

## **Article 800 – General**

### **Codex**

#### **For Athletes and Registered Trainers Competing in FEI Endurance Events**

1. This Codex recognises two distinct roles associated with the preparation and participation of Horses in FEI Endurance Competitions: Athlete and Trainer.
2. For the purpose of this Codex, the "Athlete" is defined as the rider of the Horse in the Competition.
3. For the purpose of this Codex, the "Trainer" is defined as the person who is in charge of the preparation of the horse both physically and mentally for competition.
4. Prior to the Event, the Trainer is responsible for the conditioning of the Horse for the Competition which involves the exercise programme, nutrition of the Horse, seeking appropriate veterinary care and the administration of therapeutic substances under veterinary advice.
5. In many circumstances, the Athlete, will be the rider and the Trainer of the Horse.
6. To be successful, both the Athlete and the Trainer must have knowledge of pace and the efficient and safe use of the Horse across country and must be continually aware of both human and equine safety.
7. The Athlete and Trainer must not enter a Horse for competition or compete a Horse that is suffering from an illness, injury or is receiving medication that would adversely affect or enhance the Horses' ability to compete.
8. The FEI requires all those involved in international equestrian sport to adhere to the FEI Code of Conduct for the Welfare of the Horse and to acknowledge and accept that at all times the welfare of the Horse must be paramount. Welfare of the Horse must never be subordinated to competitive or commercial influences.
9. The Athlete and the Trainer must have knowledge of the FEI Endurance Rules, the FEI Veterinary Regulations and FEI Equine Anti-Doping, Human Anti-Doping and Controlled Medication Regulations in addition to an awareness of the General Regulations. They must ensure that they are aware of any annual changes, regularly reviewing the FEI Endurance Rules, Veterinary Regulations and support a Clean Sport.
10. The Athlete and Trainer must abide by these rules and regulations in the preparation for and during Competition.
11. The FEI has the right to undertake disciplinary actions against an

Athlete or Trainer who does not follow this Codex and FEI Rules and Regulations, to the detriment of the welfare of the Horse and the integrity of the sport.

12. When Endurance Horses are registered with the FEI, the name of the Trainer for that Horse must also be registered and a registration fee paid. Where the FEI Registered Trainer is also a registered Athlete then no additional registration fee is charged. Any change of Trainer for an FEI registered Horse must be notified to the FEI and the Trainer Registration updated accordingly.

800.1.1 Endurance Riding is a Competition to test the Athlete's ability to safely manage the stamina and fitness of the Horse over an endurance course in a Competition against the track, the distance, the climate, the terrain and the clock.

800.1.2 The most important responsibility of the Technical Delegate (TD), Ground Jury, Stewards, Veterinary Commission, Chef d'Equipe, Team Veterinarian, Trainer and Grooms and **ultimately the absolute responsibility** of the Athlete, is to ensure the health and welfare of the Horse by diligent application of their skill together with a caring, knowledgeable attitude by the Athlete.

800.1.3 To be successful, the ~~competitor~~ Athlete must have knowledge of pace and the efficient and safe use of the Horse across country.

800.1.4 In an Endurance ~~Ride-Competition~~ any member of the Genus Equus counts as a "Horse".

800.2.3 Distances of 80km to 119km must have at least two Vet Gates plus the final inspection (three phases).

Distances of 120 km to 139km must have at least three Vet Gates plus the final inspection (four phases).

Distances of 140 km to 160 km ~~must~~ **should** have at least five Vet Gates plus the final inspection. (6 phases) ~~(There may be is a possibility to reduce this to 5 phases subject to the recommendation of the Technical Delegate and the approval of the President of the Veterinary Commission).~~

800.4 ~~An Endurance Ride is a competition against the clock.~~ The combination that finishes the course in the shortest time will be classified as the winner of the Competition after successfully completing all final Veterinary Inspections and medication control as well as other protocols in place for the safety of the Horse and Athlete under these Rules, the FEI General Regulations and/or the FEI Veterinary Regulations **or any other FEI Rules and Regulations**. Competitions shall be organised to allow Athletes to establish their own pace to compete against the clock, subject to:

800.4.1 Adverse Conditions: Should adverse conditions on course or other considerations **such as high humidity, high temperatures** arise which might compromise the opportunity to safely complete a course, the Organising Committee (OC) in consultation with the TD may establish a maximum time for a section of the course or a phase of Competition and/or the closing times for one or more Vet Gates, in order to ensure Athletes are not falling too far behind the actual pace of the ride and to ensure Horse safety.

