



SECTION A: GENERAL REGULATIONS

AMENDMENT SUMMARY

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2026 – AMENDED FEBRUARY 28, 2026

NOTE:

The following rules have been added or revised in the 2026 edition of the Equestrian Canada rules. All editions of Section A have been updated to include all of the changes in this document.

The following article numbers were amended February 28, 2026

- Equestrian Canada Statement of Principles – Horse Welfare
- Article A1003 Permitted Medications – Paragraph 4
- Article A1311 Process of Stewarding – Paragraph 2 and 5

EQUESTRIAN CANADA STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES – HORSE WELFARE

1. Equestrian Canada (EC) is committed to fostering a safe and inclusive environment for all participants that is free from Abuse. The purpose of this Policy is to stress the importance of that commitment by educating Individuals and the public about Horse Abuse, outlining how EC will work to prevent Horse Abuse, and how such Abuse or suspected Abuse can be reported to and addressed by EC. EC requires adherence to humane treatment of horses in all activities under its jurisdiction.
2. EC requires that all Individuals adhere to this Code of Conduct and acknowledge and accept that the welfare of the Horse must always be paramount and must never be subordinated to competitive or commercial influences.
All participants shall be bound by the Horse Welfare Code of Conduct.
- 2-3. Section A Horse Welfare rules apply to all disciplines and all Section Rule Books. Rule exceptions in other Sections that contravene Section A Horse Welfare rules are not permitted and will not be approved.
- 3-4. EC is committed to:
 - a. recognizing Horses as sentient beings, defined by the ability to feel, perceive or experience subjectively. (ie. the animal is not only capable of feeling pain and distress but also can have positive psychological experiences, such as comfort, pleasure or interest that are appropriate to its species, environment and circumstances). To state that animals are sentient accepts that they can experience positive and negative emotions.
 - a-b. upholding the welfare of the horseHorse, regardless of monetary value and performance level, as a-the primary priority regardless of competitive commitments, expectations, or commercial influences-consideration in all activities;
 - b-c. requiring that horsesthe Horse to be treated with the highest level of care, compassion, respect, and empathy;
-kindness, respect, and the compassion that they deserve, and that they never be subjected to maltreatment;
 - d. requiring that no Horse be subjected to Abuse (ref: Rules of Equestrian Canada, Section A General Regulations, Article A517) or Distress;
 - e-e. ensuring that all Individuals accept and implement, at a minimum, the requirements within the National Farm Animal Care Council Equine Code of Practice;
owners, trainers, and exhibitors and their agents exercise appropriate care and responsibility in the handling, treatment, and transportation of their horses, as well as horses placed in their care for any purpose;
 - d. providing for the continuous wellbeing of the horse 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;
 - e-f. continuing toongoing support for scientific studies on equine health and of animal-based indicators of pain, Distress, and/or compromised welfare;
 - g. increasing education and awareness for the evolution of best management and equine husbandry practices;
 - f-h. requiring Individuals owners, trainers, and exhibitors to know and follow their sanctioning organization'sthe EC rules, and to work within and implement industry regulations in all equestrian-competitions; and,
 - g-i. reviewing, revising, and developing competition rules and regulations that protect the welfare of the horse.

ARTICLE A103 COACH STATUS

[...]

4. For Coaches who do not meet minimum Coach Status requirements at the time of competition may receive a fine as outlined in EC's Schedule of Fines & Penalties, and/or the horse/rider's points may be invalidated., Temporary EC Coach Status is available. The fees for Temporary EC Coach Status are listed in the EC Schedule of Fees.
 - a. Only those who hold a valid EC Sport Licence may purchase Temporary EC Coach Status.
 - b. A Temporary EC Coach Status allows the person the privilege of participating as a coach at the competition where the Temporary Coach Status was purchased.
 - e. In 2025, rider and horse results achieved while coaching with a Temporary EC Coach Status may be used to qualify for year-end awards, championship competitions, finals or subsequent competitions requiring qualification.
 - d. Coaches who do not hold valid EC Coach Status must complete the Temporary EC Coach Status Application form and pay the associated fee for every competition where Coach Status is required.
 - e. EC reserves the right to limit the number of times an individual may apply for Temporary EC Coach Status in any given year.
 - f) Temporary EC Coach Status will be permanently discontinued after December 31, 2025.
 - g) Coach Status – Sport Licence Requirements.

