles, and are simply unprepared to look at the big picture of the rules and their application in certain situations. For the riders, a good judge is one who does not apply the rules to the letter, but (as is the case with modern jurisprudence) interprets them with common sense, is humble enough to work as part of a group and is prepared to discuss matters when in order to clarify them or when he/she is uncertain.



It is ridiculous, irritating and humiliating to be told that an objection will not be accepted because it was presented a few minutes late. (A propos of this, we would like the period to be extended from 30 minutes to 1 hour!)

And now we have a question for you: what is the worst thing that a judge can do to a rider?

It might seem strange to you, and it happens time and time again. No, it is not an unmerited elimination or an extra fault wrongly attributed. It is taking a long time to ring the starting bell!

To keep a rider waiting unnecessarily in the arena before ringing the starting bell is the worst thing a judge can do to a competitor.

Indecision, TV schedules, sponsors' requirements, technical problems? All these things can happen, but the watchword MUST be: priority to the sport.



Thank you for giving us the opportunity of putting our point of view to you with honesty, and we welcome all your comments via the ISJC!

For the International Jumping Riders Club (IJRC)

*Emile Hendrix (Vice-President) &
Eleonora Ottaviani (Director)*

ILPH – International League for the Protection of Horses

As many of you will remember, during the ISJC 2003 General Assembly Frankfurt place in December, Caesar von Walzel (Fin) spoke about the work of the ILPH. In our activity as show jumping officials, we are used to seeing horses in peak physical condition, and seriously abused animals are far from our minds. Hopefully this article will give those who read it the opportunity of reflecting on the fate of those horses at the opposite end of the spectrum, and spur our members to make a donation and promote the work of ILPH among their friends and colleagues.



In the spring of 1911, Ada Cole, the ILPH founder, witnessed horrific scenes at the docks in Antwerp (Bel) of old and work-worn horses shuffling off a cargo boat on their painful journey to be slaughtered in a local abattoir. "One of the most dreadful things about this traffic is that thousands of horses go to doom and agony, trudging along willingly and trustfully, and in mute silence", she was later to say. "We must be their voice".

Nearly a century later, the campaign against live slaughter-horse transport is still one of the main activities of the ILPH. Although recently it has achieved a number of successes in its work to stop this trade, with over 400 horses travelling for slaughter daily it continues to gather evidence in support of the arguments against live transport. Horses sometimes have to endure extreme cold or heat while in transport, and if one falls during the journey, it is often trampled to death (see photos

left and below). The ultimate aim of the ILPH is to achieve a ban on the slaughter transport of live horses, changing it to a carcass only trade, but in the meantime it helps by any practical means possible to reduce the suffering of those horses involved, for example through the provision of loading ramps and lifting gear. However, there is still a long way to go, and scenes similar to those of 1911 can still be witnessed today.

The ILPH also has field officers who cover the whole of the United Kingdom investigating reported instances of cruelty and abuse to horses. Many of the horses rescued by them are sent to one of the 5 ILPH sanctuary centres, which can host up to 300 horses for rehabilitation at any one time. Some 1,700 horses are currently out under its loan schemes, and over the years the ILPH has re-homed 4,000 horses as either riding or companion animals.

Another of the charity's principal activities is worldwide training. In the Developed World, the horse is primarily used for pleasure. In Third World countries, or even places such as Mexico, Russia and some Eastern European countries, the horse is still primarily used for work. As a beast of burden, his station in life is greatly diminished and he is simply a means to an end. The horse owner in the Third World is caught between the devil and the deep blue sea. If he works his injured horse, its condition gets worse. If he doesn't, his family starve. It is an area fraught with problems, and the ILPH treads carefully, aiming always to demonstrate by encouragement the benefits of better treatment of draught animals rather than to criticise and condemn. The ILPH has recently worked in El Salvador, Honduras, Mexico, Fiji, Kenya, Ethiopia, Romania and the Ukraine. It also has affiliated organisations in New Zealand, South Africa, Israel and Germany.



Teaching better horse husbandry can improve the lives and performance of their working animals and thereby improve the lives of the owners.

The need for education is the principle that underpins the ILPH's work worldwide today, which is clear from its mission statement: To protect horses from abuse and alleviate their suffering by



rehabilitating, campaigning and educating worldwide.

If you would like more information about the charity, visit the website at www.ilph.org. You can also make a donation on-line. In 1998 at the end of the Rome World Equestrian Games the stewarding team made a donation of some £400, so



I know from personal experience that all donations – even the small ones made by kids from their pocket money – are welcomed with joy and thanks.

Frances Triulzi
(frances@hestri.com)

Si vous préférez recevoir la version française du newsletter de ISJC, envoyez une e-mail à Sietske.

We are more than happy for you to use any or all of these articles for your own purposes, but would ask you to quote their source if you do!