- 801.4.1 The course ~~should~~ must not contain more than 10% of hard surface public access roads intended for vehicular use.
- 801.4.2 Under the absolute control of the Course Designer or TD loops of the course must not be specially designed and constructed for speeds likely to subject the Horses to increased risk of injury during Competition.
- 801.8.2 The maximum number of grooms allowed within the Vet Gates will be 5 per Horse to take into account availability of space and to ensure that the Horse is allowed sufficient space to rest. Access to the Vet Gates and the Vet Gates examination area may be further restricted by the OC under advice from the TD. Such restrictions must be clearly shown in the FEI approved schedule. The right of the groom to access the Vet Gates is lost upon removal of the applicable Horse from the Competition.
- 801.8.3 All Horses must remain at all times be capable of being clearly observed by FEI Veterinary Officials, Ground Jury and Stewards. No screens, no equipment or barrier of any kind may be used to prevent such observation under penalty of disqualification and a Yellow Card Warning.
- 807.7** Forbidden Assistance: The types of activities set out below at Articles 807.7.1 to 807.7.8 (inclusive) are forbidden and the Athlete and/or the Registered Trainer is subject to the sanction applicable to each activity, as listed beside each activity.
- 807.7.1 Being followed, preceded or accompanied on any part of the course by any bicycle, pedestrian or an Athlete not in the Competition under penalty of a Yellow Warning Card.
- 807.7.2 Providing aid on any part of the course not specifically designated for such aid under penalty of a Yellow Warning Card.
- 807.7.3 Accepting aid on any part of the course by someone not authorised to provide it under penalty of a Yellow Warning Card.
- 807.7.4 Being followed, preceded or accompanied on any part of the course or immediate adjacent access track as defined (see notes for guidance) by any vehicle (notwithstanding art. 807.6.1) under penalty of a Yellow Warning Card.
- 807.7.5 A third party encouraging a Horse to during the trot in a Vet Gate under penalty of a Yellow Warning Card.
- 807.7.6 Someone on course encouraging the Horse by any means whatsoever under penalty of a Yellow Warning Card and disqualification.
- 807.7.7 Cutting wire fences, or altering a part of an enclosure on or within the course so as to clear a way or to cut down trees or eliminate challenges or alter technical aspects of the course under penalty of a Yellow Warning Card.
- 807.7.8 Accepting any intervention by a third party, whether solicited or not, with the object of giving advantage to the Athlete or the Horse under penalty of a Yellow Warning Card and disqualification.
- ~~807.7.9 Conflict of Interest: Officials who may have a real or perceived Conflict of Interest should notify the OC at the time of appointment or as soon as a conflict of interest arises prior to the competition. If the declared conflict of interest, in the opinion of the President of Jury, impairs or appears to impair the integrity of the judging of the competition, the official will have to stand down. Conflicts of Interest should be declared at the pre-ride briefing of officials and athletes.~~

**813.5** All Horses removed from **active** Competition, voluntarily or otherwise and at any point within the Event, must be ~~have been~~ presented for veterinary inspection **either by the FEI Veterinary Commission or the FEI Treatment Veterinary Panel** within 30 minutes of removal **unless FEI Veterinary permission is granted for the Horse's immediate transfer from the field of play to a pre authorised treatment facility.** ~~If removal occurs on course the horse must be inspected by a member of the veterinarian panel as soon as it is returned to the ride base~~ and the Horse's veterinary records updated accordingly. Failure to comply will result in the issuing of a Yellow Warning Card to the Athlete or Registered Trainer and the imposition of a mandatory rest period for the Horse of sixty days.