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All individuals holding Coach Status must hold a valid Sport Licence (SL) in good standing at a minimum of the Bronze Level.

a. For individuals engaged solely in coaching activities, the Bronze level Sport Licence shall constitute the minimum requirement.

a.b. Where a Coach Status holder also participates in competition in any capacity (e.g., as an owner, rider, or handler), they are required to hold a Sport Licence at the highest level of competition in which they or their horse are entered or competing.

5. EC Coach Status is not applicable to Foreign Coaches.

5-6. Reports that an individual is coaching at EC-sanctioned competitions or programs without the required EC Coach Status must be submitted using the official complaint form to the Independent Third Party Complaints Manager, in accordance with the EC Discipline, Complaints and Appeal Policy. If the matter is determined by the Complaints Manager to relate solely to EC's technical rules regarding Coach Status, it may be referred back to EC for handling. In such cases, the challenge will proceed in accordance with EC's internal procedures.

ARTICLE A206 INDIVIDUAL SILVER SPORT LICENCES

An individual holding a valid Silver Sport Licence is eligible to:

[...]

4. upgrade to a Gold Sport Licence temporarily through the purchase of a Single Event Upgrade for a specific event; at a Gold Competition;

5. apply the cost of a Silver Sport Licence to the purchase of a Gold Sport Licence;

6. apply to be, or maintain status as, an EC certified Coach Specialist, Competition Coach or Instructor;

6-7. Apply to be, or maintain status as, an official EC General Performance Judge or EC Western Judge.

ARTICLE A207 INDIVIDUAL BRONZE SPORT LICENCES

An individual holding a valid Bronze Sport Licence is eligible to:

[...]

4. upgrade to a Silver or Gold Sport Licence temporarily through the purchase of a Single Event Upgrade for a specific event; at a Silver or Gold Competition;

5. apply the cost of a Bronze Sport Licence to the purchase of a Silver or Gold Sport Licences.

6. apply to be, or maintain status as, an EC certified Competition Coach or Instructor.

7. apply to be, or maintain status as, an official EC endurance technical delegate or an EC para-equestrian classifier;

7-8. participate in mounted or driven schooling and/or warm up at any level of EC sanctioned event.

ARTICLE A215 SPORT LICENCE SUMMARY

1. Competitors participating in:

[...]

e. At all times mounted or driven schooling of horses/ponies must only be done by current EC Sport Licence holders in good standing.

ARTICLE A508 EMERGENCIES

1. All Competition Managers/Organizers must have an emergency action plan (EAP) in place. Provisions should be adopted prior to the competition for the proper handling of emergencies such as fire, accident and horse mortality.

[...]

ARTICLE A509 EXERCISE AREAS

[...]

3. Any lungeing aids may only be connected to the bridle or lungeing cavesson while lungeing

ARTICLE A516 EC ~~YELLOW~~-WARNING CARD

1. A Recorded Warning may be issued by a Judge, Steward, or Technical Delegate at a competition to any person for minor offenses, including behaviour that should not be repeated and that does not warrant a more severe penalty (see Yellow Warning Card).

1-2. An EC-A Yellow Warning Card may be issued to any individual sport licence holder at an EC-sanctioned competition for improper conduct or noncompliance with EC rule, when the misconduct is not a minor offense but not severe enough to warrant formal disciplinary action by EC, for rule violations that are deemed to be minor in nature. These violations include but are not limited to the following:

a) an individual does not leave the field of play without delay after elimination or at the end of a round;

b) an individual does not follow the directives of the organizing committee;

c) an individual intentionally touches an obstacle with the effect of changing it;

d) an individual does not follow the directives of EC officials;

e) an individual exhibits disrespectful or inappropriate behavior towards EC or event officials or any other party connected with the event (Athlete, FEI employee or representative, journalist, member of the public, etc.);

f) an individual repeats an offense after a verbal warning to desist or a Recorded Warning; or

g) an individual disregards the rules regarding dress and saddlery.

Elsewhere in the EC rules certain additional conduct may result in an EC Recorded Warning or Yellow Warning Card being issued.

