



Rule Book



RULES GOVERNING THE CONDUCT OF BIEL COMPETITIONS: REQUIREMENTS, PROCEDURES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Bahamas Interscholastic Equestrian League was established to provide competitive and educational opportunities through equestrian athletics. Good horsemanship and honorable participation are priorities at every event. It is the responsibility of all attendees to foster a spirit of belongingness, an atmosphere of community enjoyment, and a mutual respect for all participants and their equine partners.

BIEL is proud to partner with the Interscholastic Equestrian League, and to be recognized as Region 13 of IEA Zone 4. BIEL shares the IEA mission of introducing students in middle and secondary schools to equestrian sports and to developing understanding and appreciation of equestrian sports through organized competitions and educational opportunities.

BIEL Rules and Regulations shall govern all classes held at all BIEL shows. If a topic is not covered by these Rules and Regulations, then first the rules and regulations of Equestrian Bahamas and if not resolved then the rules of the IEA (Interscholastic Equestrian Association (for the Hunt Seat discipline) may be used as a reference for guidance in making an equitable decision under the circumstances, including but not limited to procedural questions.

1) Eligibility

To be eligible to compete in the BIEL, a rider must be:

- A citizen or resident of The Commonwealth of the Bahamas
- Enrolled in school (including a home school) in The Commonwealth of the Bahamas
- No more than 18 years old
- A financial (paid) junior member of Equestrian Bahamas, and
- Taking at least one riding lesson per week with an Equestrian-Bahamas recognized instructor.
- Eligible to compete in scheduled classes, according to specifications/restrictions found in Appendices I and II.

In addition to the above, in order to participate in IEA Zone 4 Region 13 competitions and to qualify for IEA points a rider must be a member of the Interscholastic Equestrian Association according to IEA Rule 2000: Membership and be governed by all sub-clauses therein.

2) Individual Rider and Team eligibility

- a) While individual rider members do not need to own or provide a horse to compete, all participating teams must have access to appropriate horses for instruction as well as to fulfill hosting duties as described in Rule 3.
- b) A Team must be :
 - Comprised of not less than three riders of the same team type (e.g. three Upper School Hunt Seat riders, or three Middle School Hunt Seat riders)
 - Coached by an EB-recognized equestrian coach who is an IEA-affiliated Coach Member. This coach is responsible for:
 - Selecting/approving members of the team to ride
 - Entering team riders in the appropriate classes by submitting their names on the approved BIEL /IEA show entry form(s)
 - Instructing/coaching team riders on show day
- c) A Team must participate fully in the activities of the BIEL including participation in individual and/or team competitions in at least two BIEL-sanctioned shows per school year and must subscribe to the Rules and Regulations of BIEL.

- d) Teams and Individuals who are not IEA members may participate in BIEL shows. However results and points accrued by non-IEA members will count toward final BIEL team standings only. No Individual points will be accrued by non-IEA members.
- e) Teams and Individuals wishing to compete as IEA member teams must meet all qualifications as set out in IEA Rule 2300.
- f) Under the provisions of IEA Rule 2304.10 an Individual may switch teams by filing a Change of Team Form and new membership form with the IEA Membership Secretary. Once a team change request has been filed and processed all stipulations under that provision apply.

3) Hosting and Co-hosting

- a. The Host facility is considered to be the facility at which the competition takes place. Up to two co-host teams may assist as necessary.
- b. Co-hosting is defined as the provision of horseflesh and equipment, and the division of cost, reward, labor and services among not more than three teams, as determined by governing board of the Bahamas Interscholastic Equestrian League (BIEL)
- c. The Host facility will be responsible for providing suitable facilities for stabling of horses, practice areas, riding of classes, warm up and cool down of horses, as well as storage and maintenance of tack and equipment.
- d. It is the responsibility of the host facility along with any co-hosts to ensure that suitable horses and equipment are provided for all entries. 'Equipment' includes all tack for each horse, including but not limited to: halter, lead rope, stable sheet, bridle, bit(s), reins, martingale, saddle, girth, saddle pad(s), boots, polo wraps and standing wraps. 'Equipment' shall also refer to all grooming and horse and tack cleaning supplies.
- e. Facilities hosting or co-hosting IEA-affiliated competitions are required to comply with all hosting and co-hosting requirements as per IEA Rule 2302: Hosting Obligation

4) Programs

- a. Printed show programs are required and should be distributed to each coach on the day of the show. An official copy must be present at the collecting ring for the use of the show steward, and one reserved for filing with the BIEL records. However, it is not mandatory that additional copies be available for sale or distribution. These programs can be printed on 8 1/2 x 11 paper stock and should contain a statement of prizes offered for each class, the classes listed in order, the tentative time schedule of classes, and the names of show steward(s) and other officials. If available, a program insert sheet can include an alphabetical list of exhibitors by team with their numbers and class sections entered, with a numerical list of exhibitors in each class.

5) Officials, Judges and Stewards

The term "show official" shall include and refer to all persons directly engaged by the show, including the Show Manager, the Show Secretary, Steward(s), and Judge.

In order for a show to be recognized as an IEA-affiliated show:

- all Judge and Show Steward qualifications must comply with IEA Rules and Regulations.
- All coaches must be IEA members in good standing
- Event Host Coordinators (EHCs) must comply with the requirement and responsibilities as laid out in [IEA Rule 4204: Event Host Coordinator Requirements and Responsibilities] in addition to the requirements of the Bahamas Interscholastic Equestrian League as outlined below.

a. Region President

The BIEL Standing Committee shall also include a Region President for Region 13 of Zone 4 of the IEA. The Region President shall be elected every two years. All roles and responsibilities of the Region President shall be as laid out in IEA Rule 2804: Region Presidents.

b. Show Manager

The coach of the host team is ultimately responsible for running a safe and quality competition that complies with all BIEL Rules and Regulations. In the event that the coach is unable to serve as show manager, the host facility has the right to designate a show manager, who will become the primary decision maker for that show. The designated show manager must be a member of Equestrian Bahamas, and shall be present during competition. The Show Manager is responsible for:

1. Applying for the show date.
2. Hiring the judges, officials and staff necessary for the operation of the show.
3. Appointing and identifying in the program the show stewards who shall be present throughout the show.
4. Providing qualified medical personnel on grounds for all scheduled performances. Qualified medical personnel shall be defined as a currently certified or licensed EMT or Paramedic, or a Physician or nurse trained in pre-hospital trauma care and currently certified or licensed in their profession. The medical personnel who will be on the grounds during the competition must be listed in the prize list.
5. Reporting to show stewards in writing, any act on the part of any person deemed prejudicial to the best interests of the BIEL.
6. Furnishing the judges in each class a scorecard containing exact specifications as shown in the prize list or as amended if in conflict with the rules.

c. Show Secretary

In situations when the host coach does not serve as show secretary, the host facility should designate a show secretary. The role of the show secretary is to manage and record show entries and results. The designated show secretary must be a member of Equestrian Bahamas, and must be present during competition. The Show Secretary is responsible for:

1. Distributing the prize lists.
2. Processing the entries.
3. Marking the official programs with special regard to scratches, substitutions, additions and other corrections including horse assignments and any changes or alternates to the original draw.
4. Checking class sheets against actual riders and numbers.
5. Providing one (1) copy of the program that contains all changes, corrections, scores, scratches, substitutions and official results to BIEL.
6. Verifying that the correct fees have been collected and remitted to BIEL in a timely manner. BIEL may suspend a Team until the rider membership fees are paid, and no individual or team points won by the host team, and/or those riders who have not paid, shall be counted in determining eligibility for the National Competition unless and until the show fees are paid to and received by BIEL.
7. Recording all matters in connection with substitutions.
8. Ensuring that no entry shall compete until the designated Team coach has signed the entry blank.
9. Remitting any and all dues collected during the show to the Equestrian Bahamas Treasurer within fourteen (14) days of the show.
10. Remitting both individual rider and team points and results to the Equestrian Bahamas Horse Show Committee within fourteen (14) days of the show.

d. Judge

i) Judge Qualifications

1. To officiate at a regular season BIEL show, a Hunt Seat judge must be licensed in the division he/she is to judge as follows: USEF registered “r” or recorded “R” in Hunt Seat Equitation.
2. A judge not qualified as stated may be used only with prior written consent from all coaches of teams participating in that region and with pre-approval from the IEA. Unless they are on the BIEL pre-approved list, a non-licensed judge must be approved every time she/he is to be hired.
3. A pre-approved list of non-licensed judges may be established; however such judges should be used only: 1) if no USEF ‘r’ or ‘R’ judge is available; 2) in the event of an emergency substitution due to travel disruption of licensed judge, etc.
4. Non-licensed judges may not be used to judge the National Championship Final.
5. A non-licensed judge may only be hired if unanimous written consent is obtained from all coaches of teams participating in that show.
6. A person may judge only one BIEL show within the same competition season, whether during the regular season or National Championship Finals.
7. A judge may not officiate if he/she has had a professional relationship as defined by the USEF, AQHA or NRHA rules, including clinics with any exhibitor or Member Team, within sixty (60) days prior to the show.
8. No BIEL individual member may show before a judge with whom he/she has had a professional relationship as defined by the USEF, AQHA or NRHA rules, including clinics, within sixty (60) days prior to the show.
9. Judges are to be listed in the prize list and submitted to Equestrian Bahamas show subcommittee for approval.

ii) Responsibilities of a Judge

1. Good judging depends upon a correct observance of the fine points and the selection of the best rider under the conditions of the class. A judge serves three interests: her/his own conscience, exhibitors and spectators. She/he should make clear to the audience that the best rider wins. The attention of the judges is directed to the difference in requirements between USEF equitation classes and BIEL equitation classes. A judge is obligated to adjudicate each class in conformity with the rules and specifications of that class as they appear in the EB/BIEL Rule Book.
2. The decision of each judge constitutes solely her/his individual preference and not a verdict by BIEL.
3. A judge must order from the ring any unruly horse or one whose actions threaten to endanger other exhibitors.
4. A judge should inspect courses of fences after they have been set.

e. Show Steward

i) Steward Qualifications

A BIEL Steward must be twenty-one (21) years of age, an EB member in good standing, and must have read and fully understood the Rules and Regulations of BIEL, Equestrian Bahamas and USEF.

If the Show is an IEA Show the Show Steward must be pre-approved by the IEA.

A BIEL Show Steward should hold any one of the following qualifications:

1. Licensed USEF steward for Hunter/Jumper disciplines; or
2. Current EB or BIEL Board Member or employee; or

3. BIEL Member coach, in good standing, who has neither a team, nor individual members of that team, otherwise participating in the competition.

ii) Pre-approved Steward List

A pre-approved list of show stewards not meeting criteria 1 - 3 may be established each year, but be approved annually by a majority of Equestrian Bahamas officers and active coaches in the BIEL. Once on the pre-approved list, the show steward may be used without soliciting written approval if the show is a non-IEA affiliated show. Consent from coaches of teams that join after the approval and publication of the pre-approved list is not required.

iii) Number of Show Stewards

A Regular BIEL Show must have at least one (1) qualified Show Steward as defined above. Whenever possible, the Show Steward should not be affiliated with the Event Host or host facility. If a ruling relates to a horse provided by a Show Steward, other Show Stewards or the Judge will cast the deciding vote.

IEA Regional Finals and BIEL National Finals shall have at least two (2) qualified Show Stewards.

iv) Duties of a Show Steward

Show Stewards serve to interpret the Rules and Regulations of BIEL and of the IEA. Stewards' duties include, but are not restricted to the following:

1. Protect the interests of exhibitors, judges and show management.
2. Supervise the schooling of horses.
3. Supervise the drawing of horses, or select a designated alternate to do so.
4. Determine the suitability of rider to horse (tall or small), rider to class, and horse to class level, using horse descriptions as a guide.
5. Investigate and act upon any alleged rule violations without waiting for a protest.
6. Report to the show committee any misrepresentation or substitution of entry without waiting for a protest.
7. Ascertain that all judges are recognized in the divisions to which assigned.
8. Post warm-up pattern for over fences classes.
9. Report to the show committee any violation of the Rules and proffer charges against the violator if not otherwise properly handled.
10. Permit re-rides, under specific conditions, as agreed upon by the show and stable management, or as allowed by these Rules.
11. Determine, under extenuating circumstances or extreme unfairness to one or more exhibitors, if a class should be rerun.
12. Stop a class in the event a horse or rider should be considered unsafe.
13. Prepare a Show Steward report, using the form provided, for submission to EB/BIEL show officials within seven (7) days of the competition.

6) Classification of Riders

Riders shall be classified in accordance with guidelines established by the Rules of the Bahamas Interscholastic Equestrian League.

Initial placement of Hunt Seat riders is made by the Team Coach and must be based upon the class descriptions. All initial placements in each discipline must be within the same class eligibility level. If a rider has progressed sufficiently in skills, the coach may also voluntarily move her/him to a higher class.

For the purposes of IEA competition team and individual points will be tracked. Points attained by riders in Under Saddle and Over Fences classes are tracked separately. Only team points will be tracked for standings in the Bahamas Interscholastic Equestrian League.

Competing in two different levels is permitted only when a rider points-out on the flat (Hunt Seat Under Saddle). In such a case the rider may advance in the Under Saddle class while remaining one level lower Over Fences.

Once a rider has competed in a division, the rider may not move to a lower level division unless directed to do so by the IEA National Steward. No rider who has competed successfully in at least two IEA sanctioned shows in a specific division will be permitted to ride in a lower level division, unless he/she provides proof of diminished riding ability.

To be eligible for post season finals in the individual or team classes, a rider must show in a minimum of two (2) BIEL/IEA shows during the regular season.

Riders may not compete in the same division for more than two (2) show seasons. After two seasons, a rider will be required to advance to the next higher division in order to compete in a BIEL/ IEA sanctioned event, show or competition and have those points count.

If a coach believes that a rider is not ready to advance after two years at the same level, the coach can file a petition with the National Office requesting a third year for the rider if all of the following criteria applies:

- Rider has not pointed out;
- Rider has not competed in a Region, Zone or National Final (Individual or Team class) at that level.
- The total sum of the rider's over fences or reining classes from year one and year two at that level equal twenty-one (21) points or less.
- Petitions not meeting the criteria above will be advanced to the Zone Ethics Committee for review. Valid reasons to petition could include setback due to accident or illness or consistently poor performance.