**815.1** Mandatory Rest for Horses:

815.3.1 After competing in a CEI Event, a Horse must be given a mandatory minimum rest period, as defined, before it is again eligible to participate in a National or FEI Competition (Rest Period commences at Midnight on the day that the ride finishes as denoted by the maximum ride time allowed and finishes at Midnight, the day before the published ride start time):

Distance completed	start – 40 km	5 days (retirement only)
	start – 80 km	12 days
	Over 80 – 120 km	19 days
	Over 120 km - 140 km	26 days
	Over 140 Km	33 days

815.3.3 **If a Horse has Failed to Qualify for lameness reasons at any CEI or National events it must be given, in addition to the rest period defined under art. 815.3.1, an additional mandatory rest period, of 14 days before it is again eligible to participate in a CEI or National Event.**

If a Horse has Failed to Qualify for metabolic reasons which require immediate invasive treatment at any CEI **or National** Events it must be given a mandatory rest period of 60 days before it is again eligible to participate in a CEI **or National** Event.

815.3.4 **If a Horse has Failed to Qualify for lameness reasons at any 2 consecutive CEI or National Events it must be given, in addition to the rest period defined under art. 815.3.1, a additional mandatory rest period of 21 days before it is again eligible to participate in a CEI or National Event.**

If a Horse has Failed to Qualify for metabolic reasons which require immediate invasive treatment at any 2 consecutive CEI **or National** Events or twice within any 3 month period, it must be given a mandatory rest period of 90 days before it is again eligible to participate in a CEI **or National** Event.

815.3.5 If a Horse has Failed to Qualify for lameness reasons at any 3 consecutive CEI or National Events it must be given a mandatory rest period of 90 days before it is again eligible to participate in a CEI or National Event.

815.3.6 Athlete Penalty Points will be awarded to each Athlete should their Horse be eliminated at an FEI Event due to metabolic reasons and/or Catastrophic Injuries. Penalty points are accumulated from the first penalty rolling forward for a period of 12 months. Thereafter on the first anniversary of each point penalty such penalty is dropped from the running total.

100 penalty points will result in an automatic two month suspension period. After such suspension the points total is reduced to zero.

- Each metabolic elimination results in 10 penalty points.
- If a Horse is eliminated for a metabolic reason that requires immediate invasive treatment the Athlete concerned will receive 25 penalty points.
- If a Horse suffers a Catastrophic Injury during an FEI Competition the Athlete concerned will receive 50 penalty points.

815.3.7 If a Horse ridden by an Athlete suffers a Catastrophic Injury within 12 months of a Catastrophic Injury occurring to any previous Horse ridden by that same Athlete that Athlete, will be automatically suspended for six months.

Catastrophic injury is defined as an injury which, in the opinion of the Veterinary Commission, requires immediate euthanasia or contributes to the death of a Horse in Competition howsoever caused.

## **Article 816 - QUALIFICATION PROCEDURE & CERTIFICATES OF CAPABILITY (Please refer to Endurance Notes for Guidance for Transitional Arrangements)**

**816.1** Novice Qualifying: To be administered by each NF.

816.1.1 Horses and Athletes must, though not necessarily as a combination:

816.1.1.1 Successfully complete 2 rides of distances between 40-79 km and 2 rides of between 80-90 km at speeds of 16 kph or under.

816.1.2 ~~Athletes and~~ Horses must complete the requirements of this qualifying phase all within the 24 month period and no shorter than 12 months, immediately prior to taking part in an FEI competition.

816.1.3 ~~Athletes must complete the requirements of this qualifying phase all within the 24 month period and no shorter than 6 months, immediately prior to taking part in an FEI competition.~~

816.2.3 Star System Qualification for Athletes to 3\* level will be for ~~life up to five years and can be revalidated by successfully completing an FEI Competition applicable to the Athlete's existing status or equivalent Nationalevent distance.~~

## **817.4 Teams and Individuals**

817.4.1 Teams: If an NF starts three or more combinations, all results are available to establish their Team result and are also eligible for individual classification and placing/awards. Only the highest placed three members shall count ~~as for~~ the Team ~~for~~ classification. ~~and to~~ However other Athletes from that same Team who successfully complete the Competition will also receive a Team medal.