2-3. EC-Recorded Warnings and Yellow Warning Cards can be issued by EC:

a) Stewards

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b) Judges

e) ~~Technical Delegates~~

~~EC Yellow Warning Cards will be delivered by hand at the competition whenever possible. Otherwise, EC Yellow Warning Cards will be delivered by other suitable means following the competition.~~

~~Note: Also see Driving Rules, and Hunter/Jumper Rules regarding warning cards.~~

~~Exception: For the complete rules and process pertaining to Warning Cards issued in the discipline of Eventing—refer to Section D Eventing Rules, Art D-112, D113 and Annex 8.~~

4. ~~To issue a Recorded Warning or Yellow Warning Card, the Judge, Steward or Technical Delegate must:

 - a) ~~Complete and sign the Recorded Warning form or Yellow Warning Card;~~
 - b) ~~Provide a copy of the signed Recorded Warning form or Yellow Warning Card to the affected person, delivered by hand at the competition whenever possible, or otherwise delivered by other suitable means following the competition.~~
 - c) ~~Send a copy of the Recorded Warning form or Yellow Warning Card to Equestrian Canada with the Steward/Technical Delegate Report Form.~~~~
5. ~~Upon notification receipt of the Recorded Warning or Yellow Warning Card, Equestrian Canada will send an acknowledgement of its receipt to the affected person advising of the provisions of this Rule.~~
6. ~~The issuance of a Recorded Warning or Yellow Warning Card is final and not appealable.~~
7. ~~The third Recorded Warnings and all Yellow Warning Cards issued will be published for twelve months. Warnings will stay on file with EC.~~
8. ~~Should an individual receive three Recorded Warning within 365 days of a previously issued Recorded Warning card or Yellow Warning Card, the individual will be suspended for two months.~~
9. ~~Should an individual receive a subsequent two Yellow Warning Cards within 365 days of a previously issued Yellow Warning Card, that individual shall be suspended for four months.~~
10. ~~The issuance of a Recorded Warning suspension or Yellow Warning Card suspension is appealable as outlined in the Discipline, Complaints & Appeals policy.~~
3. ~~Should an individual receive a subsequent EC Yellow Warning Card within 365 days of a previously issued EC Yellow Warning Card, that individual shall be subject to a hearing to consider the conduct that lead to each EC Yellow Warning Card being issued pursuant to EC General Regulations Chapter 12—General Dispute Resolution and Protests at EC sanctioned Competitions. The passage of 365 days since the issuance of an EC Yellow Warning Card will result in the conduct associated with that Card not being considered at future hearings. EC Yellow Warning Cards will stay on file with EC.~~

ARTICLE A517 CRUELTY, ABUSE OR INHUMANE TREATMENT OF HORSES

1. ~~The abuse or inhumane treatment of a horse by an individual sport licence holder or other person at an EC-sanctioned competition shall not be tolerated under any circumstances.~~
- 1-2. ~~EC requires that all Individuals adhere to the Horse Welfare Code of Conduct and acknowledge and accept that the welfare of the Horse must always be paramount and must never be subordinated to competitive or commercial influences.~~
2. ~~The standard by which conduct or treatment will be measured is that which, a person informed and experienced in generally accepted equine training and competition procedures, would determine to be cruel, abusive or inhumane. Any treatment or practice that causes undue stress, and/or pain, is deemed abusive. Sensory hairs of the head may remain unclipped or unshaven, but removal will not be penalized.~~
3. **Individual Responsibilities**
 - a) ~~All Individuals who are bound by EC's policies as defined in EC's Discipline, Complaints and Appeals policy, in addition to their obligations under EC's Code of Conduct and Ethics, have additional duties pursuant to the Horse Welfare Code of Conduct.~~
 - b) ~~All Individuals must refrain from Abuse as defined in the Horse Welfare Code of Conduct, which includes but is not limited to Physical Abuse, Emotional Abuse, Neglect, Hoarding, and Animal Sexual Abuse.~~
 - c) ~~The standard by which conduct or treatment will be measured is that which a reasonable person, informed and experienced in generally accepted equine practices, would determine to be cruel, abusive or inhumane.~~
4. **Complaint Process**
 - a) ~~The process for complaints alleging of Abuse of a Horse shall be that set out in EC's Discipline, Complaints and Appeals policy.~~
 - b) ~~Acts of Abuse at EC competitions must be reported immediately to the steward or organizing committee and may be subject to equine medication control. A horse exhibiting adverse reactions to medication must be withdrawn for a minimum of 24 hours. In order to resume competing, the horse must receive a veterinary examination which finds no clinical abnormalities that would preclude return to competition in order to resume competing. A report of alleged abuse must be completed and submitted to the EC officials on site and to the Organizing Committee and forwarded to Equestrian Canada and the Independent Third-Party Safe Sport Complaints Manager with the official's reports.~~
5. **General Welfare in EC Sanctioned Competition**
 - a) ~~Sensory hairs of the head may remain unclipped or unshaven, but removal will not be penalized.~~
 - b) ~~Any horse that receives shockwave therapy is not eligible to compete for 96 hours. Shockwave therapy can only be administered on competition grounds by a veterinarian* and a Shockwave form must be filled out, signed and given to an officiating Steward or to the Competition Organizer. The penalty for competing within 96 hours is immediate suspension of the horse from that competition, return of all awards received and a yellow card.~~
 - c) **Effective January 1, 2026**, the following provisions apply **at all national competitions** regarding permitted noseband tightness: The noseband must be adjusted with sufficient laxity, as determined by an EC approved Measuring Device. The rule applies to all types of