If a rider accumulates twenty-two (22) points in a class in regular season competitions in any single competition year, that rider points out and must, during the next competition year, move up at least one division in order to be eligible to ride in any BIEL/IEA show.

Any rider who has qualified or shown as an individual rider in a given class in their division for the previous season's National Finals must advance to the next class the following season. Riders selected to compete in team classes at the National Finals who do not meet any of the other advancement criteria are not required to advance to the next division the following season.

Riders who advance over fences through voluntary advancement, two-year participation, pointing-out, or qualifying for Nationals must also advance on the flat.

All middle school riders (Futures) graduating to upper school competition should be reevaluated as "initial placements" and assigned the appropriate class(es).

Once upper school riders reach the Varsity Open level, they will remain in this division until aging out or graduating from high school. Once middle school riders reach the Future Intermediate level, they will remain in this division through eighth grade and then be reevaluated for placement in ninth grade.

Team points will be posted on the Equestrian Bahamas website. Individual and Team points will be posted on the IEA website. Points become final after they have been posted for twenty-one (21) days barring a ruling by the ZEC or National Steward. Coaches are responsible for verifying points and must immediately notify the IEA Membership Office of any discrepancies.

If a coach questions their own rider's ability or the ability of a rider from another team, to compete safely, he/she should communicate that concern to the show steward.

If a rider's classification is called into question during a competition, that rider shall be allowed to compete at the level into which he/she is entered, pending review and investigation as per the following procedure.

When rider classification is called into question during a competition by an event host, coach, show steward, or judge, the Show Steward will review the rider's ability for proper placement and make a written recommendation in the Show Steward report, which is submitted to EB/BIEL show officials within seven (7) days of the competition.

The Show Steward's recommendation will be reviewed by the EB/BIEL show committee. If the rider is competing for IEA points, the Steward's recommendation shall be communicated to the IEA as per Rule 3207 of the IEA Rule Book. Only BIEL and the IEA shall have the authority to reclassify a rider competing at an incorrect level. All points and ribbons won at the incorrect level shall be forfeited, and points and ribbons reassigned as if that rider had not competed at that level.

7) Non-Protestable Decisions

The following decisions cannot be protested under any circumstances:

1. The soundness of a horse or the suitability of a rider or a horse, when determined by a Show Steward or by a Judge, is not a violation of the rules.
2. A judge's decision, representing his/her individual preference, is not a violation of the rules. If the rules of BIEL do not apply to a given situation, then first the rules and regulations of Equestrian Bahamas and if not resolved then the rules of USEF (for the Hunt Seat discipline) may be used as a reference for guidance in making an equitable decision under the circumstances, including but not limited to procedural questions.

8) Use of horses

No mount should be scheduled for use, or used, more than 6 - 8 times in any one day of BIEL competition. Variables are based upon characteristics of each horse, facility, courses, and judging.

Small ponies shall not be used in BIEL shows except in extreme need.

9) Competition Requirements and Responsibilities

When a BIEL Show is also being run as an IEA show the EHC shall run the show in adherence with the provisions of IEA Rule 4000: Regular Season Competitions: Requirements, Procedures and Responsibilities.

The following information must be posted for all coaches and riders in a timely manner:

1. Schooling pattern for over fences must be posted by 7 am along with the order of go for schooling.
2. Class lists displaying riders' names, along with classes/sections in which they are riding should be posted at 7 am
3. Horse list displaying horse names, descriptions, and eligibility per class/section should be posted at 7 am
4. Courses for over fences classes must be posted no earlier than 8 am, and not less than thirty (30) minutes before the class is to run. Warm-up patterns for in-ring warm-up should also be indicated.
5. A point chart showing the points accumulated by team should be posted for public view, and updated after each class is completed.

10) Team Lists

It is the responsibility of the team coach to submit a listing of all riders comprising each team, and the classes for which such riders will be entered, to the Host facility. These rider listings and class entries must be submitted on an official BIEL entry form, no later than 14 days before the show date.

Application for show recognition and approval by the IEA must be made by the Region President on behalf of the Show EHC in accordance with the provisions of IEA Rule 4000.

Teams not registered with the IEA are eligible for participation in BIEL shows. Points earned will count toward National Championships but not toward IEA Zone 4 Region 13 Finals.

Each team may enter no more than one (1) rider per class. When a team consists of more riders than available entry slots, it will be the coach's responsibility to determine which riders will represent the team, in which classes, in a manner most beneficial for the team.

11) Class Procedures

a. Classes to be offered

In order for a show to count, a host must offer all of the following classes. A class offered on the entry blank will be considered as offered even if there are zero entries in the class. Specifications for these classes may be found in the Appendices of the Rule Book.

Class 1: Open Equitation Under Saddle

Class 2: Open Equitation Over Fences (2'6")

Class 3: Intermediate Equitation Under Saddle

Class 4: Intermediate Equitation Over Fences (2')

Class 5: Novice Equitation Under Saddle

Class 6: Novice Equitation Over Fences (X-Rails)

Class 7: Beginner Equitation Under Saddle (Walk, Trot, Canter)

Class 8: Beginner Equitation Under Saddle (Walk, Trot)

Class 9: Future Intermediate Equitation Under Saddle

Class 10: Future Intermediate Equitation Over Fences (2')

Class 11: Future Novice Equitation Under Saddle

Class 12: Future Novice Equitation Over Fences (X-Rails)

Class 13: Future Beginner Equitation Under Saddle (Walk, Trot, Canter)

Class 14: Future Beginner Equitation Under Saddle (Walk, Trot)

b. Minimum Entry Requirements for Regular Shows and Classes

No fewer than three (3) riders will be allowed to compete in a class and a class may not be split for points unless there are twelve (12) or more riders in the class. The number of riders in the class will be determined by the actual number attending and participating in the competition, not by the number of entries. If there are not three (3) riders competing in a class, both upper and middle school riders of the same class level must be combined for that show in order for the rider points to count.

In order for a show to count for IEA purposes, a host must offer either (a) all classes in the Middle School divisions and/or (b) all classes in the High School divisions. A show not offering all classes in either division will be recognized as a BIEL show even if not as an IEA show.

c. Class Procedures: Split Classes and Combined Classes

Hunt Seat flat classes must be split at twelve (12) riders.

At the judge's discretion, over fences classes may be split at twelve (12) riders.

BIEL will run, award ribbons, and issue points separately for each of the split classes, as if they were separate classes and had not been split.

If there are less than three (3) riders in a class, the riders should be placed in another class of the same level. (e.g. If there is only one (1) Future Intermediate rider that individual would compete with the Varsity Intermediate classes.)