## **819.3 Substitutions:**

819.3.3 An Athlete or a Horse, either or both, can only be replaced by another Athlete or Horse or by Athlete/Horse combination taken from those who have been duly entered and ~~have~~ where such horse has successfully passed the First Horse Inspection.

## **821.2 Horse Inspections:**

821.2.1 Inspections Generally: There are no differences between the Veterinarians' responsibilities to evaluate a Horse at all inspections. The same standards apply to judging fitness to continue both metabolically, heart rate and in terms of gait evaluation.

### **821.2.2 Heart Rate Assessment Protocol**

All heart rate assessments must be undertaken by a member of the FEI Veterinary Commission.

#### **Stethoscope:**

1. Heart rate is the first parameter to be examined and recorded during the inspection. It is an essential criterion to accurately assess the horse's recovery and fitness to continue.
2. Every effort should be taken to accurately record the heart rate. If the examination of the heart rate is disrupted due to movement or excitement of the Horse rendering the examination impossible or inaccurate, the examination is stopped and recommenced when the Horse is settled.
3. The maximum heart rate for passing the inspection is 64 bpm or as prescribed in the schedule.
4. When the Horse is presented for inspection, the stethoscope is applied to the left side of the chest wall at approximately the level of the elbow.
5. The examiner should locate the best position to auscultate the heart i.e., where the heart sounds are clearly audible.
6. A stop watch must be used to time the count.
7. The stop watch is started when the heart beat is audible and the count starts on the next heart beat. The stop watch can be stopped at 15 seconds if the count is 16 or less, at 30 seconds if the count is 32 or less. In both cases the heart rate can be recorded at 64 bpm or less. The Inspection can then be completed.

8. If the heart rate is above 16 beats or 32 beats at 15 or 30 seconds respectively or if the heart beat is irregular, difficult to hear or demonstrates murmurs, the count must be continued for the full minute. The Horse may be re-inspected or fail to qualify for the next phase.
9. Cardiac Recovery Index is recorded at each inspection and involves the examination and recording of the heart rate at the start of the inspection and one minute later after the horse has completed the 40 meter trot out and back for gait assessment. The initial heart rate recording may be by the use of a stethoscope (as described above) or with an Approved Electronic Heart Rate System.
10. The second heart rate recording of the CRI must be with a stethoscope. At this examination the heart rate is recorded for one minute and the cardiac cycle is examined for any pathological signs that may indicate that the horse is unfit to continue. The CRI is the numerical difference between the first and second heart rates recorded and forms part of the metabolic examination.

**FEI Approved Electronic Heart Rate Monitoring Systems:**

1. Heart rate is the first parameter to be examined and recorded during the inspection. It is an essential criterion to accurately assess the horse's recovery and fitness to continue
2. Every effort should be taken to accurately record the heart rate. If the examination of the heart rate is disrupted due to movement or excitement of the horse rendering the examination impossible or inaccurate, the examination is stopped and recommenced when the horse is settled.
3. The maximum heart rate for passing the inspection will be 64 bpm or as prescribed in the schedule.
4. When the horse is presented for inspection, the electronic HR reader is applied to the left side of the chest wall at approximately the level of the elbow.
5. The examiner should locate the best position to record the heart rate.
6. The reader is started and the assessment commences. The system must provide an assessment at 15 seconds, at 30 seconds, at 45 seconds and at 60 seconds. At each assessment should the heart rate be shown to be 64 bpm or less as defined in the Schedule then the assessment can stop and the reading recorded.

Under Articles 821.4.1 and 821.2.8 such confirmation of high heart rate must follow the above protocol and the second assessment, to be taken immediately, will be taken and the horse will be confirmed as a fail if the heart rate fails to meet the criteria.