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nosebands and to both the upper and lower noseband.

~~Art. 1044.8 of the FEI Veterinary Regulations applies in relation to the permitted tightness of the noseband at all national competitions.~~

- d) ~~It is strictly forbidden to use any type of substance/product inside or around the Horse's mouth and/or tongue that may~~
- ~~i) imitate, induce or cause foaming; and/or~~
 - ~~ii) coat or otherwise cover, or partially cover the bit.~~

~~The prohibition excludes the use of products permitted in the FEI Tack App (available for public download: <https://inside.fei.org/fei/your-role/it-services/mobile-apps/fei-tack-app>) and the provision of permitted natural treats given in moderation. Contravening this rule will entail an EC Yellow Warning Card and elimination.~~

- e) ~~The officiating steward, judge technical delegate, president of ground jury or appointed competition veterinarian has the authority to remove a horse from the event for a period of up to 24 hours, if in their reasonable opinion the horse is unfit to compete, is in a situation of horse overuse or other, as defined in the Horse Welfare Code of Conduct, or where, in their reasonable opinion, there is a safety concern regarding the horse. Officials will issue a Recorded Warning. The official's decision is final and cannot be appealed or protested.~~

~~In the case of a horse collapsing while mounted or unmounted anywhere on the competition grounds, the horse will be prohibited from competition for 72 hours beginning at the time of the collapse.~~

~~A horse is considered to have collapsed (not fallen) when both the hind quarter and shoulder touch the ground simultaneously or separately for no apparent reason. Refer to the Glossary for the definition of a Fall, which will be governed by the specific breed and/or discipline rules.~~

~~**Exception:** Upon being examined and cleared for competition by the official horse show veterinarian, a horse/pony that has collapsed will be permitted to return to competition after 24 hours have passed from the time the collapse occurred.~~

- f) ~~The officiating steward, judge, or technical delegate must investigate any information or complaints regarding cruelty, abuse, or inhumane treatment of horses and these officials may thereafter act with the following authority: a) the official may issue a Yellow Warning Card; or b) the official may fine the offender; or c) the official may disqualify the offender from further participation in the competition. In all cases, the official will submit a Steward Report of Abuse.~~

~~Cruelty can be defined as causing pain or unnecessary discomfort to a horse. As examples, an act of cruelty can be but is not limited to any of the following:~~

- ~~a) nosebands used in such a way that they interfere with the horse's breathing, or be tight enough to cause pain or discomfort.~~
Effective January 1, 2026 Art. 1044.8 of the FEI Veterinary Regulations applies in relation to the permitted tightness of the noseband at all national competitions.
- ~~b) excessively whipping or beating a horse;~~
- ~~c) subjecting a horse to any kind of electric shock device;~~
- ~~d) excessively or persistently using spurs or jabbing a horse in the mouth with the bit;~~
- ~~e) riding/driving/lunging an obviously exhausted, lame or injured horse;~~
- ~~f) excessive lunging or abusive use of equipment to the detriment of the horse;~~
- ~~g) rapping a horse at the event location (see Glossary for definition of "Rapping");~~
- ~~h) hyper-sensitizing any part of a horse;~~
- ~~i) neglect by:

 - ~~i) leaving a horse without adequate food, drink and exercise; or~~
 - ~~ii) failing to safely and securely tie or contain a horse while at the event location;~~~~
- ~~j) using shackles or chains (not to be confused with rubber or elastic exercising devices);~~
- ~~k) competing with a horse with raw or bleeding sores, or evidence of other blood on the horse (with the exception of insect bites or other environmental causes);~~
- ~~l) using an explosive (i.e. firecracker, fire extinguisher except in the case of fire) or using fire such as lighters, matches, etc.; or~~
- ~~m) ignoring adverse medication reactions that compromise the horse's welfare (including but not limited to staggering and falling down) is considered abuse. Such reactions must be reported immediately to the steward or organizing committee, and may be subject to equine medication control. A horse exhibiting adverse reactions to medication must be withdrawn for a minimum of 24 hours. In order to resume competing, the horse must receive a veterinary examination which finds no clinical abnormalities that would preclude return to competition in order to resume competing.~~
- ~~n) Any horse that receives shockwave therapy is not eligible to compete for 96 hours. Shockwave therapy can only be administered on competition grounds by a veterinarian* and a Shockwave form must be filled out, signed and given to an officiating Steward or to the Competition Organizer. The penalty for competing within 96 hours is immediate suspension of the horse from that competition, return of all awards received and a yellow card.~~

~~A report of alleged abuse must be completed and submitted to the EC officials on site and to the Organizing Committee and forwarded to Equestrian Canada with the official's reports. For Eventing, Driving and Hunter/Jumper competitions refer to discipline rules.~~

- ~~3.6. The officiating steward, judge technical delegate, president of ground jury or appointed competition veterinarian has the authority to remove a horse from the event for a period of up to 24 hours, if in their reasonable opinion the horse is unfit to compete, or where, in their reasonable opinion, there is a safety concern regarding the horse. The official's decision is final and cannot be appealed.~~
5. ~~The officiating steward, judge, or technical delegate must investigate any information or complaints regarding cruelty, abuse, or inhumane treatment of horses and these officials may thereafter act with the following authority: a) the official may issue a Yellow Warning Card; or b) the official may fine the offender; or c) the official may disqualify the offender from further participation in the competition.~~

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~~For Eventing, Driving and Hunter/Jumper competitions refer to discipline rules.~~

- ~~6. Information regarding or reports of cruelty, abuse or inhumane treatment of horses will be compiled by the officiating steward, judge or technical delegate and are to contain, at a minimum, the following information:~~
- ~~a) date and time of the alleged abuse;~~
 - ~~b) EC competition name and number;~~
 - ~~c) name of alleged offender and sport licence number;~~
 - ~~d) name, horse recording/passport number or photo of the horse as applicable;~~
 - ~~e) a description of the incident and the nature of the alleged abuse;~~
 - ~~f) signature of the steward, judge or technical delegate;~~
 - ~~g) witness information including *Eye Witness Report* form; and~~
 - ~~h) veterinary information and report, if available.~~
- ~~Copies of these reports must be attached to the Steward's Report and forwarded to the organizing committee and Equestrian Canada.~~

ARTICLE A518 ELIMINATION AND DISQUALIFICATION

[...]

- ~~5. In cases where, through post-competition results validation or review, it is determined that a competitor has participated in violation of EC rules governing eligibility, cross-entry restrictions, or other similar participation criteria, the competitor's result in the affected class(es) will be marked as Disqualified (DQ). The class will be re-placed accordingly, with all eligible competitors moving up in the standings. These decisions will be made in accordance with applicable rules and in consultation with the competition, and may occur regardless of whether the violation was identified during or after the competition.~~
- ~~5-6. Where results validation identifies administrative violations—such as lapsed or missing memberships, incorrect sport licence levels for athlete or owner, or inactive horse recordings—the competitor will not be disqualified from the class. The result will remain on record and the class will not be re-placed. However, the entry will be flagged with an administrative error, any National Rankings points earned in that class will be forfeited, and the competitor will be subject to a fine as outlined in the EC Schedule of Fines and Penalties. These measures are applied to uphold the integrity of EC's competition records and membership compliance.~~

ARTICLE A602 PRIZE LISTS – MANDATORY INFORMATION

[...]

- ~~6. The following statement must be included in the prize list of any EC-sanctioned competition: "Any athlete entered in any class at a an EC sanctioned competition may be selected for human anti-doping as outlined in the Canadian Anti-Doping Program (CADP) and administered by Sport Integrity Canada. Please see EC General Regulations Section A - Appendix A1, Policy on Human Medications for details."~~

[...]

ARTICLE A902 AMATEUR COMPETITORS

[...]