When classes of the same level are combined, placement and points awarded thereby are not adjusted. When there are less than three (3) Open riders in a class, they may drop down to compete in the Intermediate classes but points will be adjusted. Open rider(s) will keep any points earned and points will be adjusted as needed for Intermediate riders by taking out the Open rider(s) then sliding up the Intermediate placements. (e.g. An Open rider competes with an Intermediate flat class and places 5th. The Open rider receives 2 points for the 5th finish and the Intermediate rider who placed 6th is counted as placing 5th earning 2 points and the Intermediate rider who was 7th moves to 6th earning 1 point.) Only points are adjusted. Any ribbons or awards won in combined classes remain the same.

During IEA Regional and BIEL National Finals flat classes are permitted to run with twelve (12) riders. Classes may be split to canter at the Show Manager's or Judge's discretion.

d. Inclement Weather and stopping of shows

Equestrian is a rain or shine sport. In the case of inclement weather, it will be the decision of the Host facility whether or not to stop the competition. In cases of inclement weather, the minimum entry requirements set forth for regular shows must be met for points to count.

A class in operation at the time of the stopping of a show for any reason shall cease and no placements shall be made at that time.

In the event that a class in which horses compete individually is stopped while in progress, due to storm, accident, or other emergency, but can be deemed to continue at a later session of the same show, it shall proceed from the point at which it was stopped.

If the class in which horses compete together is stopped while in progress due to storm, accident, re-ride or other emergency, but can be deemed to continue at a later session of the same show, then the class (or test), when recommended, shall be held over in its entirety, and no consideration shall be given to the performance during the original session.

If a show is stopped while in progress and is unable to recommence, then any points earned for a completed class will be awarded to the individual rider's point totals, but no team points will be awarded at that show.

12) Schooling of horses

Schooling times must be set so that all riders and coaches may have the opportunity to observe.

All schooling riders must be either (a) an EB member or (b) a non-member eighteen (18) years of age or older who has signed the EB/BIEL - approved non-competitor Schooling Waiver of Liability form.

All horses (jumping and non-jumping) must be schooled during a posted time on the day of competition. On the day of the show, horses will have an allotted schooling time in the show ring of 15 minutes.

When schooling on the flat, non-jumping horses must do a minimum of one lap at each gait in each direction.

Horses are to be schooled over fences using a pre-set schooling course which is provided by the show steward. The schooling course should incorporate all the fences, to be jumped in the appropriate direction and at the highest height over which the horse is scheduled to compete.

Owners or trainers of horses in the draw will notify the show steward of the name of the schooling rider assigned to school each horse on the day of the competition. Schooling riders shall be assigned to no more than four horses per competition.

If a rider schools a horse prior to competition, that horse becomes ineligible to be drawn by that rider for competing in his/her designated class.

Hunt Seat horses may be schooled using equipment required to help them perform their best. Before the completion of schooling, horses must be schooled in the show tack and aids listed in the horse description.

At the completion of the designated 15 minutes of schooling the horse should be given into the care of the horse provider until the beginning of the competition. Once the horse has been drawn in the pool for a designated class, it is the responsibility of the horse provider to present the horse – fully tacked up and with all necessary equipment in place - in a timely manner for competition.

13) Horse Descriptions

It is the responsibility of the horse provider to submit a full horse description for each horse to be entered into the draw to the Show Steward. These descriptions may be submitted before the show, or must be given to the Show Steward or Schooling Supervisor no later than 7 am on the morning of the show.

Horse descriptions are not provided to the judge.

Horse descriptions should include:

- Name, age, gender basic description of mount, including colour, height and markings
- Any rider height or weight restrictions to be placed on horse
- Suitability of horse for various classes; e.g. flat only, maximum 2', etc. If the horse is suitable to be entered for all classes this should be stated.
- Reliability of lead changes in each direction, simple and flying
- A basic rating of temperament on a 1-10 scale – 1 being 'bombproof', 10 being 'highly excitable'
- Listing of required tack and equipment which will be provided by the horse provider. Examples are: Earplugs, martingale, wither pad, boots and/or polo wraps
- Listing of recommended aids for riding. Examples are: crop necessary, spurs for flatting but not for jumping, etc. These riding aids are NOT provided by the horse provider. The recommendations notwithstanding, it is the responsibility of the rider and coach to determine which, if any, of such aids will be used, and in what situations.

14) Drawing for Horses

Drawings will be by lot and will take place immediately upon the completion of the morning schooling.

Drawing of horses shall take place under the direction of the show steward, in the presence of the school coaches, and EB/BIEL officials.

For each class a list of suitable horses will be submitted for the draw. According to the number of riders in the class the applicable number of horses will be drawn, plus two alternate horses.

All requests for re-draws must be made directly to the Show Steward, and must be submitted immediately after the contested draw is made. Riders are expected to compete in the appropriate class on the horse which was drawn, with the following potential exceptions:

1. The rider is the owner, former owner or leaser of selected horse
2. The rider is deemed unsuitable for the selected horse, given that the selected horse has been tagged as 'height-restricted' (unsuitable for riders taller than 5'6"), or 'weight-restricted' (unsuitable for riders weighing more than 135 lbs), or both.
3. A coach feels that a rider has drawn a horse that the rider is not capable of safely riding, based on the given horse description.

In the event of #1 (rider is owner, former owner, or leaser of horse), or #2, (rider is deemed unsuitable for the selected horse due to height or weight restrictions), the request for a re-draw may be made to the Show Steward by any of the coaches or EB/BIEL officials presiding at the draw, including the Show Steward. In this instance, the Show Steward will grant permission for a re-draw and direct that the name of the previously drawn horse be withheld from the re-draw. If all horses have already been drawn, the steward will instruct that the rider be moved to one of the designated alternate horses.

In the event of #3, (that is, a coach feels that a rider has drawn a horse that the rider is not capable of safely riding, based on the given horse description), only the rider's coach may request a re-draw, and only the Show Steward may determine whether or not to accommodate the request. In this case, the Show Steward will determine whether or not the rider can be moved to the designated alternate. If the Steward decides not to grant the request, the coach has the right to withdraw the rider from the competition.

If a horse is injured in the course of the competition, or over the course of the competition proves less tractable than expected, a rider's coach has the right to request that the rider be moved to the alternate horse. In the case of injury to the horse, the Show Steward may not refuse the request for transfer. In the case of horse behaviour, the transfer is at the discretion of the Show Steward.

15) Handover of mounts from providers to riders

Provision must be made for the adequate and safe handling of all equines. Once the horse assignments are drawn, all horses are brought, with appropriate equipment, to a designated area. The providers of the horses are responsible for the animals until the riders mount and the competition begins.

At this point coaches are expected to have a brief meeting with their teams, discussing horse assignments, descriptions and strategies. Coaches may take their riders to walk the courses, which are now posted. After the course walk riders for the first class should mount their assigned horses.

16) Appointments: Tack and Aids

The allowed tack and aids for each horse are submitted with the horse description, and provided by the horse provider. No substitution of tack or aids by exhibitors shall be permitted unless approved by the Show Steward with permission from the horse provider.

It is the coach's and the rider's responsibility to check the tack before mounting; any tack concerns must be communicated to the horse provider or Show Steward for adjustment.

Regulation snaffles, pelhams and full bridles, all with cavesson nose bands, are recommended. Two-ring bits, three-ring bits and gags are not considered conventional equipment for hunter seat equitation classes, and a judge at his own discretion can penalize a horse with nonconventional types of bits or nose bands. Boots and conservative colored bandages are permitted. Type of saddle is optional.