**VETERINARY TREATMENT DURING COMPETITION**

Veterinary treatment may not be administered to a Horse during the Competition

without the written approval of the Veterinary Commission. Authorised treatment does not affect classification of the horse. (see FEI Veterinary Regulations)

- FEI Veterinary Regulations (in accordance with all subsequent published revisions, the provisions of which will take precedence).

## **CHAPTER V EQUINE TREATMENT & SUPPORTIVE THERAPIES DURING FEI EVENTS**

### **Article 1046**

#### **Treatment with Controlled Medication Substances**

1. Controlled Medication Substances, as listed on the FEI Equine Prohibited Substances List (EPSL), which are administered to horses during or close to an event may result in an Adverse Analytical Finding in accordance with the EADCMRs.

2. During events, the administration of treatments and supportive therapies must be authorised by the VC/VD before administration, using the appropriate Veterinary Form.

3. The use of Banned Substances is always strictly prohibited.

4. The treatment or supportive therapy, if authorised, may only be administered by an FEI Veterinarian with the exception of those substances administered orally or by nebulisation.

In emergency situations where the Horse's welfare is at risk, emergency therapeutic treatments may be administered. Following such administration, a Veterinary Form 1 must be presented for retrospective authorisation and for determination, where appropriate, of whether the Horse can continue competing at the Event. The Veterinary Form 1 must under all circumstances be completed before leaving the Event venue and before the Period of the Event has expired.

5. The use of a Controlled Medication Substance may only be authorised for treatment during an Event in exceptional circumstances, in accordance with these VRs, the EADCMRs and the GRs.

6. No intra-articular administration of any medication is allowed during FEI events.

7. Treatments administered before an FEI event (e.g. during transport) may be retro-actively authorised, using the appropriate Veterinary Form (in accordance with these VRs), by the VC/VD, when appropriate, on arrival at the event. Retrospective authorisation will not be automatically granted and will be at the discretion of the VD and the GJ.

8. In accordance with the Code of Conduct for the Welfare of the Horse, the VC/VD must always verify prior to signing the Veterinary Form whether the medication requested, or previously administered, may affect:

- a) the Horse's fitness to compete;
- b) the fairness of the Competition; and/or
- c) the welfare of the Horse and/ or Athlete.

### **Article 824 - DUTIES OF OFFICIALS**



The FEI will appoint the President of Ground Jury, the Foreign Judge, the President of the Veterinary Commission and Foreign Veterinary Delegate at all 3\* Events and all CEIO Competitions. For CEI 1\*, 2\*, in special circumstances, the FEI has the right to consult with OCs, in a timely manner, to ask for a different balance of experience and expertise within the team of Officials proposed in the Schedule of the Competition the Event.

At all CEI 1\*, 2\* and 3\* Events, the FEI may grant a dispensation in accordance with the FEI General Regulations Art.149.10 subject to a request being received from the National Federation concerned and in compliance with the conditions as detailed in the FEI Endurance Notes for Guidance.

### **CODEX for FEI Endurance Officials**

1. The FEI Endurance Official is a recognised authority on Endurance, who must have knowledge of the principles of Endurance of the FEI-Rules and, based on his star rating is qualified to judge the appropriately rated FEI International Endurance Competitions. He is always representing the FEI.
2. An FEI Endurance Official must avoid any actual or perceived conflict of interest. An Endurance Official must have a neutral, independent and fair position towards Athletes, owners, Trainers, organisers and other Officials and integrate well into a team. Financial and/or personal interest must never influence or be perceived to influence his way of judging.

Activities which will lead to or may lead to a "conflict of interest" when officiating at a CEI, include but are not limited to:

- Acting as Team chef of National teams at international level or being responsible/co-responsible for selecting teams and/or individuals or training Athletes within the NF.
- To be owner/part-owner of Horses taking part in the event.
- Being in a situation of financial dependence or gaining financial profit from owners, Athletes, trainers, organisers or other related organisations.
- Having a close personal relationship with an Athlete.
- Nationalistic judging.

In addition to the notification requirements set out at point 7 below, an Endurance Official is responsible for notifying the Organiser of any of the above or other possible conflicts of interest or situations that may be perceived as such.