- ~~7. If the status of an EC certified amateur is challenged, such challenge is subject to EC rules regarding official complaints. See EC Discipline, Complaints and Appeal Policy. Challenges to amateur status must be submitted using the complaint form available on EC's website to the Independent Third Party Complaints Manager, in accordance with the EC Discipline, Complaints and Appeal Policy. If the matter is determined by the Complaints Manager to relate solely to EC's technical rules regarding amateur status eligibility, it may be referred back to EC for handling. In such cases, the challenge will proceed in accordance with EC's internal procedures.~~

[...]

ARTICLE A905 HEADGEAR

1. At all times, persons mounted or carriage driving at an EC-sanctioned event location must wear approved protective headgear designed for equestrian sport as described below.

[...]

2. Protective headgear must be:
- a) approved by an accredited certification organization. See Glossary – Headgear Standards;
 - b) designed specifically for equestrian sport;
 - bc) properly fitted; and
 - ed) securely fastened by a safety harness permanently affixed to the headgear.

[...]

ARTICLE A906 USE OF WHIPS

[...]

4. Any alterations to the length of the handle or shaft of a whip as manufactured are not permitted.

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ARTICLE A1003 PERMITTED MEDICATIONS

Permitted Medications may be present in a horse during an EC-sanctioned competition, except Endurance competitions (refer to A1003.4).

1. Permitted medications are the following:
 - a) non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) approved for use in Canada for horses: firocoxib, flunixin meglumine, ketoprofen, phenylbutazone or acetylsalicylic acid, subject to the restrictions below.
 - b) pergolide;
 - c) the anti-ulcer medications: cimetidine, ranitidine, sucralfate or omeprazole.
 - d) altrenogest (for mares only)
 - e) antimicrobials (antibiotics and antiprotozoals)
Exception: procaine penicillin G
 - f) antiparasitic products (dewormers)
Exception: levamisole and tetramisole
 - g) hyaluronic acid, chondroitin sulfate, glucosamine, pentosan, and polysulfated glycosaminoglycans (Adequan) (Please note: the above cannot be given by intra-articular injections during competition, please see Article A1010.1)
 - h) cyclosporin
 - i) misoprostol
 - j) IV rehydration fluids; within the guidelines of the Prohibited Practice
 - k) Vitamins

- [...]
4. Endurance horses may only compete with the permitted medications listed in sub-paragraphs B through K in section A, Chapter 10 – Article 1003 Permitted Medications. Endurance horses may not compete with non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs).

~~NOTE: The use of pergolide has been approved by the EC National Rules Committee on a two-year trial basis from January 1, 2024, through until December 31, 2025. Data collected during the trial period will be used to guide recommendations on a permanent ruling regarding use of this medication in competition.~~

Prohibited Practice for Endurance:

The administration of any medication or substance by injection, including intravenous (IV) and naso-gastric fluids, is not permitted within 12 hours before the start of the endurance ride, or between any phases of the competition. Intravenous (IV) administration may only be performed by a licensed veterinarian.

ARTICLE A1101 GENERAL

- [...]
3. All height measurements must be recorded in both hands and centimetres.

ARTICLE A1204 FILING A PROTEST

1. A protest at an EC sanctioned competition, other than those specific matters covered in discipline/breed sport rules, must comply with the following provisions:
 - a) [...]
 - b) a Protest must be made in writing and addressed to the secretary of the OC at the event which the matter under consideration occurs. Every Protest must be signed and must be accompanied by a deposit of \$100 in cash fee as set out in the Schedule of Fees. (Note that protesting a horse's height also carries a \$100 cash deposit fee as set out in the Schedule of Fees);
[...]

ARTICLE A1311 PROCESS OF STEWARDING

The duties of stewards include, but are not limited to:

- [...]
2. Stewards PREVENT problems by:
 - [...]
 - c) Monitoring the barns, schooling and lungeing rings, and show grounds;
- [...]
5. Stewards must be on the grounds a minimum of thirty minutes before the start of the first class, ~~(see discipline/breed sport rules)~~. Stewards must remain on the grounds until whichever of the following occurs last:
 - a) 30 minutes after the completion of the final class of the day;
 - b) 30 minutes after the closure of schooling, warm-up and/or lungeing rings
 - c) the conclusion of any required officials' meetings; or
 - d) the completion of late-afternoon stable welfare checks.For exceptions, see discipline/breed sport rules.
~~Exception: Eventing.~~

[...]



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ARTICLE A1313 STEWARDS – RESTRICTIONS

1. A steward may not officiate at an unsanctioned competition or at a competition not in good standing, with the following exceptions:
 2. :
 - a) ~~A Steward may officiate at events restricted to members of the Canadian Pony Club~~
 - b) ~~4H~~
 - ea) Provincially sanctioned competitions, provided they hold current PTSO officials' status.
- [...]