Martingales may be used in both under saddle and over fences classes. Standing martingales are recommended. All other types of martingale are considered unconventional equipment for hunt seat equitation, and may be penalized at the discretion of the judge.

No mounted exhibitor may wear or carry an electronic communication device (i.e., cellular telephone, pager, walkie-talkie, etc.) while in the competition ring. The penalty for wearing or carrying a forbidden device if observed by the judge may be elimination from the class during which the device was worn or carried.

Exception: A handicapped participant may wear an electronic communication device if, prior to the class, he/she presents to the Show Steward written justification from treating personnel setting forth the necessity of the equipment.

The use of safety stirrup irons is strongly encouraged. When traditional stirrup irons are used, they must be silver in color or non-colored stainless steel with the stirrup bar in the down or open position. All hunt seat stirrup irons must have stirrup treads.

17) Use of Whips and Spurs

Crops, whips or bats may be carried and spurs worn only when specified by the horse provider in the horse description, affirmed by the Show Steward, and communicated to the coaches.

Horse providers may determine whether spurs to be used should be blunt or smooth, and should specify maximum length allowed. No spur of longer than 1/2" length will be permitted. Ball spurs will be permitted, but roweled spurs are forbidden.

Although it is the responsibility of the horse provider to provide a list the recommended aids, riders should be prepared to provide their own crop/bat/spurs. Riders who use anything other than the approved listed aids will be eliminated.

Crops, whips and bats are not to be used outside the schooling ring and show ring.

One or two disciplinary applications in the event of disobedience are sufficient. Use of the crop or spur should not be penalized when it is appropriate to the situation and/or mount.

The Show Stewards may rule that a rider be disqualified for improper use of crops, whips or bats.

The need for crops and spurs may change throughout the day, according to the class being ridden. Exhibitors should ask the Show Steward whenever there is a question as to what is listed in the horse description.

18) Proper Show Attire

It is the tradition of the show ring that riders are correctly attired for the class in question and horses properly presented. Exhibitors and judges should bear in mind that at all times entries are being judged on ability rather than on personal attire. However, show management may, at its discretion, bar any entry or person from entering the ring if not suitably presented to appear before an audience and must bar riders without protective headgear from any Hunt Seat classes.

Riders should wear show jackets in dark colours, tan or beige coloured breeches or jodhpurs, and boots.

19) Rider Warm-up

The Host facility must provide a Schooling Supervisor to assist the Show Steward where necessary.

No rider, coach or anyone else may adjust any tack or equipment, except stirrup lengths, without the approval of either the Schooling Supervisor or the Show Steward.

No tack or equipment (e.g. spurs or crops) will be allowed if not included in the pre-provided horse descriptions.

a. Warm up for Flat Classes

There is no warm up for Flat Classes. Flat Class riders will mount and enter the competition arena with no additional warm-up before entry into arena.

b. Warm up for Over Fences Classes

Riders in over fences classes will enter the ring according to the pre-set jumping order. The rider may enter the ring with their coach. To warm up for the over fences class, riders will be allowed to ride one lap in each direction around the ring, and to jump three (3) practice jumps according to a pre-set practice jump pattern posted by the Show Steward. Practice jumps may or may not be a part of the actual show course, but must be set and adjusted by the schooling supervisor and/or show steward and be at the same height as the class in the show arena.

After the warm-up pattern is completed, the rider may confer with their coach for up to thirty (30) additional seconds. At this point the coach must leave the ring, and the rider will begin the judged round.

20) Judging Requirements – Hunt Seat Equitation General Guidelines

In all BIEL classes, good horsemanship is paramount. Judges are to find the “Best Riders” and not necessarily the best mount.

In equitation classes, only the rider is being judged; therefore no penalty should be assessed because of the horse’s conformation, color or way of going. Riders will be judged on seat, hands, ability to control and show horse. Results as shown by performance of the horse are NOT necessarily to be considered more important than the method used by the rider in obtaining them. A rider must be prepared to perform the tests appropriate for the class in which the rider is participating.

Any rider not having his/her mount under sufficient control shall be removed from the ring by the stewards and shall be disqualified or remounted at their discretion.

Riders must remain on the same mount throughout all phases of an equitation class until the judge requests a change. No attendant shall be allowed in the ring except at the request of the judge or stewards.

If additional tests are desired and appropriate, the judge’s instructions to riders shall be publicly announced. It is suggested that the judge go over these instructions with the announcer to assure mutual understanding of the wording. Judges shall not confer with riders individually during the lineup.

Rider should have a competent appearance, seat and hands light and supple, conveying the impression of complete control should any emergency arise.

To mount, take up the reins in left hand and place hand on withers. Grasp stirrup leather with right hand, insert foot in stirrup and mount. To dismount, rider may either step down or slide down. The size of the rider must be taken into consideration.

Hands should be over and in front of horse’s withers, knuckles 30 degrees inside the vertical, hands slightly apart and making a straight line from the horse’s mouth to the rider’s elbow. All reins must be picked up at the same time.

The eyes should be up, and shoulders back. Toes should be at an angle best suited to rider’s conformation, ankles flexed, heels down, calf of leg in contact with horse and slightly behind girth. Iron should be on ball of foot.

At the walk and slow trot, body should be vertical; posting trot, inclined forward; canter, half-way between the posting trot and the walk; galloping and jumping, same inclination as the posting trot.

21) Hunt Seat Class Routine

a. On the Flat

- Contestants shall enter ring and shall proceed at least once around the ring at each appropriate gait and on command, reverse and repeat.
- Light contact with the horse's mouth is required. Entries shall then line up on command, and any or all riders may be required to execute any appropriate tests included in class requirements.

b. Over Fences

- The performance begins when the rider has completed the warm up pattern, the trainer if necessary has left the ring, and the rider is given the signal to proceed. Once having entered the ring to commence the warm-up pattern, the rider shall not leave the ring until the over fences portion of the class is completed.
- Except for refusals, jumping faults of the horse are not to be considered unless it is the fault of the rider.
- Except in combinations, number of strides shall not be considered unless it is the fault of the rider.
- Although a flying change of lead is preferable, a well-executed simple change must not be penalized.
- Each contestant may include one courtesy circle, if desired, before approaching the first jump. She/he shall then proceed around the course, keeping an even pace throughout. Three cumulative refusals will eliminate. If a refusal occurs in a double or triple, riders shall re-jump all elements of the combination. No courtesy fence will be allowed after elimination.

22) Course Requirements and Hunt Seat Tests

Classes over fences shall be held over at least eight (8) jumps, type to be left to the discretion of management.

A Hunt Seat judge may choose from the tests listed in BIEL Hunt Seat Equitation Tests 1-16, listed in the Appendices of the Rule Book. Tests may be performed collectively or individually. No other tests may be used. Instructions must be publicly announced.

23) Falls, Refusals and Eliminations

Three (3) refusals will result in elimination.

In Hunt Seat classes, no courtesy fences will be allowed after elimination.

