



# SECTION C: DRIVING AND PARA-DRIVING AMENDMENT SUMMARY EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2026

## NOTE:

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

## PART ONE – GENERAL REGULATIONS

### CHAPTER 2 - CONDUCT AND CRUELTY

#### ARTICLE C103 CONDUCT

[...]

6. ~~See Section A: ARTICLE A516 EC WARNING CARD Any member of the Jury or the Technical Delegate can file a charge or present a Warning Card to any individual who displays inappropriate behavior, improper conduct, unsafe practices or non-compliance with the rules of Equestrian Canada.~~

[...]

## PART NINE - RULES FOR COMBINED DRIVING COMPETITIONS

### CHAPTER 3 CLASSIFICATION

#### ARTICLE C911 PRINCIPLES

[...]

##### 911.2 ~~Yellow-EC~~ Warning Card

~~See Section A: ARTICLE A516 EC WARNING CARD.~~

~~Where there is abuse of Horses in any form or incorrect behavior towards Event Officials or any other party connected with the Event, non-compliance with Driving Rules during the On-Site Preparation Period and Period of Jurisdiction, the President of the Ground Jury, the President of the Appeal Committee and the FEI Chief Steward, as an alternative to instituting the procedures foreseen in the legal system, may deliver to the Person Responsible a Yellow Warning Card.~~

[...]

### CHAPTER 4 – ELIGIBILITY (AGE OF ATHLETES – STARTING POSSIBILITIES)

#### ARTICLE C915 HORS CONCOURS

No Athlete may take part “Hors Concours” in any International Competition.

At **EC-recognized** events, a competitor may enter as HC at the discretion of the organizer subject to scheduling limitations. ~~An HC, when driven as a second entry, must be driven after the competing entry. An HC, when driven in the same or higher division must be driven after the competing entry.~~

### CHAPTER 5 – ATHLETES

#### ARTICLE C928 DRESS, SAFETY AND WHIPS

All persons must wear securely fastened, approved\* protective headgear whenever riding a horse or aboard a carriage at the event location (\* see Glossary, Section A – Headgear Standards). The responsibility for compliance rests with each person on the vehicle. Failure to comply results in elimination of the entry, and the competitor will not be allowed to continue in the event. A Junior (under the age of 18) must wear securely fastened approved protective headgear and a body protector whenever aboard a carriage at the event location.

Medical armbands are strongly recommended for all persons whenever riding a horse or aboard a carriage at the event location.



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## CHAPTER 7 – CARRIAGES AND HARNESS

### ARTICLE C938 EQUIPMENT

[...]

3. In all **EC-recognized** competitions, Athletes may carry whatever spares they require. ~~For Training and Preliminary division classes, the following spares shall be carried on the vehicle throughout the event:~~

- ~~a) Spare trace or trace splice~~
- ~~b) Spare rein or rein splice~~
- ~~c) Leather punch~~
- ~~d) Halter and lead shank for each horse~~
- ~~e) For full collar harness: spare hames strap~~
- ~~f) For pairs: spare whippetree.~~
- ~~g) For teams: spare lead bar.~~

~~Penalty for any required item above not carried shall be 2 penalty points, to a maximum of 10 penalty points. Spares shall be checked during Presentation at the halt and prior to starting Marathon. Spares may also be checked at compulsory rest stops and at the end of the Marathon.~~

~~4. It is strongly recommended that the following additional items be carried on the vehicle at all times:~~

- ~~5. Wheel wrench to fit axle nut~~ ~~f) Length of rawhide, string or wire~~
- ~~6. Pliers~~ ~~g) Small hammer~~
- ~~7. Hoofpick~~ ~~h) Knife suitable to cut harness~~
- ~~8. Screwdriver~~ ~~i) First Aid kit~~
- ~~9. Whistle or other means to signal for help.~~
- ~~10.4. Athletes shall not be penalized for or for not carrying additional items~~

### ARTICLE C939 TIRES

Tires – At EC-sanctioned competitions, pneumatic tires may be used in Training, Preliminary, ~~and Intermediate~~ and Hybrid divisions, provided that the wheel on which they are mounted is engineered for use on a carriage. Tire tread is optional. The use of wire spoke wheels is limited to use in the Training division at the discretion of the Organizing Committee and approved as safe by the event TD and ground jury.

## CHAPTER 8 – CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATION

### ARTICLE C945 OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE

[...]

#### Prohibited outside assistance

*At EC-recognized events, no person, either on or off a competing carriage entry may give verbal or physical directions to an Athlete with the exception of the person on the carriage during Marathon and cones competitions. Athletes receiving verbal or physical assistance except for permitted outside assistance as listed in Article C945.3 shall be eliminated at the sole discretion of the Ground Jury.*

[...]

## CHAPTER 13 – CONES

### ARTICLE C975 JUDGING CONES COMPETITION

[...]

2.7 Grooms must be seated in their proper places between the start and finish lines. ~~They are not allowed to indicate the course or to speak unless they are dismounted.~~ For penalties, see C981.

*In EC-recognized competitions, if carriage does not have a safe groom seat, judge may grant permission for groom(s) to stand with no penalty.*

[...]