APPENDIX A1 POLICY ON HUMAN MEDICATIONS

Equestrian Canada is a signatory to the Canadian Anti-Doping Program (CADP). As a signatory to the CADP all Equestrian Canada sport licence holders who compete as an athlete are subject to the rules and regulations of the CADP. The Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES)-Sport Integrity Canada implements and administers the CADP on behalf of the Canadian sport community. The CCES-Sport Integrity Canada is designed to prevent, deter and detect doping and serves to protect the integrity of sport and the rights of clean athletes.

1. Equestrian Canada has adopted the 2021 Canadian Anti-Doping Program (CADP) as its primary domestic anti-doping policy. The CADP is compliant with the World Anti-Doping Code (Code) and all International Standards that address technical areas and the associated Technical Documents. The current version of the CADP came into force on January 1, 2021. To view or download the 2021 CADP please visit <https://cces.ca/canadian-anti-doping-program>.
2. In addition, Equestrian Canada, as a member federation of FEI must also be fully compliant with the FEI anti-doping rules. The FEI anti-doping rules may apply to certain members of Equestrian Canada in certain situations. The FEI anti-doping rules are fully compliant with the 2021 World Anti-Doping Code, International Standards and Guidelines as they may exist from time to time. To view or download the FEI anti-doping rules, please visit <https://inside.fei.org/fei/cleansport/humans/regulations>
3. In the event of a conflict between other anti-doping policies established by Equestrian Canada and the 2021 CADP and/or the FEI anti-doping rules, the rules of the 2021 CADP or the FEI shall prevail, as applicable. Every athlete and other person participating in the sport shall reasonably cooperate with the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES)-Sport Integrity Canada, or another anti-doping organization investigating anti-doping rule violations and a failure to do so may result in a violation of the CADP.

BACKGROUND

~~In 2015, Equestrian Canada adopted the 2015 Canadian Anti-Doping Program (CADP).~~

~~The Canadian Anti-Doping Program requires all Equestrian Canada disciplines to use the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES) exclusively for testing athletes in Canada.~~

Anti-Doping Policy

1. ~~Equestrian Canada has adopted the 2015 Canadian Anti-Doping Program (CADP) as its primary domestic anti-doping policy. Administered on behalf of Equestrian Canada by the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES), the 2015 CADP is fully compliant with the 2015 World Anti-Doping Code, International Standards and Guidelines as they may exist from time to time. To view or download the 2015 CADP, please visit http://cces.ca/files/pdfs/CCES_POLICY_CADP-2015-E.pdf.~~
2. ~~In addition, Equestrian Canada, as a member federation of FEI must also be fully compliant with the FEI anti-doping rules. The FEI anti-doping rules may apply to certain members of Equestrian Canada in certain situations. The FEI anti-doping rules are fully compliant with the 2015 World Anti-Doping Code, International Standards and Guidelines as they may exist from time to time. To view or download the FEI anti-doping rules, please visit <http://www.fei.org/content/anti-doping-rules>.~~
3. ~~In the event of a conflict between other anti-doping policies established by Equestrian Canada and the 2015 CADP and/or the FEI anti-doping rules, the rules of the 2015 CADP or the FEI shall prevail, as applicable.~~

~~Every athlete and other person participating in the sport shall reasonably cooperate with the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES) or another anti-doping organization investigating anti-doping rule violations and a failure to do so may be the basis for disciplinary action within the sport.~~



SECTION A: GENERAL REGULATIONS

AMENDMENT SUMMARY

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2026 – AMENDED FEBRUARY 28, 2026

GLOSSARY

CANADIAN ANTI-DOPING PROGRAM (CADP)

Canada's national anti-doping organization, Sport Integrity Canada, implements and administers the CADP on behalf of the Canadian sport community. It's designed to prevent, deter and detect doping and serves to protect the integrity of sport and the rights of clean athletes. The CADP is compliant with the World Anti-Doping Code and all International Standards that address technical areas and the associated Technical Documents.

COMPETITION DAY

The time period beginning 30 minutes prior to the start of the first scheduled class of the day, and ending after whichever of the following occurs last:

- a) 30 minutes after the completion of the final class of the day;
- b) 30 minutes after the closure of schooling, warm-up and/or lunging rings
- c) the conclusion of any required officials' meetings; or
- d) the completion of late-afternoon stable welfare checks.