If elimination occurs during a ride-off, the contestant shall be placed in last of all of those chosen for the ride-off. A rider is considered to have fallen when the rider is separated from the horse that has not fallen in such a way as to necessitate remounting or vaulting into the saddle. A horse is considered to have fallen when the shoulder and haunch on the same side have touched the ground or an obstacle on the ground.

Falls during the judged portion of competition will result in elimination unless it is undeniably clear that the rider fell from the horse through no fault of said rider and due instead to the unanticipated actions of the horse.

Re-rides after falls are rare exceptions and may only be granted by show stewards.

24) Helmet Safety

At all times while mounted, riders must wear a harnessed and fully fastened protective ASTM- approved safety helmet. For the show ring, protective headgear must be conservatively coloured with no additional adornments.

While competing in a jumping class, if a rider's chin strap becomes unfastened, the rider may stop, re-fasten the chin strap and continue his/her round without penalty or elimination. A judge may, but is not required, to stop a rider and ask them to refasten a chin strap which has become unfastened, again without penalty to the rider.

25) Concussion/Injury Awareness

Safety of our participants is of the utmost importance. When a participant in a BIEL competition exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with having sustained a concussion or head injury while participating in a practice or competition, the individual shall be removed from the practice or competition. Further, the individual removed from competition must be assessed by a physician or other licensed healthcare provider and must receive written clearance from such physician or healthcare provider before competing in another BIEL competition.

It is the rider's responsibility to secure a written statement from a health care provider specifically clearing them for equestrian activities. The rider must give that statement to his/her coach who must submit that statement to the Equestrian Bahamas and/or BIEL officials.

All falls and any accidents must be documented in the Show Steward's report. The decision of the official show medical personnel named on the prize list as to whether or not a rider is fit for continuing competition is final.

26) Re-rides

When through no fault of the rider, a horse performs so poorly that it is impossible to fairly judge the rider's ability, a re-ride may be granted.

A re-ride must be requested before the lineup in a flat class or before the last horse leaves the ring in an over fences class.

Only the coach of the rider involved may request a re-ride. Under unusual circumstances a judge may confer with the show steward to request a re-ride.

Although they may confer with show management and the judge, only the show steward may grant or deny a re-ride.

If a re-ride is granted in a class in which riders compete individually (e.g. over fences), it shall be judged as if the first ride never occurred and the re-ride shall take place after all other rides in that class have been completed.

If a re-ride is granted in a class in which riders compete together (e.g. flat classes), it will be the Judge's discretion whether to restart the class from the beginning or resume the class from the point when it was stopped.

During a competition, if it is determined by the show steward that a rider fell from the horse through no fault of the rider and due instead to the unexpected and unanticipated actions of the horse being ridden, the rider shall be granted a re-ride.

27) Approaching the Judge

No one shall approach a judge with regard to a decision unless she/he first obtains permission from a Show Steward, who shall arrange an appointment with the judge at a proper time and place. In order to inspect a judge's card, an exhibitor must first obtain show management's permission and be accompanied by his/her coach and the show steward.

28) Show Results: Awards, Ribbons, Trophies and Points

In the matter of rider placement, the decision of the judge is final and not subject to appeal.

Teams may enter a maximum of one rider per class.

At the end of each class, the results of the class will be announced, and the school which each rider represents will be awarded points according to the placing of the rider. All riders placing in positions 1st through 6th will earn points.

When IEA members and non-IEA members compete in the same class, IEA points for individual riders will be awarded by removing non-IEA riders and sliding up the IEA placements. Placement of non-IEA member teams will be handled in the same way. Only points are adjusted. Any ribbons or awards won in combined classes remain the same.

The Show Secretary must act as or designate a point keeper at each regular show. The point keeper will be responsible for tracking team points during the horse show. Team points will be transferred to the publicly posted points chart by the Show Secretary.

The Host facility may determine when team awards and ribbons will be distributed. It is suggested that team point totals be calculated after each class, and overall team ribbons be handed out at the end of the show. Individual points will be calculated and recorded for accumulation toward Regional Finals qualification but no ribbons will be handed out for individual performance at regular season show.

The ribbon colours at all shows (maximum of 6 placings) shall be as follows.

Placing	Points Awarded	Ribbon Colour
Champion		Blue, Red, Yellow
Reserve		Red, Yellow, White
1 st	7	Blue
2 nd	5	Red
3 rd	4	Yellow
4 th	3	White
5 th	2	Pink
6 th	1	Green

The host facility shall furnish all ribbons and trophies, except for any perpetual trophies provided by BIEL.

Special Awards

In addition to ribbons awarded for team placement, the following special awards shall be recognized:

- 1) Sportsmanship Award - The EHC of each regular BIEL/IEA sanctioned show will award a "Sportsmanship Award", to be chosen by the show steward who will choose from nominations received throughout the day from any show official, BIEL member or IEA member. The award should be given to the rider who, during the course of the show and competition, best demonstrated the true meaning of sportsmanship. A Ribbon or trophy shall be awarded to the Sportsmanship Award winner.
- 2) Horse of the Show Award - The EHC of each regular BIEL/IEA sanctioned show will award the "Horse of the Show" to be chosen by the judge and/or show steward. The award should be given to the horse, regardless of points earned during the course of competition, who best demonstrated fair and generous treatment toward its riders.
- 3) Champion and Reserve ribbons shall be awarded to the first and second place teams.

4) Additional prizes may be given to the winners of each class and to the Champion Team at each show at the discretion of each host, but such prizes are not mandatory.

Record Keeping

The official point records shall be maintained by Equestrian Bahamas and/or BIEL personnel.

Points and division assignment will follow riders who transfer to other teams throughout their eligibility. No matter how many individual team members are present at a given competition, points are assigned to each individual and to the group as a team.

Upon the conclusion of the competition, an official program, the IEA Show Report, copies of entry forms, judge's cards, point rider forms, team competition results, schooling rider waivers (if applicable) and show fees (\$5.00 per entry per class) must be submitted to the IEA Membership Office within fourteen (14) days after the close of the show for national tracking. The show report should include the competition date and number of entries including number of scratches. A check payable to "IEA" should be attached to the Show Report.

In order to have Individual and Team results of the competition officially posted to count towards national standings, the written results from the show competition must be received by the IEA Membership Office within fourteen (14) calendar days after the last day of the competition. All funds must be paid in United States currency.

Copies of the results shall be sent to the IEA Zone Administrator.

29) Team Composition

Team coaches will determine which riders participate in which classes, according to the competency of the rider and the needs of the team. At all times the safety of riders and horses should be the primary consideration in assigning teams.

30) Tie Breaker Rules

At all shows, for all placings, team ties shall be broken first by the total number of first (1st) place finishes, then by total number of second (2nd) place finishes, then by total number of third (3rd) place finishes, then by total number of fourth (4th) place finishes, then by total number of fifth (5th) place finishes. If a tie still exists, then it shall be broken by the highest total of over fences points. If the number of over fences points are equal then the team title shall be shared.