3. During an Endurance Event an Endurance Official must be punctual and professional in the way of behaviour and duties.
4. An Endurance Official has to be well prepared for the Event he is judging and has to cooperate well with the organiser and his colleagues.
5. An Endurance Official must be dressed appropriately and must always be mindful that he is representing the FEI.

6. The FEI has the right to undertake disciplinary actions against Endurance Officials who do not follow the Codex and FEI rules. Such disciplinary actions may consist of: 1) Warning letter; 2) Temporary or Provisional suspension and 3) Temporary/Permanent removal from the FEI Endurance Officials list.
7. Conflict of Interest: Endurance Officials who may have a real or perceived Conflict of Interest should notify the Organiser at the time of appointment or as soon as a conflict of interest arises prior to the competition. If the declared conflict of interest, in the opinion of the President of Jury, impairs or appears to impair the integrity of the judging of the competition, the Endurance Official will have to stand down. Conflicts of Interest should be declared at the pre-ride briefing of officials and Athletes.
8. Conflict of Interest: Employees of Equestrian Federations, Sponsors and Organising Committees cannot act as an FEI Endurance Official at FEI events organised through that Federation or under that Sponsor or Organising Committee.

#### **Endurance Official's Per Diems:**

Daily per Diems are not mandatory in FEI Endurance Events. However, for Non Veterinary Officials, per Diems (if any) cannot exceed a maximum per day of CHF 500 (or equivalent local economic value)

- Level of daily per diem (if any) must be confirmed in writing by the Organiser to the Officials in advance of their acceptance of their appointment.
- Information must be provided by the Organiser as to whether such per diem is subject to withholding tax or similar within the country of the event.
- The basis upon which travel to and from the venue will be arranged or reimbursed is agreed in advance between the Organiser and the Endurance Official.
- The provision of accommodation and meals is also provided to the Endurance Official in advance of travel.
- Payment of per diems and reimbursement of agreed expenses will only be made after the event is completed and all results have been signed off by the President of the Ground Jury.
- No other gifts or other fees can be provided in addition to the above.
- Any of the above shall not be made by any Sponsor directly to Endurance Officials, but only by the Organiser.

#### **824.6 Independent Governance Advisors (IGAs)**

824.6.1 At all FEI Endurance Events the FEI has the right to appoint an Independent Governance Advisor to attend the Event and to report back to the FEI in relation to the organisation of the Competitions, the venue and the course, the performance of the Endurance Officials and the suggested areas for improvement.

824.6.2 The FEI will meet the costs of the IGAs to attend such chosen Events other than accommodation costs to be met by the Organising Committee and the IGAs are at no time acting Officials at the Event but are available to provide expert guidance or assistance if so required.

824.6.3 IGAs are appointed biannually by the FEI (see notes for guidance). The FEI will appoint the Veterinary IGAs and Non Veterinary IGAs. During the period of acting as an IGA that person cannot accept any other FEI officiating positions.

## **825 - OFFICIALS REQUIRED FOR INTERNATIONAL ENDURANCE EVENTS**

Where a Foreign FEI Official is required in accordance with Art. 825, such Foreign Official cannot be resident in the same country of the relevant event unless that person is resident in a different time zone than the time zone of the event location.

### **825.4 CEI 1 & 2 Star Endurance Events**

825.4.12 An Appeal Committee is not required.

~~For CEI 1\*, 2\*, CEI 3\* and CEIO competitions, in special circumstances, the FEI has the right to consult with OCs, in a timely manner, to ask for a different balance of experience and expertise within the team of Officials proposed in the schedule of the competition.~~

~~At all CEI 1\*, 2\* and 3\* Events, the FEI may grant dispensation to General Regulations Art.149.10 subject to a request being received from the National Federation concerned and compliance with the conditions as detailed in the FEI Endurance Notes for Guidance.~~

~~Where a Foreign FEI Official is required within the terms of Art. 825, such Foreign Official cannot be resident in the same country or time zone in which the event is taking place.~~