For exceptions, see discipline/breed sport rules

HEADGEAR STANDARDS

Protective headgear designed for equestrian sport must be certified under one of the following standards: ASTM (American Society for Testing Materials)/SEI (Safety Equipment Institute, Inc.); BSI/BS EN (British Standards Institution); EN (European Union Standards); AS/NZS (Australian/New Zealand Standards); or CE VG1 01.040 2014-12 (provided they are BSI Kitemarked).

PRIZE MONEY

Includes bonus money, cash, or gift cards/certificates, and exhibition class prize money.

PROTECTIVE HEADGEAR

1. Protective headgear must be:
 - a) approved by an accredited certification organization (HEADGEAR STANDARDS).
 - b) designed specifically for equestrian sport;
 - b)c) properly fitted; and
 - e)d) securely fastened by a permanently affixed safety harness.
2. Any competitor may wear approved protective headgear in any division or class without penalty from the judge.
3. Equestrian Canada makes no representation or warranty, expressed or implied, about any approved protective headgear. Equestrian Canada cautions riders and Athletes that serious injury or death may result despite wearing such headgear, as all equestrian sports involve inherent risk, and no protective headgear can protect against all foreseeable injury.

RECORDED WARNING

An alternative to other options in the EC legal system, (eg. Fines or disqualification) and is for cases of minor offenses, including behaviour that should not be repeated and that does not warrant a more severe penalty, including a Yellow Warning Card.

SCHOOLING

The act of preparing or exercising a horse prior to or between competition rounds, which may include flatwork, jumping, or other permitted training activities.

Schooling may take place in designated schooling areas, competition rings (when authorized), or other approved spaces under the supervision of competition officials.

All schooling must be conducted in accordance with Equestrian Canada rules, with attention to horse welfare, safety, and fair sport.

SCHOOLING AREA

A designated space provided at a competition venue for the purpose of allowing competitors to warm up and prepare their horses prior to entering the competition ring.

Schooling areas must be safe, clearly marked, and managed in accordance with the discipline-specific rules. They may include warm-up rings, lungeing areas, and any other spaces explicitly permitted by the Organizing Committee for horse preparation.

All schooling areas fall under the jurisdiction of the competition and must comply with Equestrian Canada safety standards and horse welfare policies.

SOCIAL MEDIA BRAND AMBASSADOR

A Social Media Brand Ambassador is a social media user who spreads the word about a company/brand or its products by posting about them on social media and promoting them to their unique social audience.



SECTION A: GENERAL REGULATIONS

AMENDMENT SUMMARY

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2026 – AMENDED FEBRUARY 28, 2026

SOCIAL MEDIA INFLUENCER

A Social Media Influencer is an individual who has built a reputation for their knowledge and content creation on a specific topic. They make regular posts about that topic on their preferred social media channels and generate large followings of enthusiastic, engaged people who pay close attention to their content.

SPORT INTEGRITY CANADA

Sport Integrity Canada (formerly The Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES)) is an independent, national, not-for-profit organization that works to protect and promote the integrity of sport in Canada. Through the administration of its programs, including the Canadian Anti-Doping Program and the Canadian Safe Sport Program, we strive to ensure sport is safe, inclusive, fair, clean, and accessible for all Canadians.

SUITABILITY

Suitability (rider-to-horse combination):

The appropriateness of a competitor's size, weight, balance, and ability relative to the horse or pony, such that it does not compromise the animal's welfare, soundness, safety, or performance. Officials may consider factors such as the competitor's height and weight in proportion to the horse, competitor skill level, and the horse's build, fitness, and observable reaction under saddle

WORLD ANTI-DOPING AGENCY (WADA)

WADA's primary role is to develop, harmonize and coordinate anti-doping rules and policies across all sports and countries.

WORLD ANTI-DOPING CODE (CODE)

The World Anti-Doping Code (Code) is the core document that harmonizes anti-doping policies, rules and regulations within sport organizations and among public authorities around the world. It works in conjunction with eight International Standards which aim to foster consistency among anti-doping organizations in various areas.

YELLOW WARNING CARD

An alternative to other options in the EC legal system, (eg. recorded warning, fines or disqualification) and is for ~~eases of violations deemed to be minor in nature~~ misconduct that is not a minor offense but not severe enough to warrant formal disciplinary action by EC.