31) Personal Conduct of Exhibitors, Coaches, and Show Personnel

It is expected that any and all participants and attendees, including but not limited to: exhibitors, spectators, coaches, school employees, and EB/BIEL officials will behave in a manner that reflects the dignity of the sport. Management of the host facility may expel from the grounds any person whose behavior is deemed dishonest, unethical, unsportsmanlike, unbecoming to the BIEL, or detrimental to the health, safety or well-being of any horse or person during the progress of the show. If a violation of BIEL rules is observed, a report must be made immediately to the Show Steward, and this report documented in the Steward's Show Report.

32) Regional Finals

Regional Finals must be considered a community effort. All teams and individual riders who qualify to compete are expected to participate in the organization and/or running of the Regional Final in some way; including but not limited to providing a facility, schooling riders, show staff, volunteers, and horses.

The top twelve (12) qualified riders in each class, and not more than twelve (12) riders, and the top twelve (12) teams, and not more than twelve (12) teams from Regional Finals, will be invited to Zone Finals.

Regional Finals will be held at least ten (10) business days before Zone Finals. Placings in Regional Finals should be pinned to eighth place if necessary.

Regional Finals will have Individual classes corresponding to Team classes at every level. Riders qualify separately for Individual classes within their division by virtue of points amassed through the competition season.

Hunt Seat teams qualify for Regional Finals by accumulating twenty (20) points during the competition year. Individual riders qualify for Regional Finals by accumulating a minimum of eighteen (18) points in that class during the competition year.

33) Prize Lists, Entry Blanks, Show Fees and Associated Costs

All requirements for Prize Lists, Entry Blanks, Show Fees and Associated Costs shall be governed in accordance with [IEA Rule 5000: Prize List, Entry Fees, Entry Blank and Program]

Prize List

A Prize List For all IEA sanctioned competition an electronic copy of the prize list must be submitted to the Membership Office for approval not less than two (2) weeks prior to the opening date 45 days before the show.

Once approved, the prize list must then be distributed to all teams within the region one (1) week prior to the opening date. The prize list shall contain:

1. All host and co-host information as it pertains to the formation of the EHC.
2. The name of the judge(s) with credentials, steward(s) with credentials and emergency personnel.
3. Name and address of show manager.
4. The date, location, phone number for the show.
5. Time of registration and start of the show.
6. Opening and Closing date of entries.
7. Information about food and entertainment.
8. Amount of entry fees.
9. Disclosure statement.
10. Affordable motel information and map.

Entry Blank

The entry blank must contain spaces for the rider's name, IEA number, class numbers, and the name of the Team. If the rider is not an IEA member the entry blank should note their EB number. Each Coach must sign the entry blank.

Each entry blank must contain the statements of indemnity required by the IEA and by Equestrian Bahamas.

In case of discrepancy between information in the program and that of the entry blank, the entry blank shall take precedence.

Scratches prior to closing date will be refunded. The Event Host is not obligated to refund scratches after the closing date.

The acceptance of substitutions is entirely at the discretion of the EHC.

If a horse show is canceled, entries will be refunded. If a horse show is rescheduled, original entries will have priority.

Whenever entry money is collected, IEA must receive the \$5.00 per entry per class fee. Any violation of financial obligations will result in the member being restricted from future shows until such fees are paid, including monies due to Equestrian Bahamas.

Show management must require participating teams to submit entry fee payments, signed entry blanks, and team rosters before the first class of the show. It is recommended that all entries received by the closing date be acknowledged by the Show Secretary, including a schedule indicating the classes for each entry.

The EHC may limit the number of entries so long as it is done in a fair and equitable manner, and does not require entrants to supply horses for the event.

A hard copy of the team roster must be submitted with the entry form and entry fees.

Show and Entry Fees

Show Fees shall be charged for each IEA regular point show, Regional and Zone Finals separate and apart from annual IEA membership dues. \$5.00 from each individual rider's entry fee for each class shall be collected by the show host and paid to IEA within fourteen (14) days of the show, of which IEA will send \$2.00 to the Zone Administrator for zone and regional use.

Show fees are payable to Equestrian Bahamas. All entry fees collected shall be distributed by Equestrian Bahamas between the host team(s) and the IEA National Office.

Entry fee payment must be submitted along with the signed entry blank and team roster before the competition. Any team or responsible individual that has not paid the entry fees by the end of the competition shall forfeit all points earned and be assessed late fees, and if necessary, collection fees over and above the entry fees.

Entry fees are non-refundable once the closing date designated in the prize list has passed. Substitutions of riders may be made until the day of the competition, although the EHC may charge a \$10.00 office fee for any team making changes to their entries after the closing date. All entry forms and fees for Regional Finals are due on or before the closing date as stated in the prize list. Late entries will only be accepted if enough horses have been secured to accommodate the additional rides and a late processing fee of \$10 per class is paid.

Show Programs

Printed show programs are required and should be distributed to each coach on the day of the show and an official copy must be sent to the Membership Office. However, it is not mandatory that additional copies be available for sale or distribution. These programs can be printed on 8 1/2 x 11 paper stock and should contain a statement of prizes offered for each class, the classes listed in order, the tentative time schedule of classes, and the names of show stewards. If available, a program insert sheet can include an alphabetical list of exhibitors by team with their numbers and class sections entered, with a numerical list of exhibitors in each class.

APPENDIX I – BAHAMAS INTERSCHOLASTIC EQUESTRIAN LEAGUE HUNT SEAT CLASS DESCRIPTIONS: SPECIFICATIONS AND RESTRICTIONS

HIGH SCHOOL TEAM CLASSES

Class 1: Open Equitation Under Saddle: To be shown at the walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring. Open to riders in Grades 9-12. Riders should be capable of performing BIEL Equitation Tests 1 – 16. This class should be considered equivalent to IEA Varsity Open Equitation on the Flat.

Class 2: Open Equitation Over Fences (2'6"): Open to riders in Grades 9-12. One round only of 8-10 fences at 2'6" maximum height. Oxers are allowed, and combinations are permitted. Riders should be capable of jumping 3' 0"- 3' 6" on their regular mounts at home and must have shown in EB-recognized horse shows. Coaches should be confident that riders in this class would be able to safely perform over a 2'6" jumper or equitation course on an unfamiliar horse. Riders participating in Open Equitation Over Fences are expected to compete throughout the season in Open Equitation Under Saddle. To be eligible for post season competitions (individual or team) riders must have accumulated the required points and participated in a minimum of two (2) Open Equitation Under Saddle classes during the regular season. To be considered equivalent to IEA Varsity Open Equitation o/f 2'6".

Class 3: Intermediate Equitation Under Saddle: Open to riders in Grades 9-12. To be shown at the walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring. Open to riders capable of performing BIEL Equitation Tests 1 – 13. Competitors should be considered eligible for IEA Varsity Intermediate Equitation on the Flat.

Class 4: Intermediate Equitation Over Fences (2'): Open to riders in Grades 9-12. One round only of 8-10 fences at 2' maximum height. Oxers are allowed, but no combinations are permitted. Riders should be capable of jumping 2'6" – 3' on their regular mounts at home and must have shown in EB-recognized horse shows. Coaches should be confident that riders in this class would be able to safely perform over a 2' jumper or equitation course on an unfamiliar horse. Riders who have won 10 or more blue ribbons at 3' (0.90m) at any rated EB competition are ineligible for this class and must be placed in Open Equitation Over Fences. Riders participating in Intermediate Equitation Over Fences are expected to compete throughout the season in Intermediate or Open Under Saddle. To be eligible for post season competitions (individual or team) riders must have accumulated the required points and participated in a minimum of two (2) Intermediate or Open Under Saddle classes during the regular season. Competitors should be considered eligible for IEA Varsity Intermediate Equitation o/f 2'.

Class 5: Novice Equitation Under Saddle: Open to riders in Grades 9-12. To be shown at the walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring. Open to riders capable of performing BIEL Equitation Tests 1 – 10. To be considered equivalent to IEA Junior Varsity Novice Equitation on the Flat.

Class 6: Novice Equitation Over Fences (X-Rails): Open to riders in Grades 9-12. One round only of 8-10 fences at cross rail height. No oxers or combinations are permitted. Riders should be capable of jumping 2'0" – 2'3" on their regular mounts at home and must have shown in EB-recognized horse shows. Coaches should be confident that riders in this class would be able to safely perform over a cross rails jumper or equitation course on an unfamiliar horse. Riders who have won 10 or more blue ribbons at 2'6" at any rated EB competition must be placed in the next higher appropriate level. Riders should have a minimum of one-year of professional instruction over fences. Riders participating in Novice Equitation Over Fences are expected to compete throughout the season in Novice or Intermediate Equitation Under Saddle. To be eligible for post season competitions (individual or team) riders must have accumulated the required points and participated in a minimum of two (2) Novice or Intermediate Equitation Under Saddle classes during the regular season. To be considered equivalent to IEA Junior Varsity Novice Equitation o/f x-rails.

Class 7: Beginner Equitation Under Saddle (Walk, Trot, Canter): To be shown at the walk, trot and canter both ways of the ring. Open to riders in grades 9-12 who are not eligible for Novice level jumping classes, but must be experienced enough to canter on an unfamiliar animal in a group. These

riders should be capable of performing Hunt Seat Tests 1 through 7. A Beginner rider may not have shown over fences larger than 2' in any EB Rated Competition. To be eligible for Class 7, a rider must have had at least one year continuous professional instruction, must demonstrate proficiency at the trot and canter, and be capable of competing on a variety of unfamiliar horses. **Riders may not cross-enter into class Class 8 Beginner Equitation Walk/Trot.** To be considered equivalent to IEA Junior Varsity Beginner Equitation on the Flat Walk/Trot/Canter.

Class 8: Beginner Equitation Under Saddle (Walk, Trot): To be shown at the walk and trot both ways of the ring. Riders must have shown in EB-recognized horse shows, but riders who have shown over fences at any height in EB-rated horse shows are not eligible to enter this class. Open to riders in grades 9-12 who meet criteria for class 7 but are not yet ready to compete on an unfamiliar horse at a canter. These riders should be capable of performing BIEL Equitation Tests 1 - 5. Individual points will be tracked in Class 8 Walk/Trot for post season qualification. No team points will be awarded in Class 8 Walk/Trot during regular or post season shows. **Riders may not cross-enter Class 7 Beginner Equitation Walk/Trot/Canter.** To be considered equivalent to IEA Junior Varsity Beginner Equitation on the Flat Walk/Trot.

MIDDLE SCHOOL TEAM CLASSES

Class 9: Future Intermediate Equitation Under Saddle: Open to riders in grades 5-8 who are capable of performing BIEL Equitation Tests 1 - 13. To be considered equivalent to IEA Future Intermediate Equitation on the flat.

Class 10: Future Intermediate Equitation Over Fences (2'): Open to riders in grades 5-8 who meet the criteria for Class 2 or 4. Riders participating in Future Intermediate Equitation Over Fences are expected to compete throughout the season in Future Intermediate Equitation Under Saddle. To be eligible for post season competitions (individual or team) riders must have accumulated the required points and participated in a minimum of two (2) Future Intermediate Equitation Under Saddle classes during the regular season. To be considered equivalent to IEA Future Intermediate Equitation on the flat.

Class 11: Future Novice Equitation Under Saddle: Open to riders in grades 5-8 who are capable of performing BIEL Equitation Tests 1 - 10. To be considered equivalent to IEA Future Novice Equitation on the flat.

Class 12: Future Novice Equitation Over Fences (X-Rails): Open to riders in grades 5-8 who meet the criteria for Class 6. Riders participating in Future Novice Equitation Over Fences are expected to compete throughout the season in Future Novice or Future Intermediate Equitation Under Saddle. To be eligible for post season competitions (individual or team) riders must have accumulated the required points and participated in a minimum of two (2) Future Novice or Future Intermediate Equitation Under Saddle classes during the regular season. To be considered equivalent to IEA Future Novice O/F X-Rails.

Class 13: Future Beginner Equitation Under Saddle Walk/Trot/Canter. Open to riders in grades 5-8 who meet the eligibility requirements of Class 7. These riders should be capable of performing BIEL Equitation tests 1-7. **Riders may not cross-enter into Class 14 Future Beginner Equitation Under Saddle Walk/Trot.** To be considered equivalent to IEA Future Beginner Walk/Trot/Canter.

Class 14: Future Beginner Equitation Under Saddle Walk/Trot. Open to riders in grades 5-8 who meet the eligibility requirements of Class 8. These riders should be capable of performing BIEL Equitation tests 1-5. Individual points will be tracked in Class 14 Equitation Walk/Trot for post season qualification. No team points will be awarded in Class 14 Walk/Trot during regular or post-season shows. **Riders may not cross-enter into Class 13 Future Beginner Equitation Under Saddle Walk/Trot/Canter.** To be considered equivalent to IEA Future Beginner Walk/Trot.

APPENDIX II: BAHAMAS INTERSCHOLASTIC EQUESTRIAN LEAGUE HUNT SEAT EQUITATION TESTS

A rider must be prepared to perform the test appropriate for the class in which the rider is participating. Riders may be requested to perform the following tests collectively or individually during a show or competition. A Hunt Seat judge may choose from the following tests using tests 1-6 for Beginner Equitation riders, tests 1-10 for Novice Equitation riders, tests 1-13 for Intermediate Equitation riders, and tests 1-16 for Open Equitation riders. Instructions for performance of the test must be publicly announced. Any one or combination of appropriate or equivalent tests may be used.

1. Answer an appropriate horsemanship question (regarding horsemanship, tack and equipment, and/or conformation) tailored to the rider's ability level
2. Halt (4 to 6 seconds)
3. Sitting trot
4. Two point position at the walk and/or trot
5. Ride a figure eight at trot, demonstrating a change of diagonals
6. Ride without stirrups at the walk or trot.
7. Jump a shortened course
8. Trot a jump, not to exceed 2'
9. Ride a figure eight at the canter, demonstrating a simple change of lead
10. Canter without stirrups. Riders must be given the option to cross their stirrups
11. Demonstrate a simple change of lead down the centre of the ring
12. Half turn on the forehand
13. Canter on the counter lead. No more than 8 horses may counter-canter at any one time
14. Half turn on the haunches through the walk
15. Hand gallop
16. Jump without stirrups

(Jumping tests should only be used in over fences classes)